



AMERICAN CLASSICS

George Oakley is a Georgian-born American composer and a prize-winning concert pianist. The solo piano pieces on this recording, *Toccata* and *Sonata-Fantasia*, are technically demanding works which exhibit a range of styles from jazz to classical and Georgian folk music. Oakley's *Sonata for Cello and Piano* takes us from an initial state of struggle and doubt to a cheerful and victorious conclusion. For his *Four Songs on Shakespeare Sonnets*, Oakley 'drew inspiration ... from the musical language of Shakespeare's era, so that each song would somehow become a bridge connecting the Renaissance with modernity.' His mentor and friend Richard Danielpour has written that 'George Oakley's music is always highly expressive, inevitable without ever being predictable, and speaks to the heart as well as the mind.'

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George
OAKLEY
(b. 1979)

Wanderer: Chamber Works

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|----|---|--------------|
| 1 | Toccata (2008) | 3:47 |
| | Sonata for Cello and Piano (2013) | 20:29 |
| 2 | I. Quasi rubato andante | 7:07 |
| 3 | II. Prayer: Adagio molto e cantabile | 7:22 |
| 4 | III. Allegro ma non troppo | 5:48 |
| | Four Songs on Shakespeare Sonnets (2011) | 21:35 |
| 5 | Sonnet 101 | 3:57 |
| 6 | Sonnet 111 | 5:31 |
| 7 | Sonnet 116 | 5:16 |
| 8 | Sonnet 56 | 6:33 |
| | Remembrance (2014) | 9:42 |
| 9 | Daydream – Dream – Awakening | |
| 10 | Sonata-Fantasia (2010) | 15:55 |

WORLD PREMIERE RECORDINGS

Naomi Louisa O'Connell, Mezzo-soprano [5-8]

Anton Rist, Clarinet [9]

Lizi Ramishvili, Cello [2-4]

Inga Kashakashvili [1-8], Angelina Gadeliya [9],

Tamar Mikeladze [10], Piano

Recorded: 2–3 November 2015 [5-8], 2–3 October 2016 [2-4],
12 March [1] [9] and 30 March [10] 2017 at Oktaven Audio,
Mount Vernon, New York, USA • The sung texts are
included in the booklet, and may also be accessed at
www.naxos.com/libretti/559856.htm

Producer, engineer and editor: Ryan Streber
Booklet notes: George Oakley • Publisher: Oakley Music
Cover image by francescoch (iStockphoto.com)

Playing
Time:
72:06

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