

Stimulated by Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring*, Akira Ifukube taught himself composition, while working as a forestry officer. His works, characterized by persistent *ostinato*, percussive sounds and multi-cultural melodies and rhythms, have something in common with the music of Orff, Khachaturian and Revueltas. *Sinfonia Tapkaara* was inspired by the primitive dances and songs of the ancient Japanese tribe, the Ainu, who stomped their feet to worship the earth. *Ritmica Ostinata* is a single movement 'minimalist' piano concerto alternating passages of increasingly propulsive energy with static, dream-like interludes. The *Symphonic Fantasia No. 1* is a concert arrangement by the composer himself, of his music for monster films including *Godzilla*.

**Akira
IFUKUBE**
(b. 1914)

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| | Sinfonia Tapkaara (1954, rev. 1979) | 25:57 |
| 1 | Lento molto - Allegro | 11:28 |
| 2 | Adagio | 6:21 |
| 3 | Vivace | 8:08 |
| 4 | Ritmica Ostinata for Piano and Orchestra (1961, rev. 1972)* | 21:33 |
| 5 | Symphonic Fantasia No. 1 (1983) | 13:15 |

Ekaterina Saranceva, Piano*
Russian Philharmonic Orchestra • Dmitry Yablonsky

Recorded at Studio 5 of the Russian State TV & Radio Company KULTURA, Moscow,
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Cover Painting: *A Good Catch* (detail, 1904) by Aoki Shigeru (1882-1911)
(Ishibashi Museum of Art, Ishibashi Foundation)



8.557587

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Playing Time
60:45



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