

As both composer and teacher Heino Eller (1887–1970) was one of the founders of the classical tradition in his native Estonia. Yet his copious output for piano – some 200 works – is largely unknown, an omission this series of eight CDs seeks to redress. This fourth volume presents Eller's First Sonata, a Romantic work of gigantic proportions, composed for his final exam at the Petrograd Conservatory, as well as a number of miniatures, including one of his most popular pieces, *Butterfly*, and ends with the sage but passionate *Ballade* in C sharp minor from 1955.



TOCC 0209



HEINO ELLER Complete Piano Music, Volume Four

Sonata No. 1 (1919–20)	39:30	9 <i>Liblikas</i> ('Butterfly'; 1935)	1:39
1 I <i>Allegro assai</i>	14:11	Six Pieces (1953)*	9:47
2 II <i>Larghetto</i>	9:56	10 No. 1 <i>Linakatkuja</i> ('Flax-plucker')	1:16
3 III <i>Scherzo. Presto</i>	5:33	11 No. 2 <i>Rahvatoonis</i> ('In Folk Tone')	0:56
4 IV <i>Finale. Allegro moderato</i>	9:50	12 No. 3 <i>Hällilaul</i> ('Lullaby')	1:34
5 <i>Intiimne hetk</i> ('Intimate Moment'; 1938)*	1:21	13 No. 4 <i>Scherzo</i>	2:00
6 <i>Pastorale</i> (1919)*	1:30	14 No. 5 <i>Romance</i>	1:57
7 <i>Nocturne</i> (1934?)*	4:17	15 No. 6 <i>Dance</i>	2:04
8 <i>Vivace</i> (1930s)*	1:00	16 <i>Ballade in C sharp minor</i> (1955)*	7:07

Sten Lassmann, piano

TT 66:11

*FIRST RECORDINGS

Press comment on Volume 2 in this series:

'I was drawn to Eller's music from the opening tracks, and only became more enamored as the music played on. The deal that this would be an Uncommonly Classical recommendation was sealed about 25 minutes in as I listened to the potent and darkly beautiful *Episode from Revolutionary Times* (1917). This alone is worth the price of the CD. [...] Performances by pianist Sten Lassmann [...] are excellent.' Recommendation, Expedition Audio

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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