This Copland collection is devoted specifically to works inspired by the spacious landscape of the American prairie. The Suite for the 1948 film of John Steinbeck’s novel *The Red Pony*, depicts life on a ranch in California. The composer described the music as ‘folkish’, although the themes are all original. The second of Copland’s ‘cowboy ballets’, *Rodeo*, about the desperate attempts of a cowgirl to become a ranch cowhand, quotes a variety of American folk-tunes, and includes the irrepressible *Hoe Down*. *Prairie Journal* offers a vivid sonic evocation of life on a western range, while *Letter from Home*, completed during the peak of World War II, beautifully conjures the feelings of nostalgia one might experience at a far-away army camp.