

Robert Fürstenthal, born in 1920, took the path of many Viennese Jews when Germany invaded and fled to the United States, where he made his living as an accountant; the fact that he had written a few songs in his youth was soon forgotten. The rediscovery, after 35 years, of the woman who had been his first love rekindled not only that flame but also his urge to compose, and songs – achingly lovely songs, laden with an autumnal sense of loss – flowed from his pen from that moment, preserving the spirit of *fin-de-siècle* Vienna under the Californian sun. He died in November 2016, aged 96, as this album was in preparation, knowing that some of his many songs had at last been recorded and were about to find their audience.



TOCC 0354

ROBERT FÜRSTENTHAL Songs and Ballads of Life and Passing

Spätlese

1	Vol. I: No. 8, 'Liebeslied'	4:30
2	Vol. II: No. 10, 'Aber ich seh dich ja nicht'	2:07
3	Vol. IV: No. 5, 'Reiselied'	1:50
4	Vol. V: No. 4, 'Einmal'	2:32
5	Vol. III: No. 4, 'Der Tag der weissen Chrysanthenen'	2:14

16 Lieder und Balladen vom Leben und Vergehen

6	No. 14, 'Herbst'	3:33
7	No. 8, 'Es braust mein Blut'	1:52
8	No. 11, 'Auf meines Kindes Tod'	3:08
9	No. 9, 'Ergebung'	4:24
10	No. 7, 'Seeliges Vergessen'	3:03
11	No. 2, 'Der Abend ist mein Buch'	3:23
12	No. 16, 'Schlussstück'	3:24

Spätlese

13	Vol. I: No. 3, 'Auf einer goldenen Flöte'	4:02
14	Vol. III: No. 5, 'Advent'	1:22
15	Vol. I: No. 5, 'Notturmo'	3:24
16	Vol. I: No. 10, 'Terzinen über Vergänglichkeit'	4:41
17	Vol. III: No. 6, 'Träume'	2:59

Songs after Poems by James Joyce

18	Vol. III, No. 7, 'Sleep now'	2:48
19	Vol. II, No. 1, 'O Cool'	2:34

Spätlese

20	Vol. VI: No. 1, 'An F'	3:00
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FIRST RECORDINGS

Rafael Fingerlos, baritone Sascha El Mouissi, piano

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

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



MADE IN GERMANY

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