



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. His mighty Fifth Symphony, a work almost an hour in length, is obsessive and violent, with the two outer movements, wild kaleidoscopes of whirling colours and driving energy, framing a tragic slow movement and a sardonic march. The much earlier Double-Bass Concerto, which sits downstream from Shostakovich, shows the same grim sense of humour in the teeth of the dancing indifference of fate.



TOCC 0530

EMIL TABAKOV Complete Symphonies, Volume Four

Concerto for Double Bass and Orchestra (1975)

1 I <i>Allegro</i>	20:42
2 II <i>Lento</i>	6:54
3 III <i>Vivace</i>	6:53
	6:55

Symphony No. 5 (2000)

4 I <i>Spirituoso</i>	54:00
5 II <i>Largo</i>	17:51
6 III <i>Allegro moderato</i>	9:44
7 IV <i>Finale: Andante</i>	10:25
	16:00

TT 74:43

Entcho Radoukanov, double bass 1–3
 Symphony Orchestra of Bulgarian National Radio
 Emil Tabakov, conductor

FIRST RECORDINGS

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