

The Estonian violinist Mihkel Kerem (born in Tallinn in 1981) is familiar as a performer in Britain as well as at home; he is also a prolific composer, with over one hundred works to his credit, three symphonies among them. The three-movement Third (2003) and the *Lamento* for viola and strings (2008–9) lie downstream from Shostakovich and Boris Tishchenko, whereas the String Sextet (2004), cast in a single half-hour span, has its musical starting-point and initial poetic impulse in Schoenberg's *Verklärte Nacht* but also manifests the polyphonic lyricism of Strauss' *Metamorphosen*. All three works are concerned with the expression of human emotions in music, in the Third Symphony and *Lamento* with the struggle of the individual voice against oppressive ideology.



TOCC 0173

KEREM Symphony No. 3, Lamento, Sextet

Symphony No. 3, For the Victims of Communism (2003)

26:48

1 I *Adagio*

13:14

2 II *Vivacissimo*

8:02

3 III *Grave*

5:32

4 *Lamento* for solo viola and string orchestra (2008–9)

8:54

5 *Sextet for Strings* (2004)

29:33

Estonian National Symphony Orchestra **1–3**

TT 65:16

Tallinn Chamber Orchestra **4**

FIRST RECORDINGS

Tallinn Ensemble **5**

(Mikk Murdvee and Marie-Helen Rannat, violins;

Helen Kedik and Laur Eensalu, violas;

Indrek Leivategija and Villu Vihermäe, cellos)

Mikk Murdvee, viola 4 and conductor 1–4

TOCCATA CLASSICS

16 Dalkeith Court,

Vincent Street,

London SW1P 4HH, UK

Tel: +44/0 207 821 5020

E-mail: info@toccataclassics.com

© Toccatà Classics, London, 2013

© Toccatà Classics, London, 2013

LC14674

COMPACT
disc
DIGITAL AUDIO



MADE IN GERMANY