

aspects of the story. It begins with an ominous and mysterious introduction, representing the desolate landscape of Pohjola. As the music progresses, it introduces themes associated with Väinämöinen's journey and his encounters with various challenges and trials set by Pohjola's daughter.

"Lemminkäinen's Return" (Lemminkäisen paluu in Finnish) is one of the movements from Jean Sibelius's "Four Legends from the Kalevala," Op. 22, also known as the "Lemminkäinen Suite." Composed between 1893 and 1895, this suite is based on the Finnish national epic, the Kalevala, which is a collection of ancient Finnish mythology and folklore.

In the Kalevala, Lemminkäinen is a reckless and brave hero who embarks on various adventures. In "Lemminkäinen's Return," the hero returns home after a series of dangerous exploits. The music portrays his journey back and his eventual arrival, with all its attendant emotions of relief, triumph, and perhaps a touch of apprehension.

The movement is marked by dynamic shifts and contrasts, reflecting the different episodes of Lemminkäinen's return. It begins with a triumphant and energetic theme, symbolizing his victorious homecoming. However, there are also moments of reflection and introspection, hinting at the challenges and dangers that Lemminkäinen has faced on his journey.

MUSIC OF SIBELIUS

MORTON GOULD



"Finlandia," composed by Jean Sibelius, is one of the most well-known and beloved pieces of classical music from Finland. It was written in 1899 and revised in 1900. Originally intended as a covert protest against increasing censorship from the Russian Empire, the piece has since become a symbol of Finnish nationalism and independence.

"Finlandia" is structured as a tone poem, a form of orchestral music that seeks to evoke or represent a particular idea, story, or landscape. The piece begins with a solemn and majestic hymn-like melody, which is followed by various sections of contrasting moods and tempos. One of the most recognizable parts of the composition is the stirring "Finlandia Hymn," which features a soaring melody played by the strings and woodwinds.

Sibelius composed "Finlandia" during a period of intense nationalistic sentiment in Finland, and it quickly became associated with the Finnish struggle for independence. Today, it remains one of Sibelius's most performed and celebrated works, both in Finland and around the world.

"The Swan of Tuonela" depicts a scene from Finnish mythology where Lemminkäinen travels to the realm of Tuonela, the land of the dead, in search of a mystical swan. In Tuonela, the swan swims in the dark waters, surrounded by a serene and desolate landscape.

The piece is scored for a small orchestra, featuring a solo English horn or cor anglais as the voice of the swan, accompanied by strings, harp, and muted brass. Sibelius masterfully captures the atmosphere of

the mythological setting, with haunting melodies and rich harmonies that evoke a sense of mystery and melancholy.

"Valse Triste" is another iconic piece composed by Jean Sibelius. It's the second movement of his incidental music for the play "Kuolema" (Death), written in 1903. The play was composed by Sibelius's brother-in-law, Arvid Järnefelt. The music was later arranged by Sibelius into a stand-alone concert piece.

"Valse Triste," which translates to "Sad Waltz," is a hauntingly beautiful waltz that captures a sense of eerie melancholy. The music conveys a dream-like quality, as if it is emanating from a distant memory or a ghostly dance hall. The waltz is characterized by its gentle, lilting rhythm, lush harmonies, and poignant melodies, which together create a sense of bittersweet nostalgia.

The piece is scored for a small orchestra and is often performed as a concert piece rather than as incidental music for the play. "Valse Triste" has become one of Sibelius's most popular and frequently performed compositions, renowned for its emotional depth and evocative power.

"Pohjola's Daughter" (Pohjolan tytär in Finnish) is a symphonic poem composed by Jean Sibelius in 1906. It's based on Finnish mythology, specifically the story of the hero Väinämöinen from the Kalevala, who seeks to win the hand of the beautiful daughter of Pohjola, the Northland.

The piece is divided into several sections, each depicting different

MUSIC OF SIBELIUS MORTON GOULD

- 1 Finlandia 8:12
- 2 The Swan Of Tuonela 8:25
English Horn – Albert Goltzer
- 3 Valse Triste 5:10
- 4 Pohjola's Daughter 13:32
Cello – Harvey Shapiro
- 5 Lemminkainen's Return 6:01

Recorded by RCA on November 15, 16, 17, 1962 in Manhattan Center, New York City.

Producer – Joseph Habig Engineer – Lewis Layton



For more info e-mail us:
info@highdeftapetransfers.ca
or visit our website:
www.highdeftapetransfers.ca