



The piano music of the American composer Phillip Ramey (born in 1939) is rooted in the motoric athleticism of Prokofiev and Bartók, tempered with sober lyricism, spicy modernist dissonance and a fresh approach to the grand Romantic gesture. This fourth Toccata Classics album includes the virtuosic *Cossack Variations*, the mercurial *Epigrams, Book Two* and *Lament for Richard III*, a dramatic character-study of a famous historical villain. Two sonatas add further substance to a varied programme: No. 3, serially inflected and culminating in a barbaric finale; and No. 7, infused with declamatory rhetoric, quirky rhythm and engaging melody.

TOCC 0153

PHILLIP RAMEY Piano Music, Volume Four: 1959–2011

1	<i>Incantations</i> (1960; rev. 1982)	4:12
4	<i>Cossack Variations</i> (1981/85)	14:50
18	<i>Three Early Preludes</i> (1959; rev. 1996)	5:30
21	<i>Piano Sonata No. 3</i> (1968; rev. 2010)	16:07
24	<i>Epigrams, Book Two</i> (1986)	15:57
33	<i>Lament for Richard III</i> (2001)	5:36
34	<i>Piano Sonata No. 7</i> (2010–11)	16:47

TT 79:18



Stephen Gosling, piano

FIRST RECORDINGS, MADE IN THE PRESENCE OF THE COMPOSER

TOCCATA CLASSICS
16 Dalkeith Court
Vincent Street
London SW1P 4HH, UK

Tel: +44/0 207 821 5020
E-mail: info@toccataclassics.com

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