

Josef Schelb (1894–1977) is one of the better-kept secrets of German music. His output was substantial: he lost most of his early music in a bombing raid in 1942 but, as if to make up for lost time, wrote some 150 more works after that, in the tonally liberated, quasi-Expressionist contrapuntal tradition of Hindemith and Hartmann; Bartók was an important influence, too. The three pieces recorded here show Schelb capable of astonishing vitality in his mid- to late seventies: they display lean muscularity, freewheeling energy and luminous and transparent orchestration, often informed by bucolic nostalgia and lyrical melancholy.



TOCC 0426

## JOSEF SCHELB Orchestral Music, Volume One

**[1] *Movimento I* (1969)**

15:47

***Music for Orchestra No. 3* (1972)**

23:36

**[2] I Ruhig, doch fliessend**

10:02

**[3] II Sehr lebhaft**

5:21

**[4] III Thema mit Variationen**

8:13

***Music for Orchestra No. 4* (1972)\***

26:04

**[5] I Bewegt**

11:07

**[6] II Sehr breit**

7:17

**[7] III Bewegt**

7:40

TT 65:37

**Liepāja Symphony Orchestra [1–4]**

FIRST RECORDINGS

**Paul Mann, conductor [1–4]**

\*LIVE RECORDING

**Philharmonie Baden-Baden [5–7]**

**Pavel Baleff, conductor [5–7]**



MADE IN GERMANY

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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