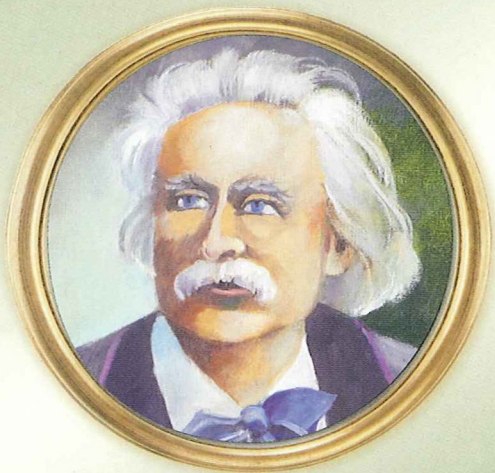


THE GENIUS OF GRIEG

EDWARD GRIEG 1843–1907

2CD



Grieg

**NAXOS**
FINE MUSIC FROM THE PAST

CD 1

Peer Gynt Suite No. 1, Op. 46

- 1 Morgenstemning (*Morning*)
- 2 Aases død (*Aase's Death*)
- 3 Anitras dans (*Anitras's Dance*)
- 4 I dovre gubbens hall (*In the Hall of the Mountain King*)
Tr 1, 4: Iceland Symphony Orchestra / Bjarte Engeset
From 8.557017
Tr 2, 3: Norrköping Symphony Orchestra / Mats Rondin
From 8.557426

Peer Gynt Suite No. 2, Op. 55

- 5 Ingrid's klage (*Ingrid's Lament*)
- 6 Arabisk dans (*Arabian Dance*)
- 7 Peer Gynt's hjemfart (*Peer Gynt's Homecoming*)
- 8 Solveigs sang (*Solveig's Song*)
Oslo Camerata / Stephan Barratt-Due
From 8.557890

Holberg Suite, Op. 40 (From Holberg's Time: Suite in the Olden Style)

- 9 Prelude: Allegro vivace
- 10 Sarabande: Andante
- 11 Gavotte: Allegretto - Musette: Poco piu mosso
- 12 Air: Andante religioso
- 13 Rigaudon: Allegro con brio - Poco meno mosso
Bournemouth Sinfonietta / Richard Studt
From 8.553106

Two Elegiac Melodies, Op. 34

- 14 No. 1. Hjertesår (*The Wounded Heart*)
- 15 No. 2. Våren (*Last Spring*)
Oslo Camerata / Stephan Barratt-Due
From 8.557890

Three Orchestral Pieces from Sigurd Jorsalfar, Op. 56

- 16 I. I kongens hall (*In the King's Hall*)
- 17 II. Borghilds drom (*Borghild's Dream*)
- 18 III. Hyldningsmarsj (*Homage March*)
BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra / Jerzy Maksymiuk
From 8.550864

CD 2

- 1 Norsk dans nr. 2 (*Norwegian Dance No. 2*),
Op. 35 (*Allegretto tranquillo e grazioso*)
Iceland Symphony Orchestra / Bjarte Engeset
From 8.557017

String Quartet No. 1 in G minor, Op. 27

- 2 II. Romanze: Andantino - Allegro agitato
Oslo Quartet
From 8.550879

Hjertets melodier (Melodies of the Heart), Op. 5

- 3 III. Jeg elsker Dig (*I Love but Thee*)

Romancer, Op. 39

- 4 I. Fra Monte Pincio (*From Monte Pincio*)

Peer Gynt, Op. 23

- 5 XXVI. Solveigs Vuggevisse (*Solveig's Cradle Song*)

Six Songs, Op. 48

- 6 VI. Ein Traum (*A Dream*)

Fem digte, Op. 26 (excerpts)

- 7 IV. Med en Primula veris (*The First Primrose*)
Tr 3-7: Bodil Arnesen, soprano; Erling Ragnar
Eriksen, piano
From 8.553781

Violin Sonata No. 3 in C minor, Op. 45

- 8 II. Allegretto espressivo alla Romanza
Henning Kraggerud, violin ; Helge Kjekshus, piano
From 8.553904

Lyric Pieces, Book 3, Op. 43

- 9 Til Våren (*To the Spring*)
10 Sommerfugl (*Butterfly*)
From 8.553394

Lyric Pieces, Book 5, Op. 54

- 11 Gjettergut (*Herd Boy*)
12 Trolltog (*March of the Trolls*)
From 8.553395

Lyric Pieces, Book 8, Op. 65

- 13 Byllupdag på Troidhaugen (*Wedding Day
at Troidhaugen*)
From 8.553396

Pictures from Everyday Life, Op. 19 (Humoresques for Piano)

- 14 Brudefølget drar forbi (*Bridal Procession*)
From 8.550883
Tr 9-14: Einar Steen-Nøkleberg, Piano

Piano Concerto in A minor, Op. 16

- 15 Allegro moderato
Havard Gimse, Piano
Royal Scottish National Orchestra / Bjarte Engeset
From 8.552779

Edvard Grieg (1843–1907)

Edvard Grieg was born in Bergen, on the west coast of Norway, in 1843. He was brought up in a musical home and showed a strong interest in music at a very early age. His mother, Gesine, became his first piano teacher and after encouragement from the violinist and composer Ole Bull (1810–1880) Edvard was sent to the Conservatory in Leipzig at the age of fifteen to receive his musical education.

There he had fundamental and solid musical training, and through the city's flourishing musical life, received impressions and heard music which would come to leave its stamp on him for the rest of his life – for better or for worse. Even though he severely criticized the Leipzig Conservatory, especially towards the end of his life, in reality his exceptional gifts were recognised, and one sees in his sketchbooks of the Leipzig period that he had the freedom to experiment as well. He had no good reason to criticize the conservatory, nor his teachers, for poor teaching or a lack of understanding.

From Leipzig Grieg travelled to Copenhagen, bringing with him the solid musical training he had acquired, and there soon became known as a promising young composer. It was not long before he came under the influence of Rikard

Nordraak, whose glowing enthusiasm and unshakeable belief that the key to a successful future for Norwegian music lay in nationalism, in the uniquely Norwegian, the music of the people – folk-songs – came to play a decisive role in Grieg's development as a composer.

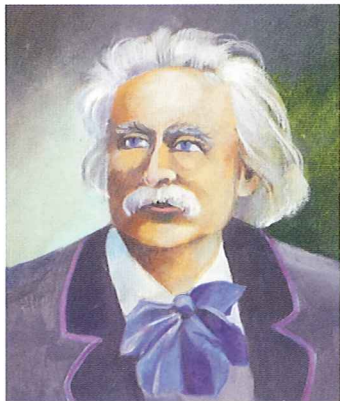
In the autumn of 1866, Grieg settled in Christiania (Oslo) and on June 11, 1867, he married his first cousin, Nina Hagerup. The next year their only child, Alexandra, was born. In 1874 Norway's capital was the centre for his activities. During this time he also wrote the majority of the works which laid the foundation for his steadily increasing fame. In spite of his poor health – he had had a defective lung ever since childhood – he was constantly on concert-tour as a pianist or as a conductor, always with his own works on the programme. He was eventually awarded a government pension from Norway but died in the autumn of 1907, aged 64, after a long period of illness. The funeral drew thousands out on the streets of his hometown to honor the artist. His and his wife's ashes are entombed in a mountain crypt near his house, Trolldhaugen.

The genius

"I cannot be blamed if my music is played in third-rate hotels and by school-girls. I could not have created my music any other way, even though I did not have my audience in mind at the time. I guess this popularity is all right, but it is dearly bought. My reputation as a composer is suffering because of it, and the criticism is disparaging."

of Grieg

"Artists like Bach and Beethoven erected churches and temples on the heights. I only wanted... to build dwellings for men in which they might feel happy and at home."



DDD

8.570390

Playing Time:
75:57+65:38

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THE GENIUS OF GRIEG

CD 1

Peer Gynt Suite No. 1, Op. 46

- | | | |
|---|--|------|
| 1 | Morgenstemning (Morning) | 4:02 |
| 2 | Aases død (<i>Aase's Death</i>) | 4:37 |
| 3 | Anitra's dans (<i>Anitra's Dance</i>) | 3:29 |
| 4 | I dovregubbens hall (<i>In the Hall of the Mountain King</i>) | 2:42 |

Peer Gynt Suite No. 2, Op. 55

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|---|---|------|
| 5 | Ingrids klage (<i>Ingrid's Lament</i>) | 3:58 |
| 6 | Arabisk dans (<i>Arabian Dance</i>) | 4:27 |
| 7 | Peer Gynt's hjemfart (<i>Peer Gynt's Homecoming</i>) | 2:40 |
| 8 | Solveigs sang (<i>Solveig's Song</i>) | 5:38 |

Holberg Suite, Op. 40 (From Holberg's

Time: Suite in the Olden Style)

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|----|-------------------|------|
| 9 | Prelude | 2:32 |
| 10 | Sarabande | 3:23 |
| 11 | Gavotte - Musette | 3:16 |
| 12 | Air | 5:27 |
| 13 | Rigaudon | 3:50 |

Two Elegiac Melodies, Op. 34

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| 14 | Hjertesår (<i>The Wounded Heart</i>) | 3:15 |
| 15 | Våren (<i>Last Spring</i>) | 4:17 |

Three Orchestral Pieces from Sigurd Jorsalfar, Op. 56

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|----|--|-------|
| 16 | I kongens hall (<i>In the King's Hall</i>) | 3:12 |
| 17 | Borghilds drøm (<i>Borghild's Dream</i>) | 4:00 |
| 18 | Hyldningsmarsj (<i>Homage March</i>) | 11:06 |

CD 2

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|-----------------------|--|------|
| 1 | Norsk dans nr. 2 (<i>Norwegian Dance No. 2</i>) | 2:24 |
| 2 | String Quartet No. 1: Romanze | 7:07 |
| Sanger (Songs) | | |
| 3 | Jeg elsker Dig (<i>I Love but Thee</i>) | 1:39 |
| 4 | Fra Monte Pincio (<i>From Monte Pincio</i>) | 5:04 |
| 5 | Solveigs Vuggevisse (<i>Solveig's Cradle Song</i>) | 3:53 |
| 6 | Ein Traum (<i>A Dream</i>) | 2:13 |
| 7 | Med en Primula veris (<i>The First Primrose</i>) | 2:05 |

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| 8 | Violin Sonata No. 3: Allegretto espressivo alla Romanza | 6:13 |
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Klaverstykker (Piano pieces)

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| 9 | Til Våren (<i>To the Spring</i>) | 2:50 |
| 10 | Sommerfugl (<i>Butterfly</i>) | 1:51 |
| 11 | Gjetergutt (<i>Herd Boy</i>) | 4:31 |
| 12 | Trolltog (<i>March of the Trolls</i>) | 2:58 |
| 13 | Bryllupsdag på Trolldhaugen (<i>Wedding Day at Trolldhaugen</i>) | 5:57 |
| 14 | Brudefølget drar forbi (<i>Bridal Procession</i>) | 3:42 |

Piano Concerto in A minor, Op. 16

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|----|------------------|-------|
| 15 | Allegro moderato | 12:53 |
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Compiled by Lars Johansson and Bjørn Haug

Cover: Idé-bild Reklambyrå

Painting: Gösta Berg