



TOCC 0636

The music of the Bulgarian composer-conductor Emil Tabakov (b. 1947) explores the darker side of the human spirit in monumental scores as austere as they are powerful. Like many of his earlier symphonies, the Ninth, nearly an hour in length, is conceived on a massive scale. The opening *Adagio* forms an epic, glacial prelude to the driving *Presto* second movement. Two further slow movements follow: a *Largo*, which offers an island of relief after the tumult of the scherzo, and a finale which, after opening with an extensive *Largo* of its own, is transformed into a wild, driving, violent *Allegro moderato*. The symphony is prefaced by a virtuoso study for string ensemble written over 30 years earlier and remarkable for its contrapuntal fireworks and its explosive, almost elemental energy.

## EMIL TABAKOV Complete Symphonies, Volume Seven

### Concerto for Fifteen String Instruments (1979)

1	I ♩ = 96–92	17:14
2	II ♩ = 63	5:12
3	III <i>Presto</i> (♩ = 108–112)	6:22
		5:40

### Symphony No. 9 (2015)\*

4	I <i>Adagio</i>	51:57
5	II <i>Presto</i>	14:04
6	III <i>Largo</i>	11:52
7	IV <i>Largo</i> – <i>Allegro moderato</i>	10:41
		15:20

TT 69:19

Sofia Soloists Chamber Ensemble 1–3

Sofia Philharmonic Orchestra 4–7

Emil Tabakov, conductor

\*FIRST RECORDING, LIVE



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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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