

Berg's *Violin Concerto* is an extraordinarily lyrical work of intense emotional power. It was written as a Requiem for the eighteen-year-old daughter of Alma Mahler-Werfel just months before the composer's own death and is dedicated 'to the memory of an angel'. The *Lyric Suite* was originally written for string quartet and includes a quotation from the *Lyric Symphony* of Alexander von Zemlinsky, to whom the original is dedicated. After a successful première, three movements were later arranged for string orchestra. *Three Orchestral Pieces* are a thematically linked sequence of prelude, dance movement and funeral march. *Präludium* begins and ends in the quiet noise of percussion, while the other two movements layer dance rhythms over large-scale orchestral structures.

Alban
BERG
(1885-1935)

Violin Concerto

- ① Andante - Scherzo
② Allegro - Adagio

26:20

11:30

14:48

Lyric Suite

- ③ Andante amoroso
④ Allegro misterioso
⑤ Adagio appassionato

18:13

7:04

3:38

7:26

Three Orchestral Pieces

- ⑥ Präludium
⑦ Reigen
⑧ Marsch

20:11

5:12

5:36

9:22

Rebecca Hirsch, Violin
Netherlands Radio Symphony Orchestra • Eri Klas

Recorded 31st August - 4th September, 1999 in the Netherlands Hilversum Concert Hall, Netherlands.
Producer and Engineer: Tim Handley • Booklet Notes: Richard Whitehouse
Cover Picture: *The Violinist* by George Mayer-Marton (Lebrecht Music Collection)

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