

The music of the Bulgarian composer-conductor Emil Tabakov (b. 1947) explores the darker side of the human spirit in epic scores as austere as they are powerful. Behind the plain title of Tabakov's *Concert Piece for Orchestra* (1985) lurks an extraordinary explosion of violence and anger. And the Fourth Symphony (1997) sandwiches a wild Bulgarian dance between two glacial slow movements, the second with an episode of Tchaikovskian lyricism at its centre; the finale is a dark, whirling *moto perpetuo* – a ride through hell.



EMIL TABAKOV Complete Symphonies, Volume Three

1	Concert Piece for Orchestra (1985)	12:28
	Symphony No. 4 (1997)	50:13
1	I Largo	15:24
2	II Allegro vivace	8:28
3	III Largo	12:12
4	IV Andante	14:09

TT 62:41

Symphony Orchestra of Bulgarian National Radio
Emil Tabakov, conductor

FIRST RECORDINGS

The critics on the earlier volumes in this series:

Volume One: *Bulgarian Dances*, Symphony No. 8 (tocc 0365)
'If you enjoy Mahler symphonies, you'll probably find this of great interest. Excellent performance, fine stereo sound. A major release!' –R. E. B., *classicalcdreview.com*

Volume Two: Symphony No. 1, Viola Concerto (tocc 0410)
'Tabakov is a master of creating atmosphere [...]. The orchestral playing is vivid, and I welcome the wealth of orchestral detail revealed in the performances'

–Stephen Greenbank, *MusicWeb International*

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