

GEORGE ROCHBERG BLACK SOUNDS

CANTIO SACRA | PHAEDRA

Mary Nessinger, mezzo-soprano

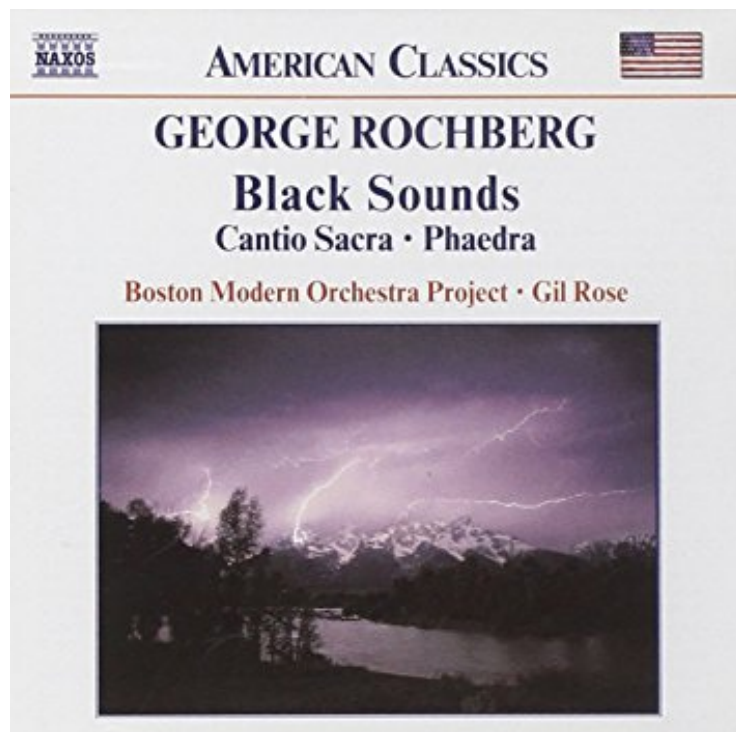
BOSTON MODERN ORCHESTRA PROJECT

GIL ROSE, CONDUCTOR

Naxos introduces contemporary American composer George Rochberg with three selections, two of which are wildly emotional affairs with themes of uncontrollable love and lust and of murder. *Black Sounds* opens the disc with a tale of murder from the 1965 televised ballet *The Act*. *Phaedra*, a monodrama in seven scenes, tells of Phaedra's love for her husband's son and their subsequent deaths, featuring Mary Nessinger, mezzo-soprano. Completing the set is *Cantio Sacra*, a transcription of twelve organ variations by Samuel Scheidt.



Naxos has become the world's leading classical music label, garnering awards from major music publications including Gramophone Awards and numerous Editor's Choices, GRAMMY nominations, nominations and wins for the Cannes Classical Awards, and AFIM nominations and awards. Naxos offers music lovers a veritable encyclopaedia of music.



CLASSICS TODAY

"The Boston Modern Orchestra Project delivers stirring and virtuosic performances under Gil Rose... a most interesting disc, and a finely varied introduction to Rochberg's music."

FANFARE

"Powerfully and unrelentingly direct in expression, [*Black Sounds*] receives a tightly argued performance from conductor Gil Rose and his virtuoso musicians, who maintain an extraordinary degree of tension throughout these riveting 17 minutes. Highly recommended."

GRAMOPHONE

"Mary Nessinger does an admirable job negotiating the extremely treacherous vocal part... Fierce playing by the Boston Modern Orchestra Project both [in *Phaedra*] and in *Black Sounds*. Strongly recommended."