



TOCC 0726

The Latvian composer Jānis Ķepītis (1908–89) has a fairly low profile even in his home country, never mind beyond its borders. His output was nonetheless substantial: six symphonies, ten concertos, several large-scale choral-orchestral pieces, countless songs and choruses and a voluminous body of chamber music – almost all of it unknown. Ķepītis was himself a gifted pianist – as can be heard on the rare historical recording that ends this album – and his hundred or so compositions for piano show a predilection for the miniature. The works here, most of them discovered among his manuscripts, inhabit a world downstream from Skryabin and Rachmaninov, with a gentle hint of Debussy, an occasional wisp of Latvian folk-music and, here and there, just a hint of jazz.

JĀNIS ĶEPĪTIS Piano Miniatures from the Manuscripts, Volume Two

<i>Snowflakes</i> (1939)	11:28	16 II Anxiety	1:52
1 I A Little Cloud	1:43	17 III Sadness	3:32
2 II Flakes Fall	1:04	18 IV Delight	3:40
3 III Vortex	1:05	19 V Frolic	3:18
4 IV The Story of the Flakes	1:49	20 VI Laugh	1:17
5 V Christmas Tree Dreams	2:11	21 VII Solace	4:25
6 VI Waltz	1:10	<i>Mood-Paintings: In the Meadows</i> (1965)	14:14
7 VII Thaw	1:49	22 I A Ray of Sunshine	2:11
8 VIII And Spring Again	0:37	23 II Butterfly and Boy	2:30
<i>Portraits</i> (1946)	14:17	24 III Youthful Delight	3:24
9 I Andulis	2:35	25 IV The Black Cloud	4:10
10 II Elvīra	3:06	26 V After Rain	1:59
11 III Nanny	1:38	<i>Impressions of an Evening</i> (1974)	4:28
12 IV Vija	1:35	27 I <i>Moderato</i>	1:13
13 V Biruta	2:43	28 II <i>Andante tranquillo</i>	1:12
14 VI Niko	2:40	29 III <i>In Movimento</i>	2:03
<i>Mood-Paintings</i> (1956)	20:14	<i>Līgo Night</i> (1935)	
15 I Evening Song	2:10	30 III St John's Fire	5:59
			TT 71:10

Nora Lūse, piano **1**–**29**

Jānis Ķepītis, piano (rec. 1935) **30**

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