

Felix Mendelssohn's childhood precocity as a composer is regarded by many as exceeding that of Mozart – the works recorded here retain much of that sense of youthful inspiration and vitality. The *'Italian' Symphony* is a model of exquisite balance between Classical and Romantic elements filled with warm lyrical charm reflecting a visit the composer made to Italy in 1830. From its solemn opening to a jubilant coda, the expressive world of the *'Reformation' Symphony* derives largely from a dramatic use of famous hymn tunes. Unequaled as an evocation of atmosphere and mood, *The Hebrides* served as an example to the numerous tone poems that followed. These classic Vox recordings by the Baltimore Symphony are conducted by Sergiu Comissiona, the orchestra's Romanian-born Music Director from 1969 to 1984, who forged it into one of America's finest.

The Elite Recordings for Vox by legendary producers Marc Aubort and Joanna Nickrenz are considered by audiophiles to be amongst the finest sounding examples of orchestral recordings

Felix MENDELSSOHN (1809–1847)

1 The Hebrides in D major 'Fingal's Cave', Op. 26, MWV P7 (1832) 8:52

Symphony No. 4 in A major 'Italian', Op. 90, MWV N16 (1833) 28:49

- | | | |
|---|------------------------|-------|
| 2 | I. Allegro vivace | 10:57 |
| 3 | II. Andante con moto | 5:53 |
| 4 | III. Con moto moderato | 6:16 |
| 5 | IV. Saltarello: Presto | 5:43 |

Symphony No. 5 in D major 'Reformation', Op. 107, MWV N15 (1829–32) 28:31

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|-------|
| 6 | I. Andante – Allegro con fuoco | 11:02 |
| 7 | II. Allegro vivace | 6:32 |
| 8 | III. Andante | 3:06 |
| 9 | IV. Andante con moto – Allegro vivace | 8:10 |

Baltimore Symphony Orchestra Sergiu Comissiona

New 192 kHz / 24-bit high definition transfers of the original Elite Recordings analogue master tapes

Recorded: 26 1, 27 June 1–9 and 7 November 1974 2–9 in Baltimore, Maryland, USA

Producers: Marc Aubort and Joanna Nickrenz • Engineering: Elite Recordings

Tape transfers: Mike Clements • Re-mastering engineer: Andrew Walton

Booklet notes: Richard Freed

Cover photograph: *Roman Forum* (www.istockphoto.com)



VOX-NX-3047CD



Playing Time

66:18



© 1975 & 1976 Vox Productions, Inc.
 © & © 2024 Naxos Rights (Europe) Ltd
 Booklet notes in English
 Made in Germany
www.naxos.com