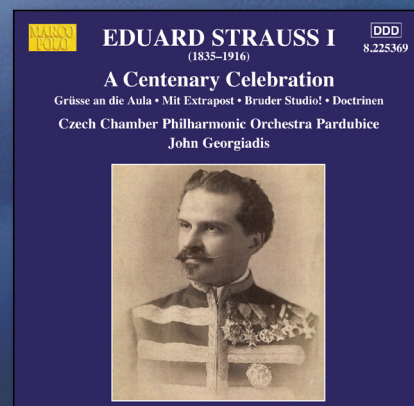
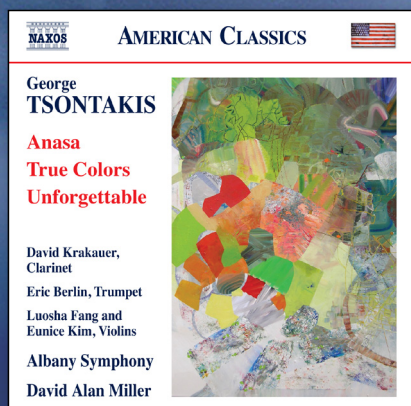


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Vincenzo Bellini



This Month's Other Highlights



Nine of 13 titles include World Première Recordings!



© Foto Casadio

Antonino Fogliani

Vincenzo BELLINI (1801–1835)

Bianca e Gerlando

Libretto by Domenico Gilardoni

Silvia Dalla Benetta, Soprano • Marina Viotti, Mezzo-soprano

Maxim Mironov, Tenor • Vittorio Prato, Baritone

Luca Dall'Amico and Zong Shi, Bases

Camerata Bach Choir Poznań • Ania Michalak, Chorus-master

Virtuosi Brunensis

Antonino Fogliani

Vincenzo Bellini was among the most important Italian opera composers of the early 19th century, and the quintessential representative of its bel canto tradition. Despite his enduring renown, his official operatic debut *Bianca e Gerlando* was known only in its revised version of *Bianca e Fernando* until this rediscovery and revival at Bad Wildbad in July 2016. Set in the ducal palace of Agrigento and with its tale of secretive plots and triumph over tyranny, this original version of the opera presents both unknown music and significant differences from the revised version, giving its dramatic shape a distinctive new character.

Antonino Fogliani was born in Messina and graduated as a pianist before studying conducting at the Giuseppe Verdi Conservatory in Milan. He went on to work with Franco Donatoni and Enrico Moricone at the Accademia Chigiana and was an assistant to Gianluigi Gelmetti. His debut at the Pesaro Rossini Opera Festival in 2001 was followed by engagements in major opera houses including La Fenice, Teatro dell'Opera, Teatro di San Carlo, the Opéra Comique and La Scala. International engagements have taken him to Monte Carlo, Moscow, Houston, and Barcelona, among others. In 2011 he was appointed music director at Rossini in Wildbad.

Supplementary Marketing Materials:

- Key Release Kit
- Facebook Cover and Post

Companion Titles – Rossini in Wildbad Bel Canto Festival



8.660403-04



8.660401-02



8.660235-36



8.660343-44



8.660417-18

2 CDs

Price Code: NXP



Playing Time:

1:57:19

Key Features:

- Bellini's *Bianca e Gerlando* has always been something of a rarity both on stage and in recordings, overshadowed by triumphant operas such as *Norma* and *I Puritani*. There have been some recordings, but even the 2008 Teatro Massima Bellini di Catania recording on the Nuova Era label is now out of print. Whatever the competition, this revival and première recording of the original version, *Bianca e Gerlando*, painstakingly researched and restored from a copyist's manuscript, stands on its own as a uniquely valuable milestone in this legendary composer's legacy.
- This production was part of Bad Wildbad's 2016 summer season, attracting attention as a remarkable revival from a composer about whom it was thought everything was already known.
-  The role of Bianca is taken by **Silvia Dalla Benetta**, a soprano renowned for starring roles in operas by Verdi, Rossini and others, recorded on DVDs for labels including Dynamic and C Major. "Dalla Benetta exhibits her easy mastery of Rossinian coloratura and brings her fine acting skills to bear" (*Fanfare*) in Rossini's *L'Inganno felice* at Wildbad in 2015, which also included "the fine Virtuosi Brunensis" (*Opera News*).
-  Tenor **Maxim Mironov** has an established reputation with operas by Rossini, also appearing in recording such as that of Mercadante's *I Briganti* (8.660343-44), one of many in the Naxos catalogue conducted by Italian opera specialist Antonino Fogliani. "This 2012 Wildbad theatre revival has the Russian tenor Maxim Mironov in the Rubini role, and very fine he is too." (*Gramophone*)
- **Virtuosi Brunensis** has offered strong support to numerous opera recordings in the Naxos/Bad Wildbad catalogue, being considered "first-rate" by the *American Record Guide* in Rossini's *Le Siege de Corinthe* (8.660329-30).



Camerata Bach Choir Poznań



Virtuosi Brunensis



Yuri Serov

Georgy SVIRIDOV (1915–1998)**Russia Adrift – Song Cycle[†]****Snow is Falling – Cantata²****Music for Chamber Orchestra³***Mila Shkirtil, Mezzo-soprano¹**Nikolay Mazhara, Piano³ • Sergey Voloshchuk, French horn³**Rimsky-Korsakov Music College Female Choir²**St Petersburg Radio & Television Boys' Choir²**St Petersburg State Symphony Orchestra**Yuri Serov***†WORLD PREMIÈRE RECORDING**

Georgy Sviridov was a celebrated figure whose vocal works, along with those of his teacher Shostakovich, are considered to be among the most important in twentieth-century Russian music. His 'small cantata' *Snow is Falling* includes passages of hypnotic stillness as well as folk-like warmth, while the major song cycle *Russia Adrift* evokes landscape, mysticism and religious faith, ending in a solemn hymn to the Motherland. Sviridov's prolific output included symphonic suites as well as theatre and film scores. The angular and impassioned *Music for Chamber Orchestra* reveals his mastery of non-vocal music.

Key Features:

- This is the world première recording of *Russia Adrift* in its version for soloist and symphony orchestra. It's been recorded in the original version for mezzo and piano. Georgy Sviridov originally turned to Eduard Serov to produce an orchestral version of the work though in the end it was produced by someone else. Eduard Serov's son Yuri conducts the recording and dedicates it to the memory of his father.
- Yuri Serov has two other releases on Naxos, with the recording of Mikhail Kuzmin's *Sacred Songs* and incidental music (8.573192) and the orchestral works by Boris Tishchenko (8.573343). The Tishchenko album also features **Mila Shkirtil** and the **St Petersburg State Symphony Orchestra**.
- It might be worth noting that Sviridov took over from his old teacher Shostakovich as head of the Soviet Union's Composers' Union, a very prestigious position.



8.573685

Price Code: NXP



Playing Time:

64:54

Conductor **Yuri Serov** graduated from the St Petersburg Rimsky-Korsakov State Conservatory in 1993, and has studied in Salzburg and Weimar as well. As a conductor and a pianist, Yuri Serov has toured many cities of more than thirty countries and has recorded over sixty CDs for a number of labels in Russia, Belgium, Japan and the United States. Yuri Serov is Chief Conductor of the Volgograd Philharmonic Orchestra and is the author of many articles and essays on music. At present he teaches at the St Petersburg Conservatory. He is Artistic Director of the Northern Flowers International Music Festival, and founder and editor of the CD series St. Petersburg Musical Archive.

Supplementary Marketing Materials:

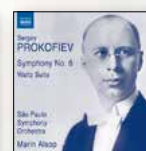
- Key Release Kit
- Facebook Cover and Post

**St Petersburg State Symphony Orchestra****Companion Titles – 20th Century Russian Music**

8.573343



8.573192



8.573518



8.501111



AMERICAN CLASSICS

WORLD PREMIÈRE
RECORDINGSGeorge
TSONTAKIS**Anasa**
True Colors
UnforgettableDavid Krakauer,
Clarinet

Eric Berlin, Trumpet

Luosha Fang and
Eunice Kim, Violins

Albany Symphony

David Alan Miller



8.559826

Price Code: NXP

Playing Time:
63:12**George TSONTAKIS (b. 1951)****Anasa**¹**True Colors**² • **Unforgettable**³David Krakauer, Clarinet¹ • Eric Berlin, Trumpet²Eunice Kim³ and Luosha Fang, Violins

Albany Symphony

David Alan Miller

Over the last few years American composer George Tsontakis, winner of the Grawemeyer Award for Music Composition, has crafted three distinctive and exciting additions to the contemporary concerto repertoire. *Anasa*, for clarinet and orchestra, combines elements of the Klezmer tradition with dance themes inspired by the lyra and lauto, traditional Cretan instruments. In *True Colors* the trumpet journeys in harmonically vivid, jazz-tinged directions, while *Unforgettable* balances the meditative with the playful, moving from ballad to phantasmagoria in a double concerto of drama and drive.

Key Features:

- **George Tsontakis'** music has been performed and broadcast by major orchestras, chamber ensembles, and festivals throughout North and South America, Europe and Japan.
- In 2008, his *Violin Concerto No. 2* was nominated for (but didn't win) a GRAMMY® in the category of Best Classical Contemporary Composition.
- Two of the concertos in this disc – those for clarinet and for trumpet – were commissioned by the Albany Symphony, who are closely associated with Tsontakis – he served as composer-in-residence of the orchestra from 2007 to 2012.



Albany Symphony

George Tsontakis © Dion Ogust
David Alan Miller © Gary Gold

GRAMMY®-winning conductor **David Alan Miller** has established a reputation as one of the leading American conductors of his generation. Music Director of the **Albany Symphony** since 1992, Mr. Miller has proven himself a creative and compelling orchestra builder. Through exploration of unusual repertoire, educational programming, community outreach and recording initiatives, he has reaffirmed the Albany Symphony's reputation as the nation's leading champion of American symphonic music and one of its most innovative orchestras. A native of Los Angeles, Mr. Miller holds a bachelor's degree from the University of California, Berkeley and a master's degree in orchestral conducting from The Juilliard School. From 1988 until 1992, he was Associate Conductor of the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

Supplementary Marketing Material:

- Facebook Cover and Post

Companion Titles – David Alan Miller, Conductor

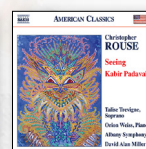
8.559782



8.559757



8.559711



8.559799



8.669034-35

2 CDs

Price Code: NXP



Playing Time:

1:51:22



© Christian Steiner

Lori Laitman

Lori LAITMAN (b. 1955)

The Scarlet Letter

Libretto by David Mason

Laura Claycomb, Soprano

Margaret Gawrysiak, Mezzo-soprano

Dominic Armstrong and Kyle Erdos Knapp, Tenors

Malcolm MacKenzie and Daniel Belcher, Baritones

Opera Colorado Orchestra and Chorus

Ari Peltó

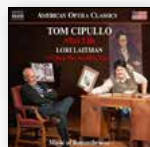
"David Mason's beautiful verse adaptation of Hawthorne's classic novel, *The Scarlet Letter*, astutely portrays its characters amid the Puritan society of 17th-century New England. My music – lyrically expressive and intricately orchestrated – dramatizes the psychological underpinnings of this story. Though Hester is shamed for adultery, her steadfast strength of character reveals a true moral sense, while the weaknesses of both her lover and estranged husband ultimately yield their self-destruction." – Lori Laitman

Lori Laitman has composed multiple operas and choral works, and over 250 songs, setting texts by classical and contemporary poets (including those who perished in the Holocaust). Her music is widely performed, internationally and throughout the US, and has generated substantial critical acclaim. Laitman and David Mason are continuing their collaboration with *Ludlow*, based on Mason's novel about the 1914 Colorado mining town disaster. Laitman regularly receives commissions from prestigious organizations, such as the Baltimore Symphony, Music of Remembrance, Washington Master Chorale, and the Eastman School of Music. Her discography includes releases on Naxos and other labels.

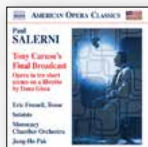
Supplementary Marketing Material:

- Facebook Cover and Post

Companion Titles – American Opera Classics



8.669036



8.669031



8.669014-15



8.669022-24

Key Features:

- Opera Colorado's production of *The Scarlet Letter* was received with wide critical acclaim. *The Denver Post* wrote that "Laitman's style is to employ the powers of every instrument and every note at her disposal. There's no hierarchy for strings or woodwinds in her approach, each section does its part to build the piece upward, including the piano. ...her composing voice is clear and confident, impassioned and likeable. If she overindulges, it is in the service of her end goal, which is to make beautiful music. Anyone who finds that disagreeable, or outmoded, doesn't comprehend the human spirit."
- Laitman is unapologetic about the approachably romantic nature of her music for this opera. In an interview with *The Huffington Post* she stated that "I think composers have much more flexibility to compose as they wish and I think there are many composers who now feel free to write melody. *The Scarlet Letter* is full of melody and contains six arias and one love duet."
- Previous Naxos releases of Lori Laitman's work have included the oratorio *Vedem* (8.559685), described by *Opera News* as "yet another fine example of Laitman's gracious vocal writing." For her song cycle *In Sleep The World Is Yours* (8.669036) *Opera Now* wrote, "three short songs by Lori Laitman based on elegant and moving poems by Selma Meerbaum-Eisinger, who died of typhus in a Ukrainian labour camp. They are delivered simply and movingly by soprano Megan Chenovick."
- Opera Colorado** has for decades been a cornerstone of Denver's cultural community. It's widely acclaimed recording of John Adams' *Nixon in China* (8.669022-24) now also a cornerstone of our opera catalogue: "Adams's score hasn't dated a bit. It's come up gleaming anew. And at budget price, Naxos's Nixon really is one for our times." (*Classic FM*)



© Matthew Staver

Opera Colorado



Ari Peltó

© Alvars Karstins

Ēriks Ešņvalds

Ēriks EŠŅVALDS (b. 1977)**The Doors of Heaven****The First Tears • Rivers of Light****A Drop in the Ocean • Passion and Resurrection**

Portland State Chamber Choir

Ethan Sperry

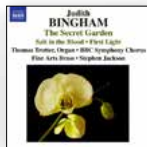
The Latvian composer Ēriks Ešņvalds has rapidly become one of the world's most performed choral composers. His ability to bring a dramatic text to life through textures that are lush yet permeated with a more stringent and angular aesthetic has ensured a steady stream of commissions from leading orchestras and choral forces. The four works here reflect an interest in the beauty of nature, religious faith and legend. *The First Tears* explores an Inuit story and employs subtle instrumental colouration from jaw harps and Native American flutes, whilst *Passion and Resurrection* is a profound and powerful exploration of Christ's death and Resurrection.

Key Features:

- **Ēriks Ešņvalds** has won prestigious awards such as the International Rostrum of Composers First prize in 2006 and is a three-time winner of the Latvian Grand Music Award. He has been commissioned by the Boston Symphony, the City of Birmingham Symphony, King's Singers and numerous choirs in the USA.
- This is the first Ešņvalds disc to feature an American chorus.
- Both *Rivers of Light* and *Passion and Resurrection* have been recorded on separate discs by Hyperion but the two other works in Naxos' disc do not seem to be available in any other recording.

Companion Titles – Contemporary Choral Music

8.559677



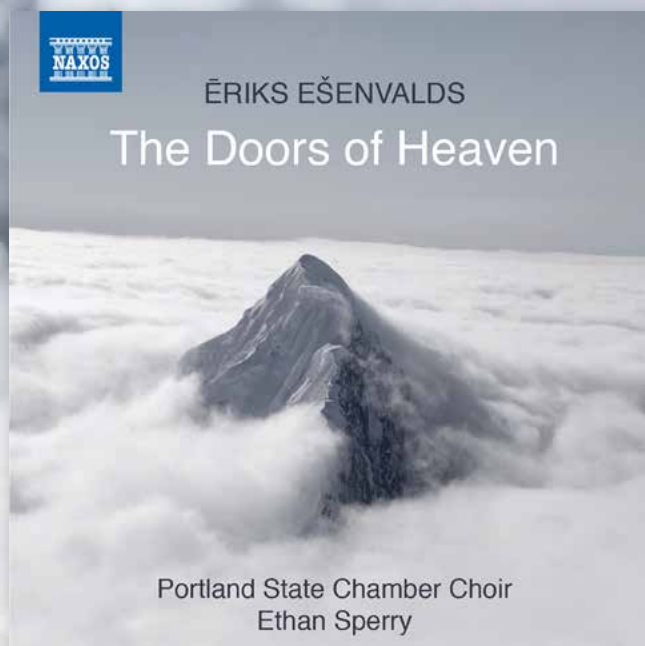
8.570346



8.573053



8.572511

8.579008
Price Code: NXPPlaying Time:
58:37

Hailed by *The Oregonian* for providing "the finest choral concerts in Portland in recent memory," **Ethan Sperry** is Director of Choral Activities at Portland State University and Artistic Director and Conductor of Oregon Repertory Singers. Sperry began studying conducting at the age of eight, cello at the age of twelve, and singing at the age of eighteen. He earned a bachelor's degree in Philosophy from Harvard College and Masters and Doctoral degrees in Choral Conducting from the University of Southern California. Ensembles under his direction have toured all over the world, and have performed at major venues in the United States including The Hollywood Bowl, The Kennedy Center and the United Nations..



Ethan Sperry

© Brian Lee



Portland State Chamber Choir

© Paige Baker

© Cai

Eckerle Piano Duo

Robert SCHUMANN (1810–1856)**Arrangements for Piano Duet, Vol. 4****Symphony No. 2 • Overtures †****Konzertstück for Four Horns and Orchestra †***Eckerle Piano Duo***†WORLD PREMIÈRE RECORDING**

Demand for piano duet material in the nineteenth century was such that the market expanded to an unparalleled extent. The preparation of an easily playable four-hand piano reduction was of critical importance to a work's dissemination and Robert Schumann, himself a keen duet performer, wrote for the medium with enthusiasm. He arranged his *Symphony No. 2* himself, aided by his wife Clara, expending considerable time and effort on the work. The overtures show the variety of arrangers involved, such as his brother-in-law Woldemar Bargiel and the organist Robert Pfretzschner, both of whom Schumann held in the highest regard.

Key Features:

- This is the fourth volume in a 7-CD series devoted to all the orchestral works which were arranged for piano duet by Schumann himself or made under his supervision, as well as a representative choice of other orchestral works and important chamber music pieces.
- There are three world première recordings of these piano duet performances. Only the *Symphony No. 2* has been recorded before.
- They have also recorded a mixed recital for Naxos (8.551275) including music from later periods by Dvořák, Rihm, Reger and Karg-Elert that can be promoted.
- The series of Schumann discs has been conceived by Schumann researcher and prize winner (Zwickau, 2003) Joachim Draheim.

Mariko and Volker Eckerle founded the **Eckerle Piano Duo** in 2006. The German-Japanese duo regularly plays central works of the piano duet repertoire along with rarely-heard pieces and works, accompanied by other musicians, actors and ballet companies. Besides concert lectures, the duo also offers special programmes for children and families. Their debut Naxos recording [8.551275/ Naxos Germany only] was released in 2009, a highly acclaimed recording of waltzes by Antonín Dvořák (a world première recording), Wolfgang Rihm, Max Reger and Sigfrid Karg-Elert. The Eckerle Piano Duo are regular guests in Japan and perform at numerous festivals and concerts in Europe.

INCLUDES
WORLD PREMIÈRE
RECORDINGS8.572880
Price Code: NXPPlaying Time:
75:58**Companion Titles – Eckerle Piano Duo**

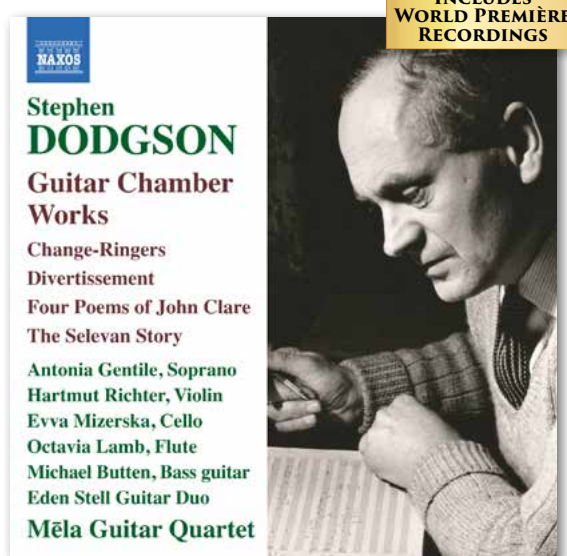
8.572877



8.572878



8.572879



Stephen DODGSON (1924–2013)

Guitar Chamber Works

Antonia Gentile, Soprano • Octavia Lamb, Flute
Hartmut Richter, Violin • Evva Mizerska, Cello
Michael Butten, Octave bass guitar • Eden Stell Guitar Duo
Mela Guitar Quartet

Stephen Dodgson's work embraced a wide variety of genres but, encouraged by Julian Bream in the 1950s, he became one of the most prolific and respected 20th-century composers for guitar. Including a premiere recording of the ingenious *Change-Ringers*, the chamber works on this recording make use of a fascinating palette of tonal colours, taking us on an unconventional and often witty journey of rhythmic excitement, serenity, dissonance and beauty.

Key Features:

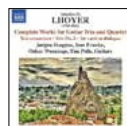
- Winner of Royal Philharmonic Society prizes for his early compositions, Stephen Dodgson became a significant figure in music of the second half of the 20th century, and his contributions to chamber music with guitar are considered pioneering in a somewhat neglected field. Dodgson's music has been recorded regularly in the past, and his profile has been raised further in recent years through numerous releases on the Toccata and Dutton labels. Our own program of his *Inventions* for harpsichord (9.70262) was released in April 2017.
- Central to the list of leading musicians involved in this recording is the **Mela Guitar Quartet**, whose dedication to Dodgson's work sparkles from every page of these superbly crafted scores. They consider that these are "works [that] will be performed long into the future and will be treasured by performers and audiences alike. It has been a privilege to bring this imaginative music to life and one that offers a unique insight into who Stephen Dodgson was."
- Other contributors include soprano and Dodgson specialist **Antonia Gentile**, rising young star of the flute world **Octavia Lamb**, acclaimed and prizewinning cellist **Evva Mizerska**, and internationally active violinist **Hartmut Richter**. The **Eden Stell Guitar Duo** has "breathed new life into the world of the classical guitar" (*Rotterdam Dagblad*), and octave bass guitarist **Michael Butten** is winner of the 2016 Ivor Mairant's Guitar Award.

8.573762
Price Code:
NXP



Playing Time:
66:21

Companion Titles – Guitar Classics Series



8.573575



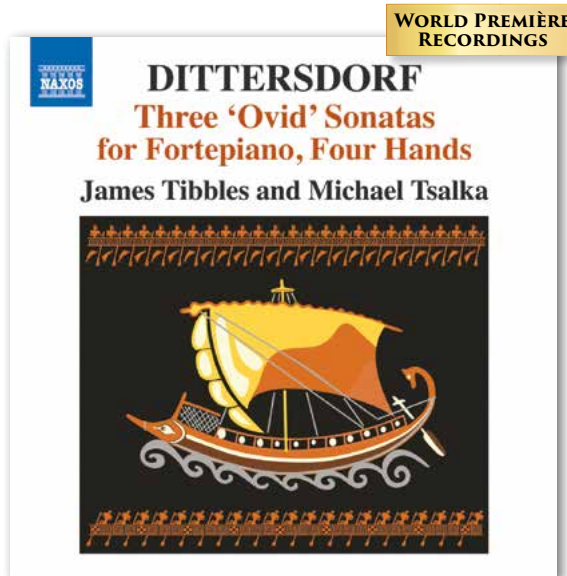
8.572445



8.573336



8.573473



Carl Ditters von DITTERSDORF (1739–1799)

Three 'Ovid' Sonatas for Fortepiano, Four Hands

James Tibbles and Michael Tsalka, Fortepianos

In 1781 Carl Ditters von Dittersdorf conceived a ground-breaking, multi-media project to compose and have published a series of fifteen symphonies based on Ovid's *Metamorphoses*. Each symphony was to be graced by newly commissioned engravings and synopses. In the event, only six symphonies were published (and without engravings) and these are the only works from the set to survive in orchestral form. The works heard here are four-hand arrangements of three of the lost symphonies, possibly Dittersdorf's attempt to salvage something from the project. These fascinating works juxtapose conventional structures with fluid, unconventional music transforming Ovid's 'tableaux' into dramatic structures teeming with incident and wit.

Key Features:

- This is a good opportunity to promote Naxos' set of the surviving 'Ovid' Symphonies played by the Failoni Orchestra Budapest released back in 1996 – see 8.553368 and 8.533369.
- This disc was recorded on a copy of an 1801 Walter fortepiano.
- Michael Tsalka** has also recorded Ferdinand Ries' Romantic Variations and Fantasies on Naxos (8.573628), which was praised by *ClassicalCDReview.com* as being "superbly played on the fortepiano by Michael Tsalka." Tsalka has also recorded extensively for the Grand Piano series, which can also be promoted, and has been admired in his discs of Daniel Gottlob Türk (GP627-28, 629-30, 657) and Johann Baptist Vanhal (GP680).

8.573740
Price Code:
NXP



Playing Time:
55:58

Companion Titles – Music for Fortepiano



8.573628



8.557384-85



8.557968



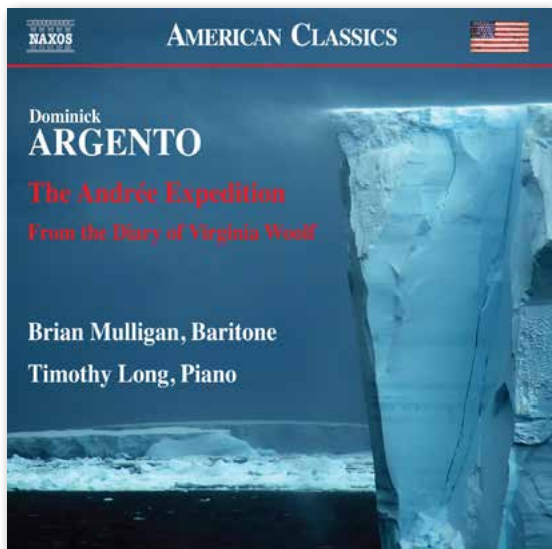
8.557966



Michael Tsalka



James Tibbles



Dominick ARGENTO (b. 1927)

The Andrée Expedition

From the Diary of Virginia Woolf

Brian Mulligan, Baritone • Timothy Long, Piano

Dominick Argento is widely considered to be one of America's leading composers of lyric opera and choral music. The two major song cycles on this recording demonstrate Argento's flair for setting unusual texts to music. *From the Diary of Virginia Woolf*, which won the 1975 Pulitzer Prize for Music, is based on eight of the writer's confessional journal entries, while *The Andrée Expedition* sets diaries and letters from an ultimately tragic balloon expedition to the North Pole in 1897.

"For me, all music begins where speech stops." – Dominick Argento

Key Features:

- American composer **Dominick Argento** will celebrate his 90th birthday on 29 October 2017. He won the Pulitzer Prize for Music in 1975 for his song cycle *From the Diary of Virginia Woolf*, dedicated to mezzo-soprano Dame Janet Baker.
- This is the only recording of *The Andrée Expedition* sung by an American singer.
- This recording of *From the Diary of Virginia Woolf* is the first one by a male singer.
- Baritone **Brian Mulligan** is especially attuned to contemporary works: he has sung with many of America's leading orchestras, including Chicago, Cleveland, San Francisco, and at the Met in New York, Wiener Staatsoper and Lyric Opera in Chicago.



Brian Mulligan and Dominick Argento

8.559828

Price Code:
NXP

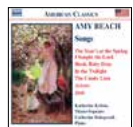


Playing Time:
79:44

Companion Titles – American Vocal Music



8.559783



8.559191



8.559249



8.559314



Fernando SOR (1778–1839)

Songs for Voice and Guitar

Nerea Berraondo, Mezzo-soprano • Eva Beneke, Guitar

Fernando Sor was one of the greatest guitarists of his era and his works are still extremely popular today. His songs, however, are much less well known. They demonstrate the superb flair of Sor's vocal writing, in three languages, as well as the variety of his virtuosic guitar accompaniments. The three groups of songs presented here (in addition to Sor's setting of two patriotic texts) offer distinct styles of composition, ranging from arrangements of arias from Mozart's *Don Giovanni* to the dance elements of Spanish folk song.

Key Features:

- Naxos' recordings of the music of Fernando Sor have explored most aspects of his compositional oeuvre in dozens of releases. Sor's songs have however remained a gap not only in our catalogue but in that of just about every other record label. This particular album includes Sor's famous *Seguidillas* along with some previously unrecorded songs, and arrangements of arias from Mozart's *Don Giovanni*.
- Nerea Berraondo** is a native of Pamplona, Spain. She won several international prizes and competitions and performed at the opening recital of the Centro Nacional de Difusión Musical (CNDM) season to an audience of 3,000 with Eduardo López Banzo. In 2012 she was bestowed a Merit Award by the CNDM.
- Award-winning guitarist **Eva Beneke** is an internationally acclaimed soloist and chamber musician, her performances broadcast nationally and internationally on radio and television. Her solo debut CD *Coming Home* with works by Bach, Beneke and Domeniconi was received with critical acclaim.
- Berraondo and Beneke met in St. Paul, USA in 2015, and they soon began exploring Spanish repertoire for voice and guitar. As a result of this collaboration and the critical acclaim they have received, they are undertaking a complete recording of Sor's repertoire for voice and guitar. Their first recording as a duo documents the collaboration between two adventurous and like-minded virtuoso performers.



© Patricia Cuney

8.573686

Price Code:
NXC



Playing Time:
57:09

Companion Titles – Fernando Sor, Composer



8.573624



8.570502



8.554196



8.553302



8.573767
Price Code:
NXP



Playing Time:
61:38

Companion Titles – Guitar Laureate Series – Alhambra International Competition



8.573506



8.573225



8.572916



8.572717

Andrea González Caballero Guitar Laureate Recital Winner, 2016 'Alhambra' International Guitar Competition

CLERCH • TÁRREGA • ARCAS • ASSAD
BRITTEN • ALBÉNIZ • CALANDÍN • MANJÓN

Andrea González Caballero, Guitar

This programme by Andrea González Caballero, winner of the 2016 Alhambra International Guitar Competition in Spain, has been carefully chosen for comparison and contrast. Containing a wide range of compositional styles from the romantic 19th century to the present, it includes characteristic Spanish music by Tárrega and Albéniz, freshly minted works by some of today's most important composers from Cuba, Spain and Brazil, as well as one of the most significant mid-20th-century works for guitar, the *Nocturnal* by Benjamin Britten.

Key Features:

- We are proud to introduce **Andrea González Caballero** to our 'Guitar Laureate' series as winner of the XIII Alhambra International Guitar Competition in Spain in 2016. Andrea has already established an international performing career and has won prizes in numerous international competitions, including the 40th International Competition of F. Sor in Rome, the International Guitar Prize in Weimar, F. Tárrega Competition in Vila-Real, the Andrés Segovia International Guitar Competition in Linares, Spain, and the Norba Caesarina International Competition.
- Guitar recitals can stand or fall on the strength of imagination behind their program, and in addition to Andrea González Caballero's spectacular virtuosity and luminous musicality her placement of related works for this CD works on many levels, making it something both durable and stimulating for listeners. The program contains a wide range of compositional styles ranging from the romantic 19th century to the present, including characteristic Spanish music and showcasing one of the most significant works ever composed for guitar, the *Nocturnal* by Benjamin Britten. With the contemporary works included there is a focus on today's composers' very different approach to the guitar as an expressive medium.
- Joaquín Clerch's *Estudio de trémolo* is dedicated to Andrea González Caballero.



8.573813
Price Code:
NXP



Playing Time:
60:50

Companion Titles – Guitar Laureate Series – Tárrega International Competition



8.573670



8.573026



8.572727



8.572657

Xianji Liu Guitar Laureate Recital First Prize, 2016 Tárrega International Guitar Competition (Benicàssim)

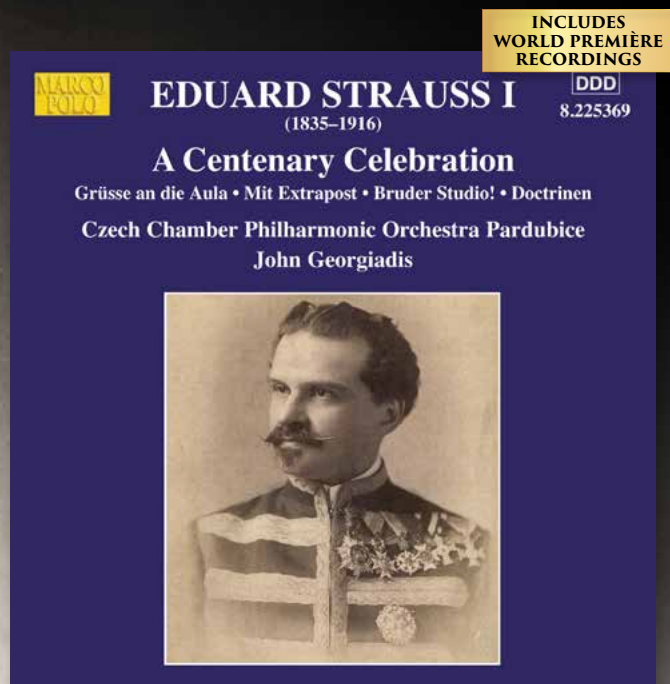
SCARLATTI • TÁRREGA • SOR • ALBÉNIZ
MALATS • PIAZZOLLA • COSTE • BERKELEY

Xianji Liu, Guitar

When Xianji Liu became the first Chinese-born winner of the prestigious Francisco Tárrega International Guitar Competition in 2016, a new star emerged in the world of the classical guitar. Spanning the centuries and crossing the globe from Argentina to Britain, his recital includes some of the most beguiling and evocative pieces ever written for the instrument as well as four transcriptions so idiomatic to the guitar that they sound utterly natural on the six plucked strings.

Key Features:

- Xianji Liu** is the first Chinese-born winner of the Francisco Tárrega International Guitar Competition in 2016. He was also awarded first place at the VI Concurso Internacional de Guitarra Clásica GSD.
- He has performed as soloist with orchestras and in recital in Europe, China and the US.
- Appropriately as winner of the Tárrega competition he has included four pieces by the composer in this recital.
- The recital ranges from Classical to Contemporary, from Scarlatti to Berkeley and Piazzolla.



8.225369
Price Code:



Playing Time:
74:28

Eduard STRAUSS I (1835–1916)

A Centenary Celebration

Grüsse an die Aula† • Mit Extrapost

Bruder Studio!† • Doctrinen

Czech Chamber Philharmonic Orchestra Pardubice

John Georgiadis

†WORLD PREMIERE RECORDING

Throughout his life, Eduard Strauss's compositions were unfavourably compared with those by his elder brothers, Johann II (1825–1899) and Josef (1827–1870), yet many of his works, especially those dating from the 1870s and 1880s, easily stand comparison with those crafted by his two famous siblings. Moreover, in two particular dance genres – the quick polka and the galop – Eduard was in a class of his own. As the Strauss authority Professor Franz Mailer stated: "Posterity must make restitution to Eduard Strauss." It is to be hoped that, at the very least, this present recording will encourage a reassessment of "handsome Edi's" unique musical genius.

Key Features:

- Our voluminous Strauss Edition on the Marco Polo has for decades been a standard bearer for Josef and Johann Strauss (both father and son). Eduard Strauss, the youngest brother of the Strauss dynasty has however become something of a forgotten figure, and considerable interest was raised in Vienna when the release of this CD was announced at the annual 'Tanz-Signale' international Strauss symposium in March this year.
- With the exception of two pieces, all of the works on this release are world première recordings. They are also performed in their original instrumentation, and are as faithful a recreation of the mid-19th century ballroom as one could imagine. This recording coincides with the centenary of Eduard Strauss's death in 1916 but is very much a celebration of his remarkable life on the concert stage as a true forefather to today's fabulously popular 'Stehgeiger' André Rieu.
- Violin virtuoso and conductor John Georgiadis together with the **Czech Chamber Philharmonic Orchestra Pardubice** have already recorded three successful volumes of 'Contemporaries of the Strauss Family' (Vol. 1, 8.225365 Vol. 2, 8.225366 and Vol. 3, 9.70228).

Supplementary Marketing Material:

- Video Trailer



John Georgiadis

© Chris Tyler

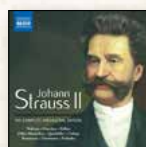
John Georgiadis started playing the violin at the age of six, which led to a career as a professional violinist culminating in his appointment as concertmaster, first with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, then with the London Symphony Orchestra at the age of 26, a position he held for 14 years. He was a founder member of the London Virtuosi Chamber Ensemble and Orchestra, and also played as first violin in the celebrated Gabrieli String Quartet. He studied orchestration under the legendary conductor and teacher Sergiu Celibidache. Georgiadis has established the Viennese-style New Year's concert in London which he conducted for 40 consecutive years until 2015. He has made Viennese repertoire his speciality, recording Strauss family music in particular with top British orchestras, and also worldwide for labels including Naxos. He is a longstanding honorary member of The Johann Strauss Society of Great Britain.



Czech Chamber Philharmonic Orchestra Pardubice

© František Renza

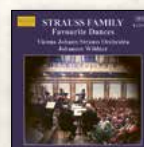
Companion Titles – Music of the Strauss Family



8.505226



8.223483

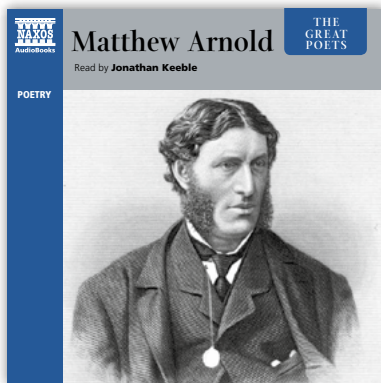


8.225353



8.225213

NEW RELEASES FROM NAXOS AUDIOBOOKS



NA0271 • 1 CD

Playing Time: 1.25 Hours

The Great Poets: Matthew Arnold

By Matthew Arnold

Selections

Read by Jonathan Keeble

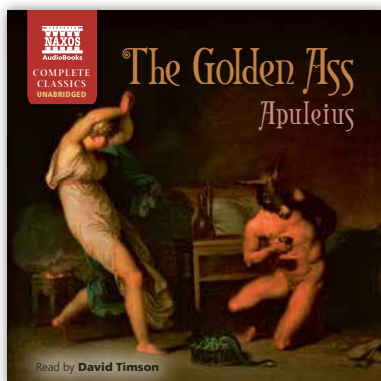


Considered the bridge between romanticism and modernism, Matthew Arnold wrote verse that is simple, unadorned and straightforward. From the hypnotic and beautiful lines of *Dover Beach* to the pastoral narrative of *The Scholar and the Gipsy*, Arnold cast a gaze at the main intellectual issues of the nineteenth century while giving a timeless insight into man and nature.

This collection covers his major poetic works, including the narrative poems, sonnets and elegiac poems, illuminating the lyricism and serenity of Arnold's best poetry.

Companion Titles – The Great Poets Series

NA0233 | NA195412 | NA0135 | NA192212



NA0272 • 8 CDs

Playing Time: 10 Hours

The Golden Ass

By Apuleius

Unabridged

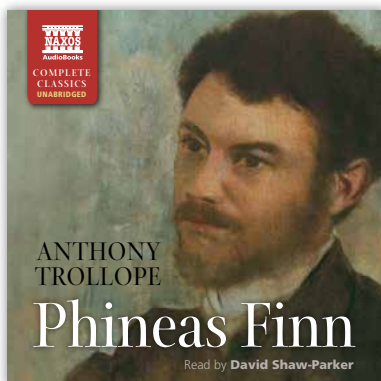
Read by David Timson



'What's this we have to put up with now? An ass giving us a philosophy lecture?'

In this ancient picaresque adventure, Lucius, an insatiably curious young man, finds himself transformed into a donkey after his fascination with black magic and witchcraft goes awry. While trapped in his new body, he becomes the property of thieves, farmers, cooks, soldiers and priests, and observes the hypocrisy and ineptitude of Imperial Roman society. *The Golden Ass* is considered the only novel to survive the Roman period, and the earliest novel to survive complete in the Western literary tradition. It is brimming with slapstick humour and sexual escapades, and foreshadows later works by Boccaccio, Rabelais, Cervantes and Chaucer, upon whom it was a direct influence.

Companion Titles – David Timson, Reader

NA0259 **NEW** | NA0225 | NA0161 | NA0071


NA0273 • 24CDs

Playing Time: 29.5 Hours

Phineas Finn

By Anthony Trollope

Unabridged

Read by David Shaw-Parker

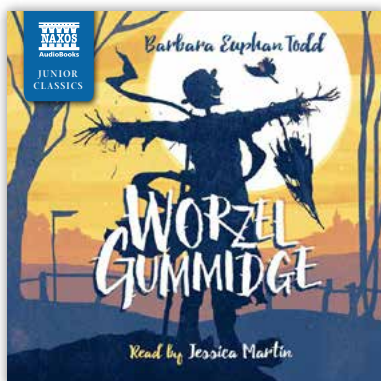


Phineas Finn, a handsome young man of 23, comes to England to make his fortune in parliamentary politics. But despite all his aspirations, Finn is haunted by ethical questions as his personal convictions conflict with his duty towards his party. Loyalty versus honour, love versus money, and privacy versus prominence: our eponymous hero faces a variety of dilemmas as he navigates his way through the House of Commons.

The second installment of Trollope's celebrated *Palliser* series, *Phineas Finn* is a delightful and humorous look at the complexity of human relationships and the politics surrounding the Second Reform Bill of the 1860s.

Companion Titles – Anthony Trollope, Author

NA0264 | NA0197 | NA0222 | NA0147



NA0287 • 4CDs

Playing Time: 5 Hours

Worzel Gummidge

By Barbara Euphan Todd

Unabridged

Read by Jessica Martin



Spending their summer holidays with Farmer Braithwaite and his wife in Scatterbrook, John and Susan come across a particularly lifelike scarecrow in a nearby field. That evening, much to the children's surprise, the scarecrow makes an appearance in the Braithwaites' kitchen to warm himself by the fire. He is Worzel Gummidge and he is no ordinary scarecrow. His tendency to cause mayhem wherever he goes sparks a series of mishaps and adventures, often with hilarious results.

This is the first of the *Worzel Gummidge* novels written by Barbara Euphan Todd, originally published in 1936.

Companion Titles – Junior Classics Series

NA213812 | NA205212 | NA227912 | NA0151