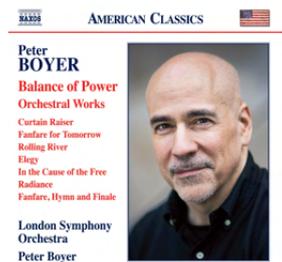




César Guerra-Peixe was one of the most versatile Brazilian musicians of the 20th century, gaining a particular mastery of orchestration and creating his own inimitable sound through extensive work in radio, television and cinema. The toe-tapping dance rhythms and lyrical expressiveness in his two *Symphonic Suites* were inspired by research into Brazilian folk traditions, further enhanced by a broad range of vibrantly eloquent global influences. Also included is the lighthearted *Roda de Amigos*, which mischievously caricatures Guerra-Peixe's musical circle of friends. **Neil Thomson** leads the **Goiás Philharmonic Orchestra** in this further release in the 'Music of Brazil' series on **NAXOS**.

This album presents eight of the most recent works by **Peter Boyer**, one of the leading American orchestral composers of his generation. *Balance of Power* was commissioned for the 95th birthday of former US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, while *Fanfare for Tomorrow* was composed for the inauguration of President Joe Biden in 2021. Each of these pieces displays Boyer's vivid soundscapes and tuneful American sensibilities, from the cinematic sweep of *Rolling River* to *Radiance*, composed especially for this album. Boyer's GRAMMY-nominated *Ellis Island: The Dream of America* (8.559246) has received over 250 performances and was televised by PBS. The composer leads the **London Symphony Orchestra** on this new release on the **NAXOS** label.



Mieczysław Weinberg's powerful Holocaust drama *Die Passagierin* ('The Passenger') channels his and his family's ordeals of wartime and Soviet persecution, applying them musically to Zofia Posmysz's autobiographical novel. The score was praised by Shostakovich for its 'beauty and greatness', with a narrative that unfolds on an ocean liner bound for Brazil on which a former Auschwitz guard and one of her Polish prisoners confront impossible moral conflict and harrowing flashbacks in music that is sparse, dark, sardonic and intermittently tender. This acclaimed **Oper Graz** production draws us movingly into the raw unimaginable madness of this moment in history and is released on the **NAXOS AV** label.

Born in Shanghai in 1955, **Xiaogang Ye** is regarded as one of China's leading contemporary composers. He has written music in a variety of genres, including symphonic and chamber works as well as scores for the stage and screen. The two works on this **BIS** release were both written for film - *Sichuan Image* consists of 29 brief and atmospheric pieces composed to accompany a filmed travelogue of the scenic province in Western China. The **Royal Scottish National Orchestra** and **José Serebrier** are joined by four Chinese musicians performing on traditional instruments, lending further colour to the vivid score. In *Concerto of Life*, the brilliant pianist **Noriko Ogawa** is the soloist.



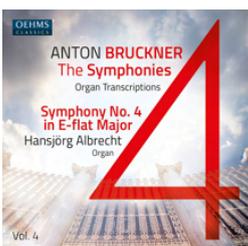
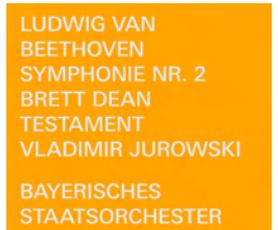
Claudio Monteverdi developed the principles of opera with *L'Orfeo* in the first decade of the 17th-century. At the very end of his life he wrote *L'incoronazione di Poppea*. The opera marked a decisive move from allegorical and mythic elements towards a historical subject – the love affair between the Roman Emperor Nero and his mistress Poppea. His final masterpiece, where the beauty of the arias vanquished the decadence of the storyline, was first performed in the year of his death. For decades **John Eliot Gardiner** has been at the forefront of Monteverdi performance and scholarship, and for the 450th anniversary of Monteverdi's birth in 2017 he conducted all three of the composer's surviving full-length operas. This semi-staged production, recorded in Venice's historical Teatro La Fenice is the last of Gardiner's acclaimed Monteverdi Trilogy to be released by **OPUS ARTE** in 2022.

The fifth instalment in **ORFEO's Michael Gielen / ORF Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra** series features the music of **Olivier Messiaen**. This disc includes the composer's *Les Offrandes Oubliées*, *Poems for Mi* for soprano and orchestra and his *Chronochromie* for large orchestra. These works display Messiaen's astonishing ability to coalesce various influences, inspirations and convictions into a wholly individual musical language. The wealth of colour in Messiaen's works stems in part from his synaesthetic ability to perceive chords as various shapes and colours. As an enthusiastic ornithologist, he spent much time in nature, notating bird songs and then working them in stylized form into his compositions.



Per Nørgård is one of the greatest Nordic composers of all times. His music stems from an insatiable urge to explore the phenomena of the world and the possibilities of music, and his eight symphonies stand as milestones over the course of six decades. This 4 CD boxed set of the symphonies on the **DACAPÓ** label contains spellbinding performances, all of which harvested a bumper crop of superlatives on their initial release – they provide a fascinating insight into the symphonic thinking of Nørgård, the composer of the famous 'infinity principle'. The set features recordings from world class orchestras, and includes the Gramophone Award winning release of *Symphonies No. 1 & 8*, recorded by the **Vienna Philharmonic** and **Sakari Oramo**. It will be released a few days before Per Nørgård celebrates his 90th birthday, on 13 July 2022.

This July brings the first release from the **Bayerisches Staatsorchester** under the direction of its new chief conductor **Vladimir Jurowski**. The programme includes **Beethoven's Second Symphony** paired with **Brett Dean's** contemporary orchestral work *Testament*, a piece inspired by Beethoven's music and emotional state. This live concert recording, released on **BAYERISCHE STAATSOPER RECORDINGS**, is one of the first post-lockdown public performances, recorded at the Munich Nationaltheater in October 2020. Recently nominated for Gramophone's 'Orchestra of the Year' 2022, this recording should not be missed.



OEHMS CLASSICS release the fourth volume of the ongoing **Anton Bruckner Anniversary Project**, dedicated to the 200th anniversary of his birth. This album features organ transcriptions of his works performed by **Hansjörg Albrecht** together with newly commissioned pieces. The highlight of this recording is Bruckner's *Symphony No. 4 in E flat major*, transcribed by **Thomas Schmögner** and performed on the majestic organ of Konzerthaus Vienna. The rest of the album includes original compositions by **Philipp Maintz**, as well as Albrecht's own transcription of Bruckner's *Abendzauber in Ges-Dur*.

Amongst the wide selection of repertoire performed by internationally renowned German pianist **Michael Korstick**, **Beethoven** has been the composer who featured in most recordings. Throughout his extensive career, Korstick has released the complete recordings of Beethoven's Piano Sonatas, as well as the composer's complete works for violin and piano with Thomas Albertus Irnberger. This new release on **CPO** further expands this repertoire with a complete recording of Beethoven's *Piano Concertos* in a 4 CD-set.



Leading up to **Anton Bruckner's** bicentenary in 2024, **UNITEL EDITION** will release a complete series featuring all of the composer's 11 symphonies, recorded by the **Wiener Philharmoniker** under the baton of **Christian Thielemann** at the Wiener Musikverein. The first release includes Bruckner's two earliest Symphonies in *F minor* & *D minor*, a world premiere on DVD and Blu-Ray, in a programme with the composer's *Symphony No. 5 in B flat major*. This is also the first time the Wiener Philharmoniker has recorded this repertoire. Each volume will include extensive conversations with Christian Thielemann on each symphony and insights into his rehearsal process.

The masterful art of **Sándor Végh** is illustrated in a 6 CD boxed set on the **CAPRICCIO** label, traversing benchmark works from **Beethoven** and **Haydn**, to **Brahms**, **Bartók**, **Schönberg** and **Berg**. Végh was a supreme musician, and his performances with the **Camerata Academica des Mozarteums Salzburg** were characterised by an innate musicality, captured here on these recordings. His **Schubert Symphonies** are timeless and exquisite; his *Transfigured Night* a manifestation of late-romantic beauty; his Bartók idiomatic – a great tribute to the Hungarian conductor.



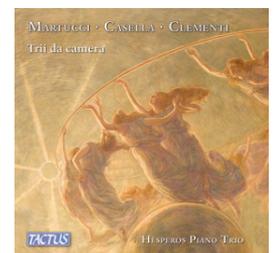
DYNAMIC release **Giuseppe Verdi's** final operatic masterpiece *Falstaff*, recorded last November at the **Teatro del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino** in Florence, conducted by **Sir John Eliot Gardiner**. Enhanced by an engaging new staging by director **Sven-Eric Bechtol**, this production features an excellent cast, led by **Nicola Alaimo**. In his interpretation of the title role, the Italian baritone delivers a standout performance marked by an impressive delivery, well-sculpted voice and superb stage presence.

Marius Petipa's staging of *Paquita* is best known for its last act, the *Grand Pas Classique*, which has become an essential part of the classical ballet repertoire. **BELAIR CLASSIQUES** release a thrilling version of this festive ballet, which narrates the unsuccessful love story of a gypsy and an officer. It features a faithful reconstruction of Petipa's original choreography, with music by **Yuri Krasavin**. This is a powerful rendition, performed by the **Ural Opera Ballet** and staged by **Slava Samurodov**



The double album *Encounters* from **BRIDGE RECORDS** includes the complete solo and chamber music works for flute by **Karl Kohn**. The lead performer featured is American flute virtuoso **Rachel Rudich**, an esteemed friend and colleague of the composer, as well as dedicatee of several of his works. She is accompanied by an array of talented musicians, including Kohn himself on the piano. This collection embodies the variety of composing styles present in Kohn's writing, from the early Romantic and tonal works to the more complex and atonal music of the latter years.

This release from **TACTUS** features a programme of Italian chamber music spanning for a century and a half, performed by the experienced **Hesperos Piano Trio**. This recording includes **Clementi's Trio, Op. 28** in a reworked version by Casella, **Martucci's Trio No. 1 in C Major, Op. 59**, and **Casella's Siciliana e Burlesca, Op. 23b** rearranged for piano trio. This choice of repertoire also represents the development of chamber music produced by Italian composers from the middle of the eighteenth century, at a time in which non-theatrical music enjoyed less consideration.



American composer **Harry Partch** is widely known on the **WERGO** label. This new release features a special recording of his *Delusion of the Fury*, staged by **Heiner Goebbels** and performed by the **Ensemble Musikfabrik** for the opening of the 2013 Ruhrtriennale festival. For the occasion, the complete set of Partch's microtonal instruments had been reconstructed and learned by the musicians, making it possible to perform the composer's music outside his home country, where the original and only set is preserved.