

Frederick Paul Naftel's new album showcases his eclectic compositional style through a diverse collection of works.

3 Premiere Recordings:

Aphoristic Impressions, composed in 2023 for American pianist Haley Myles, captures the essence of various landscapes through five short piano pieces. These pieces evoke images of the underwater church at Dunwich, Suffolk, the eruption of an Icelandic geyser, the indigenous wildlife of the Australian outback and Uluru/Ayers Rock, a peaceful night-time portrait of a Japanese garden, and Whirlpool Rapids Gorge on the Niagara River.

Naftel's *String Quartet No.2*, composed during the initial Coronavirus pandemic, reflects the era's tumultuous nature. Unlike his first quartet, this single-movement piece is divided into five sections with an epilogue. The music oscillates between tranquil static passages and furious, violent sections, marked by intervals of a major 7th and minor 2nd. The *Lento* opening flows serenely but mysteriously, evolving through a relentless *Allegro feroce*, transitioning to an *Adagio Sostenuto* reminiscent of plainsong, and culminating in a powerful and enigmatic epilogue featuring recorded cello pizzicato.

The *Folksong Suite for String Orchestra and Timpani* draws on six English and Scottish folksongs, including *John Peel*, *Early One Morning*, *Ca' the Yowes*, *Loch Lomond*, *Dashing Away With The Smoothing Iron*, and *Lincolnshire Poacher*.

Legacy Recordings:

Pascal's Victim for Tuba Quartet, composed for the North West-based Tubalaté, features three movements based on the Gregorian Chant *Victimae Paschali*. Each movement uniquely fragments the theme, particularly in the slow second movement, where a short melodic motive is varied by gently shifting harmonies.

Song of Songs: Rhapsody for String Orchestra and Harp is an ethnic-flavoured rhapsody based on Hebraic chants and original material, featuring melodies like "Yigdal" and "Hatikvah." This piece evokes imagery suited for films set in Biblical times or perhaps documentaries about the Middle East.

Villancico for Guitar and Small Orchestra bridges the music of the Spanish Renaissance and Joaquin Rodrigo in a charming and lyrical Rondo form, while *Aubade Pastorale for String Orchestra* is a short tone poem depicting a hazy day in the English countryside, using original themes inspired by the English Pastoral School, particularly Ralph Vaughan Williams.

Frederick Paul Naftel, born in Manchester in 1956, is an eclectic composer drawing inspiration from diverse sources such as landscapes, nature, and historical events. His compositions span various styles and formats, creating distinct moods and atmospheres. His repertoire includes Concerti for Orchestra, Symphonies, chamber music, and vocal works. Notable works include the *Double Concerto for Bass Tuba and Contrabass Tuba*, the Bass Clarinet Concerto, *Aubade Pastorale*, and the *Sanctus* for female voices, strings, and piano. He received an award from the Paul Hamlyn Foundation in 2020 and was runner-up in the King Lear Arts Competition. Naftel is currently working on his Third Symphony, dedicated to Sir James MacMillan, and future orchestral works. Naftel's music has been praised for its eccentricity, individuality and distinctive voice in contemporary music.



RELEASE DATE Oct 18th, 2024

Marketing Points

- 3 Premiere recordings
- Excellent collection of past and new works
- British composer
- Available on CD and in HD Digital
- Album duration 64:12



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WORKS LISTING

- Pascal's Victim for tuba quartet
- Aphoristic Impressions
- String Quartet No. 2
- Song of Songs: Rhapsody for Strings and Harp
- Aubade Pastorale
- Folksong Suite for Strings and Timpani
- Villancico for Guitar and Small Orchestra

Preview Track:

Folksong Suite for String Orchestra and Timpani: III. Country Dance



<https://youtu.be/XtYymReCXCw>



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