

Playing
Time:
64:15

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8.559214



George
ROCHBERG
(1918-2005)

Symphony No. 1
(1948-49, rev. 1977 and 2003)

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| 1 I. Allegro molto, ma un poco pesante:
Exultant !! | 11:09 |
| 2 II. Night Music: Poco adagio;
like a slow March | 13:31 |
| 3 III. Capriccio: Fast and Impetuous;
like a curtain-raiser | 13:31 |
| 4 IV. Variations: Molto adagio;
very slow and stately | 17:32 |
| 5 V. Finale: Adagio; parlando e
rubato – Allegro gioioso | 8:32 |

Saarbrücken Radio Symphony Orchestra
Christopher Lyndon-Gee

WORLD PREMIÈRE RECORDING



A co-production with Saarländischer Rundfunk
Recorded at the Großes Sendesaal,
Funkhaus Halberg, Saarbrücken, Germany,
from 6th to 9th January, 2004.

Producer: Dr. Markus Braendle • Engineer: Ralf Schnellbach

Booklet notes: Christopher Lyndon-Gee

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AMERICAN CLASSICS

Although the first, fourth and fifth movements were performed in cut form in March 1958, Rochberg's *Symphony No. 1*, the first large-scale work of his career, is here heard complete for the first time. Unlike the anguished *Second* (Naxos 8.559182), written in the mid-fifties as a delayed response to the awfulness Rochberg saw at first hand in the war years, the *First* is a young composer's exultant exploration of his maturing technique and powers of invention. Rochberg's teacher, Leopold Mannes, called the *Capriccio* movement, heard orchestrally for the first time ever in the present performance, "*the craziest music I have ever seen!*" More than fifty years on, this powerfully individual work has stood the test of time, and of neglect. It is a *First Symphony* of a young composer who was a natural composer for the orchestra, and a born symphonist.

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