

Like many Austrian Jews, Robert Fürstenthal (1920–2016) fled to the USA after the German invasion of his country in 1938. Music then became a link to his homeland: 'When I compose, I am back in Vienna'. As an amateur composer, Fürstenthal preferred to work on a small scale, and his output of songs and chamber music is considerable. But he also wrote two sizable works for chamber choir, the first of which, in this series of two albums, is bookended by piano sonatas – all three works revealing that the tradition of Schubert and Brahms was alive in the California sun.



ROBERT FÜRSTENTHAL Complete Choral Music, Volume One

Piano Sonata in F major, Op. 54

- 1 I Grave – *Allegro con spirito*
 2 II *Allegro assai*
 3 III *Adagio*
 4 IV *Vivace*

25:21

8:26
 3:49
 5:26
 7:40

10 VI Frate focu: *Agitato* – Grave

3:52

11 Intermezzo: *Andante*

2:04

12 VII Matre terra: *Amabile* – *Gioioso*

3:37

13 VIII Quilli ke perdonano:

Piacevole – *Con forza*

6:33

14 IX Morte corporale: *Quasi una marcia*

funebre – *Lento, con molta*

espressione – *Con forza*

9:13

15 X Laudate e benedicite:

Summa di sapienza – *Allegretto*

5:34

Der Sonnengesang des Heiligen

Franz von Assisi, Op. 29

52:32

- 5 I Altissimu onnipotente:
Tranquillo – *Maestoso* 8:08
 6 II Tucte le tue creature: *Semplice* – *Dolce* 4:04
 7 III Sora luna – Bruder Mond: *Cantabile* 2:50
 8 IV Frate ventu: *Giocoso* – *Con moto* 4:01
 9 V Sor aqua: *Grazioso* – *Animato* 2:36

Sonata for Piano, Four Hands, Op. 58 (2009)

16 *Allegro moderato*

4:41

TT 82:34

Ian Buckle, piano 1–4 16

Richard Casey, piano 5–10 12–16

Philippa Hyde, soprano 6 8 12 14

Emma Roberts, contralto 6 7 9 12–15

Rory Carver, tenor 5–7 10 12 14 15

Felix Kemp, bass 5–7 14

Borealis 5 6 8 10 13 14 15

Skipton Camerata 5–8 10–15

Stephen Muir, conductor 5–15

FIRST RECORDINGS

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