

GRAMOPHONE

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The sounds of Christmas

The origins of the Nine Lessons and Carols

Our critics name their favourite recordings of 2013

Vaughan Williams's Christmas Fantasia: the best disc?

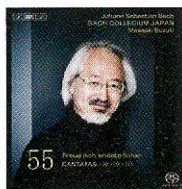
The Hilliard Ensemble bid farewell at 40



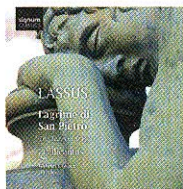
PLUS
BACH
IN JAPAN
 AN EPIC CANTATA
 JOURNEY COMES
 TO A CLOSE

12 >
 9 477001 7310157
 UNITED KINGDOM £4.99

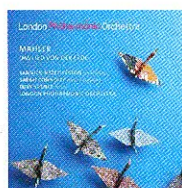
GRAMOPHONE *Reviews*



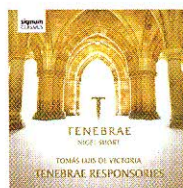
JS BACH
 'Cantatas, Vol 55'
Soloists; Bach Collegium Japan / Masaaki Suzuki
 BIS BIS2031
 'This final volume highlights the maturing sense of BCJ's growing stature and confidence to break free of generic convention towards ever greater interpretative character.'
 ► [REVIEW ON PAGE 90](#)



LASSUS
 Lagrime di San Pietro
Gallicantus / Gabriel Crouch
 Signum SIGCD339
 'Details are tellingly lingered over, repetitions properly emphasised and the score's illumination of an inner drama sensitively rendered.'
 ► [REVIEW ON PAGE 94](#)



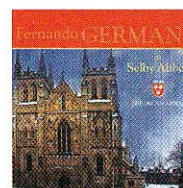
MAHLER
 Das Lied von der Erde
Sarah Connolly *mez*
Toby Spence *ten* London Philharmonic Orchestra / Yannick Nézet-Séguin
 LPO LPO0073
 'What can there be left to say about Sarah Connolly, whose performances these days are pretty much beyond praise?'
 ► [REVIEW ON PAGE 94](#)



VICTORIA
 Tenebrae Responsories
Tenebrae / Nigel Short
 Signum SIGCD344
 'Nigel Short and Tenebrae have produced a recording that strips all excess musical flesh aside, exposing the chilly bones of these penitential masterpieces.'
 ► [REVIEW ON PAGE 97](#)



DVD/Blu-ray
TCHAIKOVSKY
 Eugene Onegin
Soloists; Chorus and Orchestra of the Royal Opera House / Robin Ticciati; Kasper Holten *dir*
 Opus Arte **DVD** OA1120D;
Blu-ray OABD7132D
 'Hugely recommended – ignore the off-the-pace criticisms of our national press.'
 ► [REVIEW ON PAGE 102](#)



Reissue/Archive
'FERNANDO GERMANI AT SELBY ABBEY'
 Organ Works
Fernando Germani *org*
 Selby Abbey Organ Appeal
 SAOA001
 'His tempi are, at times, extremely rapid; combined with the rich brilliance of the Hill organ, this makes for thrilling listening.'
 ► [REVIEW ON PAGE 89](#)

Reviewed this month: 3 Britten War Requiems; 3 Magic Flutes; 2 Songs of the Earth

ORCHESTRAL 62

Jansen selects unusual Bach 'double'; 'new' Britten for strings from Camerata Nordica; Nicolas Hodges plays Iraq-war-inspired Riehm

CHAMBER 76

Watkins & Watkins in British cello works; Emperor and Endellion play Britten; NMC's Cashian 50th birthday disc; Pahud's world tour

INSTRUMENTAL 84

Howells's sound world captured by organist Newsholme; Schubert from newcomer Cordelia Williams; Sofya Gulyak's debut solo CD

VOCAL 90

Ticciati's *L'enfance* from Sweden; three *War Requiems* – from Jansons and Pappano, plus the premiere; Petibon sings Poulenc

OPERA 100

Rattle and Summers both record *Die Zauberflöte*; unfamiliar Rameau from Sébastien Héryn's group; Janowski's Wagner cycle continues

BOOKS 104

Hans Keller's writings on Britten in an edition by Wintle and Garnham; Antony Copley's *Music and the Spiritual*

REPLAY 106

Barbirolli's *Symphonie fantastique* in two recordings; Grete Sultan in a piano cornucopia; Emil Gilels live in Abbotsholme; Rosbaud, 1952-55

THE SPECIALIST'S GUIDE 108

This month's specialist, Jeremy Nicholas, picks 10 of the best recordings of seasonal organ showpieces

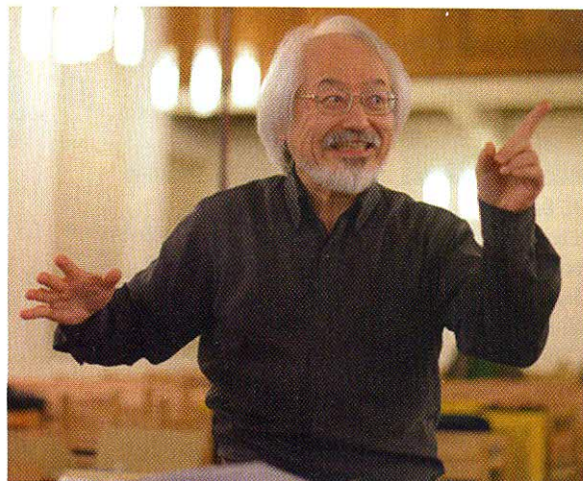
THE GRAMOPHONE COLLECTION 110

Jeremy Dibble explores recordings of Vaughan Williams's 1912 vocal-orchestral *Fantasia on Christmas Carols*

GRAMOPHONE *Features*

December 2013

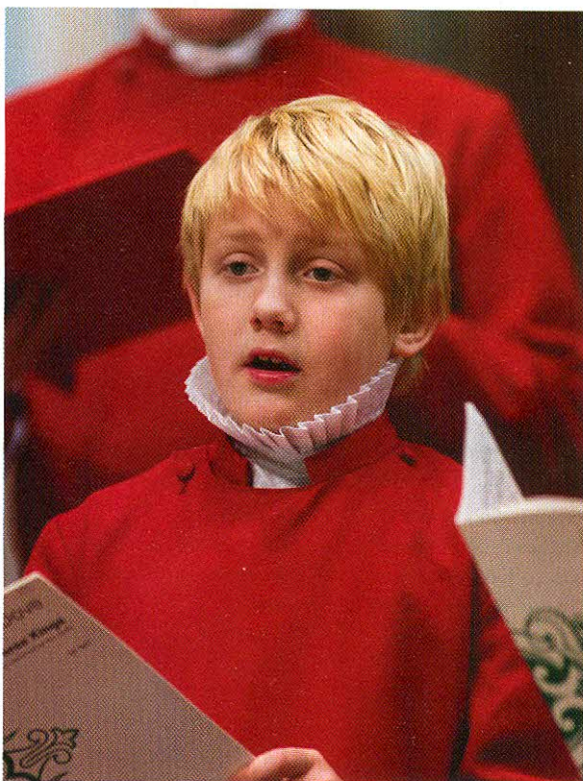
NEWS ANALYSIS	12
CONTEMPORARY COMPOSERS	13
The experimental provocateur Michael Finnissy	
SESSION REPORT	14
Opera Rara shines a light on Donizetti's <i>Belisario</i>	
MUSICIAN'S DIARY	16
The principal flute of the Berlin Philharmonic, Emmanuel Pahud	
ICONS	18
David Tudor, the pianist-turned-electronic music specialist	
THE MUSICIAN AND THE SCORE	20
Conductor Robin Ticciati explores Berlioz's <i>L'enfance du Christ</i>	
LETTERS AND OBITUARIES	22
BACH'S CANTATAS IN JAPAN	28
A journey ends for Masaaki Suzuki and the Bach Collegium Japan	
HILLIARD ENSEMBLE	32
The pioneering vocal ensemble embark on their farewell concerts	
NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS	34
Truro Cathedral Choir recreate the first Lessons and Carols service	
CRITICS' CHOICE 2013	38
<i>Gramophone's</i> critics choose the best recordings of the last 12 months	
CHRISTMAS ROUND-UP	48
Seasonal musical offerings aplenty – but which should you buy?	
GRAMOPHONE GUIDE: COMPETITIONS	50
The search for the great artists of tomorrow begins here	
MUSICAL JOURNEYS	117
LA's Disney Concert Hall anniversary; Britten in Gohrlich	
HIGH FIDELITY	121
Reviewed: Cambridge Audio's Minx Xi and Focal's Aria 926 speakers	
NEW RELEASES	133
REVIEWS INDEX	136
MY MUSIC	138
The National's guitarist Bryce Dessner on his musical double life	



28 Masaaki Suzuki completes his Bach cantatas series



32 The end of the road for the Hilliard Ensemble



34 Truro Cathedral Choir remake musical history