

"American Stringbook"

David Diamond:

Rounds for String Orchestra (1944)

Arthur Foote: Suite in E op. 63

Samuel Barber:

Serenade op. 1, Adagio op. 11

William Schuman: Symphony No. 5

do.gma chamber orchestra

Mikhail Gurewitsch

1 Hybrid-SACD

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American Stringbook - do.gma chamber orchestra presents the New World

"Brings to expression the vitality of a new generation of musicians." (WDR)

First Tchaikovsky and now American music. On its second album, *American Stringbook*, the young do.gma chamber orchestra led by Mikhail Gurewitsch demonstrates its high sound culture mixed with nonstop performance joy and an absolutely enthusing freshness. "Presented with youthful élan, nuanced, magnificent in sound, and with just the right dose of refinement." (SWR)

Already at the age of seven Samuel Barber knew that he wanted to become a composer. At nineteen he finished his Serenade No. 1, a work of enormous stylistic variety. He published his best-known work, the "Adagio for Strings," in 1936; it had originally been designed as part of a string quartet.

William Schuman first developed his enthusiasm for music at the age of twenty. He attended a Toscanini concert and on the very next day spontaneously decided to become a composer. The highly talented Schuman was lucky inasmuch as Serge Koussevitzky lent him his support, and it was also this highly influential conductor who commissioned the "Symphony for Strings."

David Diamond left his mark on the American music scene during the second half of the twentieth century. He had composed his best-known work, "Rounds for String Orchestra," already in 1944. Its three movements are based on rounds, the canon forms so popular in sixteenth-century England. Influences from jazz and the contemporary folk song are also in evidence.

The Bostonian Arthur Foote was still very much obliged to romanticism. He admired Johannes Brahms and attended the first opera performance in the brand-new Bayreuth Festival Theater in 1876. Foote later developed his own independent American style and for some decades reigned supreme in the music world on the American East Coast.

Peter Tchaikovsky: Serenade op. 48, Souvenir de Florence op. 70

do.gma chamber orchestra, Mikhail Gurewitsch, Audiomax 912 1654-6 (Hybrid-SACD)

