



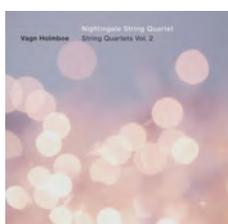
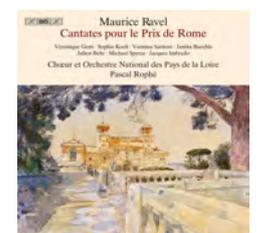
The **DISC OF THE MONTH** on **NAXOS** couples **Gian Francesco Malipiero's** two contrasting violin concertos with the world premiere recording of his kaleidoscopic orchestral work *Per una favola cavalleresca*, evoking legendary scenes of love, tournaments, battles and heroes. Malipiero's *First Violin Concerto* is one of his most beautiful and joyful works. His *Second Violin Concerto*, written 30 years later, sounds astonishingly different on a first hearing, but reveals itself to be inspired by the same lyrical impulse as the earlier concerto. **Francesco La Vecchia** leads the **Orchestra Sinfonica di Roma** and soloist **Paolo Chiavacci**.

Boris Lyatoshynsky was a leading member of the Ukrainian cultural renaissance in the 20th century and his five symphonies remain the most important cycle in his country's musical history. Although the Romantic and lyrical *First Symphony* evokes the traditions of Borodin and Tchaikovsky, Lyatoshynsky soon moved away from Russian models, drawing together Ukrainian folk songs and melodies with contemporary harmonic approaches. His symphonic orchestration was inventive, and his themes memorable. The *Third Symphony* is his most moving and famous, and originally bore the epigraph 'Peace will defeat war'. These works, released on **NAXOS**, are performed by the **Ukrainian State Symphony Orchestra** under the baton of **Theodore Kuchar**.



Set in the artistic but impoverished milieu of early 19th-century Paris, the tragic love of the poet Rodolfo and seamstress Mimi is one of the most affecting in all opera. *La Bohème's* arias are also some of the most intensely passionate **Puccini** ever wrote, making it is one of the best-loved of all his works. In what Opera News called a 'thorough rethinking and brilliant re-creation' this exceptional Oslo production is released on **NAXOS AV** and features a stellar cast, alongside the **Norwegian National Opera Orchestra** under **Eivind Gullberg Jensen**. Staged by internationally acclaimed director **Stefan Herheim**, The New York Times called this memorable production an 'ultimately haunting' experience.

The Grand Prix de Rome marked the zenith of composition studies at the Paris Conservatoire. The entries were judged by a jury which generally favoured expertise and conformity over originality, and may explain why **Maurice Ravel** never won the coveted prize. This two-disc set on **BIS** brings together all the vocal works that Ravel composed for the Prix de Rome – five shorter settings for choir and orchestra and three cantatas. First published more than half a century after Ravel's death, these works never acquired the popularity of his other compositions, though they are worth more than their reputation as academic exercises might suggest, and deserve to be better known, especially when performed by **Orchestre National des Pays de la Loire** and **Pascal Rophé** and a team of vocal soloists including **Véronique Gens** and **Michael Spyres**.



'A most promising start to an essential, richly recorded survey', observed Gramophone about the first volume of **Vagn Holmboe's** complete string quartets by the brilliant **Nightingale String Quartet**. In this, the second instalment on the **DACAPO** label, the Nightingales continue convincingly with energetic, precise, yet lively and poetic interpretations of the Holmboe quartets, which stand amongst the most significant contributions to the genre in the 20th century.

This new release from the **Latvian Radio Choir** and conductor **Sigvards Kļava** on **ONDINE** is devoted to choral works by the legendary American composer and music pioneer **John Cage** (1912–1992), one of the leading figures in 20th Century music. The Latvian Radio Choir ranks among the top professional chamber choirs in Europe and its refined taste for musical material, fineness of expression and luminous sound and have placed the choir firmly on the musical world map. Sigvards Kļava has been music director of the Latvian Radio Choir since 1992.



OPUS ARTE releases William Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale* from the **Royal Shakespeare Company**, reimagined especially for the screen. Directed by **Erica Whyman**, and containing sumptuous music by **Isobel Waller-Bridge**, the play is set across a 16-year span, from the coronation to the moon landings. Considered either as a comedy or a romance, Shakespeare's classic tale contains his most famous and challenging stage direction: 'Exit, pursued by a bear'. King Leontes rips his family apart, but grief opens his heart – this production, described by the Times as 'enchanting', shows the RSC in top form.

When **Herbert von Karajan** conducted **Mozart's** opera *Don Giovanni* at the Salzburg Festival in 1987 featuring an outstanding cast of singers and the superb **Vienna Philharmonic**, it became a legendary performance of the highest artistic level. The memorable staging was created by **Michael Hampe** and this dream of artistic collaboration made it one of the most superlative performances on record. This production is which now is available for the first time on Blu-ray on the **C MAJOR** label.



OEHMS CLASSICS presents a unique exploration of **Johann Sebastian Bach's** Complete *Suites for Solo Cello*. Performed by **David Stromberg**, these works – released on 2 CDs - are expertly performed on period instruments: the Barockcello and Cello piccolo, enabling Stromberg to create a dialogue with past methods of Bach performance. This album, released in June 2022, is released in celebration of Oehms Classics' 20th anniversary year.

Conductor in Rehearsal is a new series from **BR KLASSIK** highlighting the rehearsal process and orchestral workshop between the late **Mariss Jansons** and his orchestra, **Symphonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks**. This 4-CD release gives an insight into the special collaboration between Jansons and his orchestra. As the second release in this series, this boxset – with narration and introductions from **Friedrich Schloffer** – documents four rehearsals for concerts between the years of 2011 and 2015 in Munich. Jansons leads the orchestra in rehearsals of orchestral masterpieces, featuring **Richard Strauss' Ein Heldenleben** and *Don Juan*, **Ludwig van Beethoven's Symphony No. 5 in C minor** and **Jean Sibelius' Symphony No. 2 in D major**.





Antonio Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* is inventively reimagined in this album from **CPO**. This new release features arrangements of the canonical work for solo pan flute and orchestra by **Carlos Pino-Quintana**. While arranging these works, Pino-Quintana was challenged to transfer the technical characteristics of the solo violin part to the pan flute. In the process, the basso continuo harpsichord part was omitted with greater emphasis being placed on the orchestra's expression and musicality. Performed by **Andreea Chira** alongside the **Südwestdeutsches Kammerorchester Pforzheim** led by **Douglas Bostock**, this album displays this baroque masterpiece in a new light.

SWR CLASSIC's June release highlight is a 4 CD historical portrait of virtuoso **Christian Ferras** in remastered recordings from the SWR archive. As one of the most important violinists of the 20th century and the child prodigy favourite violinist of Herbert von Karajan, Ferras is most remembered as the violinist filmed shedding tears at the end of the slow movement of Sibelius's Concerto in 1965, and who, tragically took his own life age 49. His captivating playing is showcased in this artist portrait compilation of solo works and chamber music. Including sonatas by **Beethoven, Debussy, Schumann, Ravel** and **Enescu** – with pianist **Pierre Barbizet** – and concertos by **Beethoven, Tchaikovsky, Brahms** and **Berg**. For these performances, Ferras is joined by esteemed conductors **Hans Müller-Kray, Herbert Blomstedt** and **Michael Gielen**.



The powerful aria "*Ebben? Ne andrò lontana*" has been widely performed by renowned sopranos, from Maria Callas to Wilhelmenia Fernandez in the film "Diva". It encapsulates the determination of the protagonist Wally who, in spite of the gender norms of the time, refuses to marry against her will, deciding to isolate herself from society and live alone in the mountains. The passionate opera *La Wally*, composed by **Alfredo Catalani** and based on a novel by Wilhelmine von Hillern, is the **UNITEL EDITION** release for this June. It features conductor **Andrés Orozco-Estrada** at the helm of the exceptional **Wiener Symphoniker**, with soprano **Izabela Matula** stepping up masterfully to the main role.

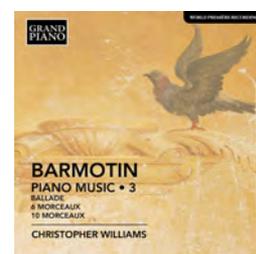
This June **DYNAMIC** present a production of **Gaetano Donizetti's** opéra comique *La fille du regiment*, recorded in the hometown of the Italian composer and in a setting entirely dedicated to his music: the **Orchestra Donizetti Opera** playing at the Teatro Donizetti in Bergamo, during the Festival Donizetti Opera 2021. It features distinguished conductor **Michele Spotti**, who cleverly preserves the grace of Donizetti's refined orchestration even in the most rhythmically marked sections. He is joined by an extraordinary singing cast, led by the shining voice of soprano **Sara Blanch** as Marie, capable of performing the famous high-notes of this role with remarkable ease.





French composer and musicologist **Charles Koechlin** has always been invested in various interests outside music, including politics, literature, visual arts and travelling. It is no surprise then, amongst his long list of compositions, to find one dedicated to his passion for cinema. *The Seven Stars' Symphony, Op. 132* is the main highlight of this June release from **CAPRICCIO**, featuring the **Sinfonieorchester Basel** directed by **Ariane Matiakh**. Each of the seven pieces is an homage to Koechlin's favourite film stars, from Douglas Fairbanks to Charlie Chaplin. In addition to this work, is also present *Vers la voûte étoilée, Op. 129*, an enrapturing nocturne for orchestra.

This June **GRAND PIANO** present the third and final instalment of *Piano Music* by **Semyon Alexeyevich Barmotin**, performed by renowned Welsh pianist **Christopher Williams**. This Russian composer, a student of Rimsky-Korsakov and Balakirev, has largely been neglected up until the beginning of this collection, as this new volume features once again World Première Recordings of his works. This release focuses on his *Ballade in B Flat Minor, Op. 10*, in which are skilfully balanced thematic development and virtuosic passages, and his two sets of *Morceaux, Op. 5 and 6*, which illustrate the influence of folkloric elements on his expressive style.



After four years since the previous album, **Quartetto Bazzini** return with a new June release on **TACTUS** to complete their recordings of string quartets from the composer who inspired the ensemble's name: **Antonio Bazzini**. Bazzini was a concert violinist who performed around Europe during the 19th century, attracting the praise of various contemporaries from Paganini to Schumann. In the latter part of his life he dedicated himself to composing and teaching at the Milano Conservatory, where Puccini was one of his pupils. This new release features *String Quartets Nos. 2, 3 and 5*, adding to Nos. 1 and 3 recorded previously.

This June release by **BRIDGE RECORDS** features **Wenzel Thomas Matiegka's** *Six Sonatas progressives pour Guitare, Op. 31*. Mateigka was a Czech composer and guitarist that lived in Vienna at the beginning of the 19th century and his Sonatas have been directly influenced by the performance style of that time. The performer is experienced guitarist and founder of Bridge Records, **David Starobin**. After a long and fulfilling career with over 80 recordings, this release is Starobin's final studio work, and for the occasion he showcases a Viennese style guitar.

