



AMERICAN CLASSICS

Tobias Picker, hailed as “a genuine creator” by *The New Yorker*, has written extensively for the stage and for symphonic forces, and these two approaches are represented in this album. *The Encantadas* (an older name for the Galápagos Islands) derives from a novella by Herman Melville. Picker has set it as a melodrama, exploring the enchanted isles in all their quietly menacing and spectacular beauty. In a radical new form, Picker’s *Opera Without Words* is set to a libretto by Irene Dische that has now been removed, allowing the music alone to bear the expressive richness and intensity of this “secret opera.”

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Tobias PICKER

(b. 1954)

The Encantadas (1983) (Text: Herman Melville, 1819–1891)

- | | | |
|----------|----------------|--------------|
| 1 | I. Dream | 4:38 |
| 2 | II. Desolation | 2:46 |
| 3 | III. Delusion | 3:30 |
| 4 | IV. Diversity | 10:19 |
| 5 | V. Din | 3:27 |
| 6 | VI. Dawn | 5:21 |

Opera Without Words (2015)* **27:44**

- | | | |
|-----------|------------------------|-------------|
| 7 | Scene 1: The Beloved | 5:12 |
| 8 | Scene 2: The Minstrel | 5:03 |
| 9 | Scene 3: The Idol | 6:42 |
| 10 | Scene 4: The Gladiator | 4:02 |
| 11 | Scene 5: The Farewell | 6:43 |

*WORLD PREMIERE RECORDING

Tobias Picker, Narrator **1–6** Nashville Symphony Giancarlo Guerrero

The sung texts are included in the booklet, and may also be accessed at www.naxos.com/libretti/559853.htm

Recorded: 8–9 March 2019 **1–6** and 27–28 October 2017 **7–11** at the Laura Turner Concert Hall, Schermerhorn Symphony Center, Nashville, TN, USA

Producer: Tim Handley

Engineers: Trevor Wilkinson **1–6** and Gary Call **7–11**

Booklet notes: Thomas May

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Cover: *Geometric Study 12* (c. 1980)
by Henriette Simon Picker (1917–2016)

Playing
Time:
57:59

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