

Norwegian folksong and -dance constitute the very DNA of the music of Carl Gustav Sparre Olsen (1903–84), on both a large and a small scale – from *Draumkvedet*, the 1936 oratorio that was his first major success, to the tiny miniatures that form most of his piano music, recorded here in its entirety for the first time. The apparent simplicity of much of this material belies the unassuming sophistication of its construction: many of these pieces, some barely a minute long, seem – to adapt William Blake – to contain the world in a grain of sand.



TOCC 0584

## SPARRE OLSEN Complete Piano Music

1	<i>Little Butterfly</i> (1953)	0:46	14	<i>Six Old Village Songs from Lom, Op. 2</i> (1927–28)	3:12
2	<i>From Telemark. Suite on Norwegian Folksongs No. 1, Op. 31, No. 1</i> (1940–41)	7:41	15	<i>Andante funebre</i> (1937, arr. 1949)	4:31
3	<i>Air</i> (1981)	1:42	16	<i>Norwegian Folksongs from Gudbrandsdalen</i> (1938)	8:58
4	<i>From Telemark. Suite on Norwegian Folksongs No. 2, Op. 31, No. 2</i> (1940–41)	9:53	35	<i>Variations on a Norwegian Folk tune, Op. 5</i> (1930–31)	7:46
5	<i>Three Small Piano Pieces</i> (1936)	4:59	36	<i>Hymn: Honour Eternal Spring</i> (c. 1916)	1:04
8	<i>Leitom Suite, Op. 33</i> (1950–51)*	18:20			
					TT 68:57

Øyvind Aase, piano

ALL EXCEPT \* FIRST RECORDINGS

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