This recording brings together music from some of Leonard Bernstein’s best-loved scores with seldom heard occasional works and premiere recordings. From the iconic musical West Side Story, the hot-blooded dance number Mambo embodies the show’s dramatic tensions. Slava! celebrates Bernstein’s friend and colleague, the cellist and conductor Mstislav Rostropovich, in music worked from the daring show 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, from which the Suite rescues further highlights. CBS Music has not been heard since the broadcasting giant’s 50th anniversary celebrations in 1978, while the Birthday Bouquet takes the form of affectionate musical tributes from eight composer colleagues to one of the 20th century’s greatest musicians.

A detailed track list can be found inside the booklet.

Recorded: 8–10, 12, 16 December 2016 at Sala São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil
Producer, engineer and editor: Ulrich Schneider
Cover photo: Walter Scott

São Paulo Symphony Orchestra • Marin Alsop

*WORLD PREMIERE RECORDING

1. Mambo from West Side Story (with concert ending) (1957) 2:21
2. Slava! A Political Overture (1977) 4:08

4–8. CBS Music (1978)*
(orch. Sid Ramin, Jack Gottlieb, Garth Edwin Sunderland) 7:16
9. Times Square Ballet from On the Town (1944) 1:10
(eight variations on New York, New York from On the Town by Berio, Corigliano, Druckman, Foss, Kirchner, Schuman, Takemitsu and Williams) 21:28

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