

NAXOS**DDD**

8.555299

Playing Time
70:04www.naxos.com
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NAXOS**SIBELIUS: Tone Poems****8.555299**

Sibelius's tone poems cover his entire creative career, and contain some of his most dramatic and atmospheric music. *En Saga*, the composer's first purely orchestral success, is an initially delicate then dramatic evocation of nature. *Pohjola's Daughter* was inspired by one of the legends of the Norse epic, the *Kalevala*, wherein the magician Väinämöinen meets Pohjola's Daughter on his way home and falls in love with her. To win her hand he must perform a series of impossible tasks, which he fails and sadly continues his journey alone. *The Bard* is short and contemplative in mood, without explicit programme. Based on Homeric epic rather than Nordic saga, *The Oceanides* evokes the nature of the sea, from calm breezy moods to thundering tempests. *Tapiola* is the last of Sibelius's symphonic poems, a brilliantly evocative depiction of the Northern landscape and especially of its forests.

Jean
SIBELIUS
 (1865-1957)

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|---|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| 1 | Pohjola's Daughter, Op. 49 | 14:01 |
| 2 | The Oceanides, Op. 73 | 10:18 |
| 3 | Tapiola, Op. 112 | 18:43 |
| 4 | En Saga, Op. 9 | 18:54 |
| 5 | The Bard, Op. 64 | 8:07 |

Iceland Symphony Orchestra • Petri Sakari

Recorded in Reykjavik, Iceland, from 19th to 23rd June, 2000.

Producer: Chris Hazell • Engineer and Editor: Simon Eadon

Booklet Notes: Keith Anderson

Cover Image: *Road in the Woods* by Gustaf Werner Holmberg (1830-60)
 (Ateneum Helsinki / The Art Archive Dagli Orti [A])

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