



NAXOS

FABRICE
BOLLON

IN TAROS WELT

(‘TARO’S WONDERFUL WORLD’)

A MUSICAL JOURNEY
THROUGH SPACE
AND TIME

RENÉ MÜNCH, MARIMBA

**JENA PHILHARMONIC
ORCHESTRA**

FABRICE BOLLON

Fabrice
BOLLON
(b. 1965)

In Taros Welt ('Taro's Wonderful World') (2018) (version without narration)

Suite No. 1	32:21
1 I. Reise in das Paralleluniversum ('Travel into a Parallel Universe') –	4:04
2 II. Der schlafende Planet ('The Sleeping Planet') –	1:38
3 III. Im Tunnel der Aufwachenden ('In the Tunnel of Awakening') –	2:58
4 IV. Der springende Planet ('The Jumping Planet') –	4:50
5 V. Im Tunnel der Tratschenden ('In the Tunnel of Voices') –	1:47
6 VI. Der tanzende Planet ('The Dancing Planet') –	3:44
7 VII. Im eiskalten Tunnel ('In the Ice Cold Tunnel') –	1:04
8 VIII. Der Planet aus Schnee ('The Snow Planet') –	2:07
9 IX. Im Tunnel der Geheimnisse ('In the Secret Tunnel') –	3:36
10 X. Der Planet mit dem grünen Licht ('The Planet with the Green Light') –	3:48
11 XI. Abreise ('Departure')	2:45
12 Suite No. 2 – Suns	14:05
Suite No. 3	16:43
13 I. La Follia I –	2:32
14 II. Marche au supplice –	1:57
15 III. La Follia II –	2:19
16 IV. Baba Yaga –	1:27
17 V. La Follia III –	2:25
18 VI. Die Walküre –	1:04
19 VII. La Follia IV –	0:39
20 VIII. La Mer –	0:44
21 IX. La Follia V: Abschied von Taro ('Taro's Farewell')	3:36

Fabrice Bollon (b. 1965)

Taro's Wonderful World

Commissioned by the SWR Sinfonieorchester in 2017 and written by conductor and composer Fabrice Bollon, *Taro's Wonderful World* was conceived as a kind of introduction to, or initiation into, classical music, both for children and for an audience that may not be especially familiar with the genre. The work uses well known themes and easily recognisable pieces from quintessential orchestral repertory, combining them together in a very playful and accessible way.

Within the work, Taro takes a walk in a parallel universe consisting of sounds. He jumps from one planet to another with the help of 'earworm holes', and discovers sophisticated and surprising sonic constellations. Well known pieces of music by Vivaldi, Ravel, Grieg and Tchaikovsky are heard alongside familiar themes by Rossini, Bach, Berlioz and Wagner, and are sometimes even given a jazz rock feel. All are united in a unique world – the planet Trujillo.

The work is comprised three separate suites, as the linear structure of this format is one of the most natural and easy to follow. Each suite plays with classical music tropes in a very different fashion, increasing in complexity and requiring more engagement from the listener as the work develops – but always in a way that is enjoyable.

To assist the listener in their understanding of the musical content, the beautiful story that the work is based on – conceived by author Julia Liebermann and composer Fabrice Bollon – uses numerous contemporary science fiction references. Liebermann's distinctively modern yet stylistically naive prose follows, as much as it propels, the musical development.

The first suite, conceived for very young listeners, uses themes from familiar, enduring classical 'hits' in their original forms. The five movements – or 'five planets' – are linked together by short passages called 'tunnels' or 'wormholes', through which the themes are constantly

reworked using variation techniques from the classical genre, completing their musical transformations when introducing the next piece. Through this process, the listener can discover – with the aid of the accompanying story – how classical music takes melodies and reconstructs them in order to create musical dramaturgy.

Suns, the second suite, which is aimed at listeners of all ages, is in fact a pastiche, and uses instantly recognisable themes which have been transformed in character and context. Humorous and light-hearted in nature, the listener hears Tchaikovsky collaborate with Grieg, Vivaldi turned upside down and Rossini (almost) become a rock star!

The third suite is more complex, as it features modified citations of great orchestral works in parallel, and variations on the theme from *La Follia*. The typical reconfigurations of standard classical variations, as were employed until around the mid-20th century, are used here, and the listener hears quotes from familiar melodies – some of which are more unexpected than others.

The work as a whole is not just for newcomers to classical music, but has also been written for aficionados, who will no doubt appreciate and enjoy not only how it uses all the facets of the orchestra and explores the great art of arrangement, but also how it employs and combines various musical styles in a very unique way.

Taro's Wonderful World can be used to support all forms of musical education, but can also be simply enjoyed as a concert piece.

Taro, a child from the planet Trujillo who is only 324 Trujillo years old, is woken up one night by a curious little melody. He sees an 'earworm hole', and, unafraid, jumps straight in. In this sonically adventurous new world, materials are not made up of atoms, electrons and quarks, but instead musical notes – and Taro himself has become the sound of the marimba.

René Münch



René Münch was born in Quedlinburg, Germany. At the age of 12 he attended the special school for music in Weimar. This was immediately followed by studies at the University of Music Franz Liszt Weimar. After this he worked for several years as a freelance percussionist in many well-known orchestras such as the Gewandhausorchester-Leipzig, MDR-Sinfonieorchester, Gürzenich-Orchester, Staatsoper Hannover, NDR-Sinfonieorchester-Hamburg, DNT Weimar and the Jenaer Philharmonie, among others. Since 2006 Münch has been deputy solo timpanist with percussion duties at the Jenaer Philharmonie. Guest performances have taken him to France, Italy, Israel, China, Armenia and Japan. In addition to his orchestral activities, René Münch has also performed in various chamber music ensembles and as a soloist throughout his career.

Jena Philharmonic Orchestra



Photo: Nikolaj Lund

The Jena Philharmonic Orchestra (JPO) is an integral part of the cultural life of Jena. The orchestra has collaborated with world renowned soloists and guest conductors, notably on the Mahler/Scartazzini cycle of complete symphonies. In addition to its concert season in Jena the JPO gives guest performances throughout Germany and Europe, and in 2018/19 toured China. The JPO boasts extensive outreach and education programmes, and promotes accessibility through special concert formats and unusual collaborations. With a reputation for being a young, dynamic orchestra, it is one of the founders of the European orchestral network, ONE®. A unique feature of the JPO is its three affiliated choirs – the Philharmonic Choir, the Jena Madrigal Circle and the Boys' Choir. In both 1999 and 2002, the orchestra was awarded 'best concert programme of the season' by the German music publishers association (DMV), and from 2017 to 2020 it received funding from the Federal Government (Bundesregierung) as part of the 'Exzellente Orchesterlandschaft Deutschland' initiative.

www.jenaer-philharmonie.de

8.574498

Fabrice Bollon

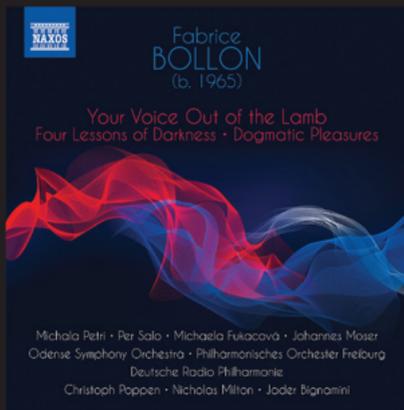


Photo: Anna Kolata

Fabrice Bollon studied with Michael Gielen and Nikolaus Harnoncourt in Paris and at Salzburg's Mozarteum before completing his studies with Georges Prêtre and Mauricio Kagel. He has made numerous appearances with many renowned European orchestras, and from 2009 to 2021 served as general music director/chief conductor at Germany's Theater Freiburg, overseeing numerous recordings for Naxos including a remarkable interpretation of Korngold's *Das Wunder der Heliane* in 2018 (8.660410-12). His work in Freiburg garnered international acclaim, including Editor's Choice accolades in *Gramophone* magazine and Diapason d'Or Awards, among others. He has been chief conductor of the Staatskapelle Halle and general music director of the Halle Opera since August 2022. Bollon is also an acclaimed composer, and his operas *Oscar und die Dame in Rosa* and *The Folly* have been highly acclaimed by both critics and audiences. In 2020 his album of original compositions released on Naxos (8.574015) received a Choc de Classica award and an ICMA nomination.

www.fabricebollon.com

Also available



8.574015



8.574456

Taro's Wonderful World was conceived by conductor/composer Fabrice Bollon and author Julia Liebermann as an introduction or initiation into classical music both for children and adults unfamiliar with the genre. Taro, a child from the planet Trujillo, is woken one night by a curious little melody. His adventures take us through increasingly sophisticated and surprising sonic constellations that light-heartedly turn favourite classics upside down and inside out, exploring every facet of the orchestra and combining a wide variety of musical styles in a uniquely enjoyable way. A digital-only version with German narration is also available to stream and download (9.70356).



Deutschlandfunk Kultur

Fabrice
BOLLON
(b. 1965)

In Taro's Welt

(‘Taro’s Wonderful World’)

A musical journey through space and time

1–11	Suite No. 1	32:21
12	Suite No. 2 – Suns	14:05
13–21	Suite No. 3	16:43

WORLD PREMIERE RECORDING

René Münch, Marimba 1 3 5 7 9 11–18 21

Jena Philharmonic Orchestra

Fabrice Bollon

A detailed track list can be found inside the booklet.

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Sound engineer, audio track editor and artistic director: Felix Epp

Publisher: Edition Peters

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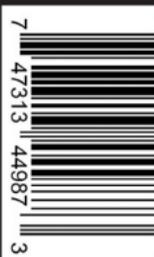
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Playing Time
63:20



www.naxos.com

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