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Playing Time
61:02

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Widely travelled and eclectic in his influences, Áskell Másson can be considered the epitome of the Icelandic composer, his distinctive sound infused with the traditional music of his homeland. *Elja* is the title of an ancient Icelandic folk-poem, its energy and sense of struggle reflected in music with fierce momentum and calm tranquility. *Ymni* is a seductively simple and gently melancholic setting of sonnet fragments, while *Maes Howe* evokes the windswept landscapes of Orkney and its Neolithic landmarks through the dark voice of the tuba. *Kammersinfónía* is Másson's second symphony, its song-like folk music influences expressed in contrasting episodes which build to a rollicking scherzo and liberating apotheosis.

* WORLD PREMIÈRE
RECORDING

Áskell
MÁSSON
(b. 1953)

- | | | |
|---|--|----------------|
| 1 | Elja
for chamber orchestra | 10:05 |
| 2 | Ymni*
for flute, oboe, clarinet, piano, high voice,
violin, cello and double bass | 13:15 |
| 3 | Maes Howe*
concerto for tuba and chamber orchestra
<i>Kammersinfónía (Symphony No. 2)*</i>
for chamber orchestra | 14:32
22:41 |
| 4 | I. | 11:37 |
| 5 | II. | 2:42 |
| 6 | III. | 2:15 |
| 7 | IV. | 6:07 |

Jens Bjørn-Larsen, Tuba
Guðrún Ólafsdóttir, Mezzo-Soprano
Caput Ensemble • Joel Sachs

Recorded at Salurinn, Kópavogur, Iceland, 7–14 June 2005

Producer & Engineer: Halldór Víkingsson (Fermata Recordings) • Artistic Direction: Einar Jóhannesson

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