

spired melodies. It captures the spirit of Karelia, a historical region that encompasses parts of present-day Finland and Russia.

Ballade: The Ballade is a more introspective and lyrical movement. It begins with a melancholic melody played by the woodwinds and develops into a richly textured piece with moments of drama and tenderness.

Alla marcia: The Alla marcia movement is a spirited march that concludes the suite. It is characterized by its energetic tempo and bold, brass-driven themes.

The Karelia Suite showcases Sibelius' talent for incorporating folk elements into his compositions, a characteristic trait of his nationalist style. The music evokes the landscape, traditions, and historical events associated with Karelia, celebrating the cultural heritage of the region.



Sibelius Symphony No. 1, also known as Symphony No. 1 in E minor, Op. 39, is a symphonic work composed by Finnish composer Jean Sibelius. It is considered one of the most significant symphonies of the late Romantic period and a cornerstone of Finnish classical music.

Sibelius began composing Symphony No. 1 in 1898 and completed it in 1899. The premiere took place in Helsinki, Finland, on April 26, 1899, conducted by the composer himself. The symphony is scored for a large orchestra and consists of four movements:

Andante, ma non troppo – Allegro energico: The symphony opens with a brooding and atmospheric introduction, followed by a vigorous and energetic main theme.

Andante (ma non troppo lento): The second movement is a lyrical and expressive piece, featuring beautiful melodies and lush orchestration.

Scherzo: Allegro: This third movement is a lively and rhythmic scherzo, characterized by its driving tempo and playful themes.

Finale (Quasi una fantasia): Andante – Allegro molto: The final movement begins with a somber and mysterious introduction, leading to a triumphant and powerful conclusion. It features dramatic contrasts and a sense of grandeur.

Sibelius' Symphony No. 1 showcases his distinctive compositional style, characterized by rich orchestration, evocative melodies, and a strong connection to Finnish folklore and nature. The symphony has been highly regarded for its emotional depth, innovative harmonic language, and its role in shaping Sibelius' symphonic career.

The Karelia Suite is a popular orchestral work composed by Jean Sibelius. It is based on music Sibelius composed for the historical pageant "Karelia," which was performed in Vyborg, Finland, in 1893. The suite consists of three movements:

Intermezzo: The Intermezzo movement is a lively and vibrant piece that features energetic rhythms and folk-in-

Sibelius Symphony No.1 Karelia Suite

Lorin Maazel / Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra

Symphony No. 1 In E Minor Op. 39

1. Andante Ma Non Troppo - Allegro Energico 10:40
2. Andante (Ma Non Troppo Lento) 8:30
3. Scherzo - Allegro 4:50
4. Finale (Quasi Una Fantasia) 11:15

"Karelia" Suite, Op. 11

5. Intermezzo (Moderato) 3:30
6. Ballade 6:25
7. Alla Marcia 4:05

**Producer: John Culshaw Engineer: James Brown & Gordon Parry
Recorded 23-24 Sep 1963 Sofiensaal, Vienna**



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