



8.573823

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Playing Time  
55:44Made in Germany  
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Booklet notes in English

Bohuslav Martinů honed his songwriting craft in between composing larger orchestral works, his yearning for home reflected in the *Four Songs to Czech Folk Texts* written during desperate times in the Second World War. Sourced from previously unpublished manuscripts, this unique programme presents world premiere recordings of earlier songs written during summer holidays in Polička, as well as the *Three Songs after Poems by Guillaume Apollinaire*, long thought to be lost but miraculously unearthed just weeks before this recording. Pianist Giorgio Koukl regards these songs as similar to pearls, 'born out of hardship, pain and discomfort and, after a while, becoming precious and admired'.



## Bohuslav MARTINŮ

(1890–1959)

### Songs • 5

- |       |   |       |       |  |      |
|-------|---|-------|-------|--|------|
| 1–8   | New Anthology, H.288 (1942)                                     | 10:24 | 23    | Jašek's Song, H.37 (1911)*                 | 2:11 |
| 9–12  | Four Songs to Czech Folk Texts, H.282bis (1940)                 | 5:15  | 24    | Talk to me further, H.66 (1912)*           | 2:02 |
| 13–15 | Three Songs after Poems by Guillaume Apollinaire, H.197 (1930)* | 3:26  | 25–26 | Two Ballads to Folk Texts, H.228 (1932)    | 6:20 |
| 16    | From Childhood, H.51 (1912)                                     | 3:02  | 27    | You write to me, H.48 (1912)*              | 4:15 |
| 17–20 | Four Children's Songs and Nursery Rhymes, H.225 (1932)          | 1:10  | 28    | Best Wishes to Mother, H.279bis (1939)     | 1:18 |
| 21    | Carol of Love, H.259 (1937)                                     | 1:06  | 29–30 | Two Songs, H.213 (1932)                    | 7:06 |
| 22    | The Jilted Maiden, H.67 (1912)                                  | 1:53  | 31–33 | Three Songs for Christmas, H.184bis (1929) | 4:01 |
|       |   |       | 34    | Vocalise, H.188 (1929)                     | 1:29 |

All sung in Czech. A detailed track list can be found inside the booklet.

\*WORLD PREMIERE RECORDINGS

**Jana Hrochová, Mezzo-soprano • Giorgio Koukl, Piano**

Texts and translations may be downloaded from [www.naxos.com/libretti/573823.htm](http://www.naxos.com/libretti/573823.htm)

Recorded: 17 July 2017 at the Conservatorio della Svizzera Italiana, Lugano, Switzerland

Producer: Martin Hroch • Engineer: Jiří Pejcha • Editor & Music Director: Vít Mužík • Piano tuner: Daniel Kikta

All works from unpublished manuscripts • This recording is sponsored by The Martinů Foundation Prague

Booklet notes: Giorgio Koukl • Cover painting by Angel Gerdzhikov (courtesy of the artist)