**SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY ISSUE** Nine decades of celebrating classical music

THE WORLD'S BEST CLASSICAL MUSIC REVIEWS

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THE ART OF THE CONDUCTOR

















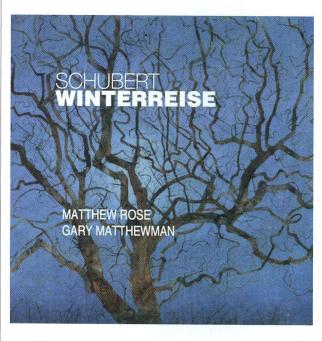




# GRAMOPHONE Choice



**G** Informed by our unrivalled panel of critics, we choose the month's must-hear recordings



# Recording of the Month

Like Hans Hotter, Matthew Rose leaves one with a sense of a vast burden of suffering determinedly endured against appalling odds'

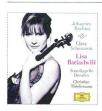
► RICHARD WIGMORE'S REVIEW IS ON PAGE 54

### **SCHUBERT**

Winterreise

Matthew Rose bass Gary Matthewman pf

Stone Records 5060192 780222



# BRAHMS. **C SCHUMANN**

Violin Works

Lisa Batiashvili vn

Alice Sara Ott pf

Staatskapelle Dresden /

**Christian Thielemann** 

DG 479 0086GH 'Even before Batiashvili makes her entrance, we can sense this will be an outstanding

▶ REVIEW ON PAGE 57

performance.'



# VIVALDI

Bassoon Concertos, Vol 3 Sergio Azzolini bn

L'Aura Soave Cremona

Naïve OP30539 'There is the usual crop of achingly beautiful slow movements, some conjuring a summer night on the Grand Canal, others earlymorning mist creeping across the lagoon.'

► REVIEW ON PAGE 66



### **MENDELSSOHN**

String Quartets

**Ebène Quartet** 

Virgin Classics 464546-2 'This disc abounds in the kind of lively engagement with the music that we've come to expect from Quatuor Ebène, caught up-close

the microphone.' ► REVIEW ON PAGE 72

and personal by



### **'ENGLISH VIOLIN** DUOS'

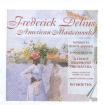
Violin Works

Retorica

NMC Artists Series NMCD182

'Harriet Mackenzie and Philippa Mo project the music's often intricate contrapuntal interweaving with faultless technique and unfailing insight.

► REVIEW ON PAGE 75



# **DELIUS**

'American Masterworks' Soloists: Aarhus Cathedral Choir; Aarhus Symphony Choir and Orchestra / Bo Holten Danacord DACOCD732 'Johan Reuter is the excellent soloist in Sea Drift, sustaining the narration well, telling of

has lost its mate.' ▶ REVIEW ON PAGE 84

the solitary sea bird that



PARRY
'From a City Window'
Ailish Tynan sop
Susan Bickley mez
William Dazeley bar
lain Burnside pf
Delphian DCD34117
'Full of subtle vocal
nuance, excellent
diction and discerning
accompaniment,
the performances
are exquisite.'

► REVIEW ON PAGE 87



PÄRT
Te Deum
Gordan Nikolitch vn
Netherlands Chamber
Choir and Orchestra /
Risto Joost
Globe GL05252
'Te Deum is
one of Pärt's
most remarkable
achievements and the
Dutch performers have
risen to the occasion.'



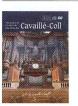
# 'IN THIS MOONLIT NIGHT' Lieder by Tchaikovsky, Mussorgsky, Taneyev Dmitri Hvorostovsky bar Ivari Ilja pf Ondine ODE1216-2 'He brings to his interpretations a new richness and darkness of timbre, beautifully polished



The Rape of Lucretia

► REVIEW ON PAGE 87

Soloists; Aldeburgh Festival Ensemble / Oliver Knussen Virgin Classics 602672-2 'Ian Bostridge is on top form, engagingly conversational and managing to invest Ronald Duncan's contorted libretto with poetic feeling.'



as it always was.'

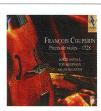
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# 'THE GENIUS OF CAVAILLÉ-COLL'

Organ Works
Various organists
Fugue State Films
FSFDVD007
'The viewer can
savour Cavaillé-

'The viewer can savour Cavaillé-Coll's poetic flutes and fiery reeds to their hearts' content, filmed to the highest standards.'

► REVIEW ON PAGE 80



► REVIEW ON PAGE 92

# Reissue/Archive F COUPERIN

Pièces de violes (1728)
Jordi Savall,
Ariane Maurette bass viols
Ton Koopman hpd
Alia Vox Heritage AVSA9893
'Although still at
the beginning of his
career, Savall, serenely
supported by Ton
Koopman, plays with
consummate mastery.'

► REVIEW ON PAGE 70

# GRAMOPHONE Reviews



Reviewed this month: concertos with violin - 13; concertos with viola - 8; concertos with bassoon - 8

# **ORCHESTRAL**

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Violin concertos by Brahms, Elgar, Sibelius and Wieniawski; all the Mahler symphonies on DVD from the Concertgebouw

# **CHAMBER**

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Couperin from Jordi Savall and Mikko Perkola; Martinů's complete piano trios; string quartets by Felix and Fanny Mendelssohn

### INSTRUMENTAL

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Matthew Barley's cello tribute to Britten; latest Buxtehude from Christopher Herrick; two Russians play Prokofiev piano sonatas

# **VOCAL**

82

Danish Delius cycle concludes; motets by Haflidi Hallgrímsson; exploring Johann Balthasar Christian Freislich's Passion setting

# **OPERA**

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Knussen conducts Britten; Andrea Bocelli stars in Gounod's Shakespeare opera; Strauss's *Elektra* live from the Netherlands

# **BOOKS**

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Anniversary biographies of Benjamin Britten compared; an exploration of amateur musicianship from *The Guardian*'s editor

# REPLAY

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Maria Grinberg plays Beethoven; EMI's anniversary tribute to Alfred Cortot; Doremi continues to explore the Gilels legacy

# THE SPECIALIST'S GUIDE

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Philip Clark introduces the work of Karl Amadeus Hartmann, who exiled himself inside Germany in defiance of the Third Reich

# THE GRAMOPHONE COLLECTION

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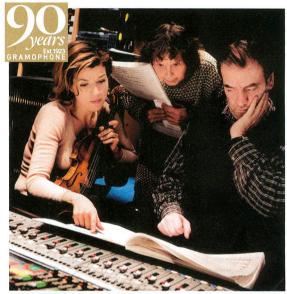
David Gutman sifts through the available recordings of Korngold's landmark Violin Concerto and names the version he values most

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**MY MUSIC**