

Composers who orchestrate the music of earlier colleagues often serve them best when they add something of themselves to the work in hand. These three orchestrations by the English composer Robin Holloway (b. 1943) demonstrate his profound understanding of and affection for two of the most important Romantic composers – and his re-imagining of Brahms' Sonata for Two Pianos (which Brahms himself recast as his Piano Quintet) as a symphony gives one of the greatest of all compositions a wild and thrilling energy, making it also a masterpiece of our own age.

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## BRAHMS and SCHUMANN: orchestrations by Robin HOLLOWAY

### BRAHMS

*Variations on a Theme of Schumann*, Op. 23,  
for piano duet (1861; orch. 2016)

- 1 Theme: *Andante, Leise und innig*
- 2 Variation 1: *Pochino più mosso, delicato*
- 3 Variation 2: *Più mosso-*
- 4 Variation 3: *A tempo, grazioso-*
- 5 Variation 4: *Misterioso*
- 6 Variation 5: *Grazioso con moto-*
- 7 Variation 6: *Alla marcia*
- 8 Variation 7: *Allegro leggiero*
- 9 Variation 8: *Andante con moto ardente*
- 10 Variation 9: *Maestoso -*
- 11 Variation 10: *Alla marcia, poco lento*
- 12 Epilogue

21:38

- 14 No. 2: *Gently lilting, flowing* 4:07
- 15 No. 3: *A tempo, andantino piacevole teneramente* 2:22
- 16 No. 4: *Con moto amabile: supple and airy* 3:47
- 17 No. 5: *Vivace* 2:14
- 18 No. 6: *Andante serioso* 3:23

### BRAHMS

*Symphony in F minor*, Op. 34

(1864; orch. 2008) 44:08  
(after the Sonata for Two Pianos, Op. 34a)

- 19 I *Allegro non troppo* 16:06
- 20 II *Andante* 8:16
- 21 III *Scherzo: Allegro – Trio* 8:27
- 22 IV *Finale. Poco sostenuto – Allegro commodo* 11:19

### SCHUMANN

*Six Canonic Studies*, Op. 56 (1845;

arr. for two pianos by Debussy, 1891; orch. 2011) 18:58

- 13 No. 1: *Con moto egual'e dolce* 3:05

TT 84:46

BBC Symphony Orchestra

Cellerina Park, leader

Paul Mann, conductor

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