



SEPTEMBER 2023



SHOSTAKOVICH
Symphonies Nos. 5 and 9
Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra
Jaap van Zweden



This Month's Other Highlights



Heitor **VILLA-LOBOS**
Cello Concertos Nos. 1 and 2
Fantasia for Cello and Orchestra



Antonio Meneses, Cello
São Paulo Symphony Orchestra • Isaac Karabitschky

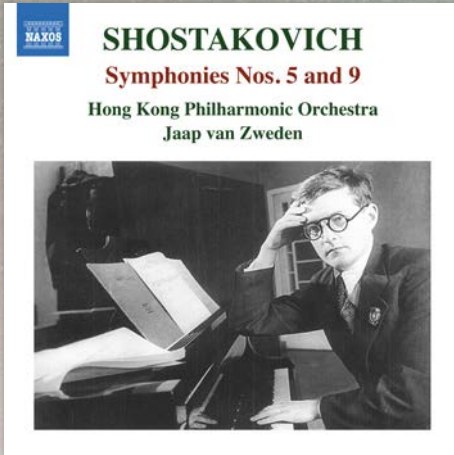


Franz Schreker
DER SCHATZGRÄBER
Daniel Johansson
Elišabet Strid
Michael Laurentz
Orchestra and Chorus of the Deutsche Oper Berlin
Conductor Marc Albrecht
Stage Director Christof Loy



Antonio SACCHINI
L'abbandono
delle ricchezze di
S. Filippo Neri
Yeree Suh
Ketevan Chuntishvili
Markus Schäfer
Daniel Ochoa
Concerto de Bassus
Franz Hauk
WORLD PREMIERE RECORDING





8.574549

Release Date: 8 Sep 2023

Dmitry SHOSTAKOVICH (1906–1975) Symphonies Nos. 5 and 9

Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra
Jaap van Zweden

Shostakovich's *Symphony No. 5* was premiered in 1937. It was composed in response to the Soviet denouncement in *Pravda* of the composer's most recent works. The symphony was an overwhelming success, returning the composer to favour with the authorities, and remains one of the most performed symphonies of the 20th century. The jaunty, neo-Classical character of *Symphony No. 9* was in stark contrast to the 'victory symphony' expected by Soviet officialdom. Shostakovich's startlingly different original draft for the opening of the first movement can be heard on 8.572138.

Key Features:

- Jaap van Zweden has been music director of the New York Philharmonic since 2018 and music director of the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HK Phil) since 2012. In 2018 he completed a four-year project conducting Wagner's *Ring* cycle with the HK Phil, which was released on Naxos 8.501403, and critically acclaimed worldwide for a 'thrilling sense of drama' (*The Sunday Times, London*).
- **Hong Kong Philharmonic's** most recent recordings include the *Tenth Symphonies* of Mahler and Shostakovich (8.574372): 'Under the Dutch conductor, this orchestra has flourished; strings are perfectly moulded... Van Zweden's pace is forward-moving but not rushed, the sound and balances in the Hong Kong Cultural Centre superb' (*BBC Music Magazine*), and 'The Shostakovich is characterised by the same expansiveness... an interesting and thoughtful coupling' (*Gramophone*).
- The year after Van Zweden was appointed music director of the Hong Kong Philharmonic, Naxos released his performance of Shostakovich's *Violin Concerto No. 1* as a soloist (8.573271): 'Van Sweden's virtuosity as a violinist...is here shown to be of the highest class' (*Musical Opinion*).



Jaap van Zweden
© Eric Hong / HK Phil

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Click to listen to

Symphony No. 5 in D minor, Op. 47: IV. Allegro non troppo

About Jaap van Zweden, Conductor

Jaap van Zweden has conducted orchestras on three continents, appearing as a guest with the Orchestre de Paris, Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Gewandhausorchester Leipzig, Wiener Philharmoniker, Berliner Philharmoniker and London Symphony Orchestra in Europe, and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, The Cleveland Orchestra and Los Angeles Philharmonic in the United States. Among his numerous recordings is the world premiere of David Lang's *prisoner of the state*, which followed Julia Wolfe's GRAMMY-nominated *Fire in my mouth*, both recorded with the New York Philharmonic. His acclaimed performance of *Parsifal* earned him the prestigious Edison Award for Best Opera Recording in 2012.

DIGITAL EXCLUSIVE



Dmitry SHOSTAKOVICH Symphonies Nos. 5 and 9

Benjamin BRITTEN (1913–1976) Four Sea Interludes

* Only available for download and streaming

9.50302 *

Release Date: 8 Sep 2023

Companion Titles – Jaap van Zweden and the Hong Kong Philharmonic



8.574372



8.501403

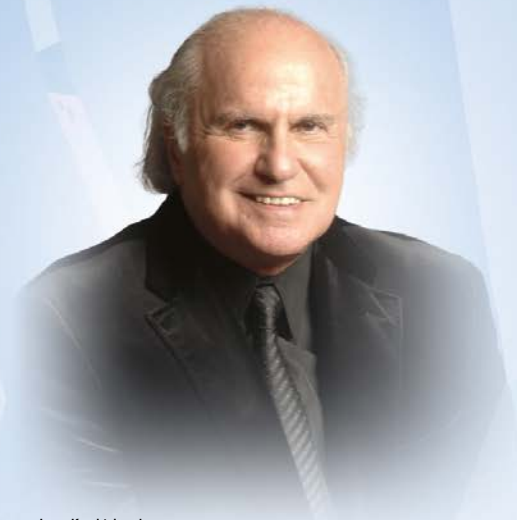


8.501111



8.573271

Companion Titles – Dmitry Shostakovich, Composer



Isaac Karabtshevsky
© Bruno Veiga

Heitor VILLA-LOBOS (1887–1959) Cello Concertos Nos. 1 and 2 Fantasia for Cello and Orchestra

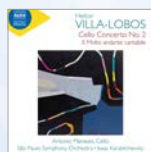
Antonio Meneses, Cello
São Paulo Symphony Orchestra • Isaac Karabtshevsky

The *Cello Concerto No. 1* was Villa-Lobos's first major orchestral work. Filled with youthful energy and displaying an eclectic style, it is the sound of the composer finding his voice. Three decades later and with his reputation at its height, the inspired melodies and flowing style of the *Fantasia* sees Villa-Lobos giving free rein to his vivid imagination. Composed for the Brazilian cellist Aldo Parisot, the no less inventive and lushly scored *Cello Concerto No. 2* from 1953 suggests man's solitude when facing the vastness of nature.

About Isaac Karabtshevsky, Conductor

Artistic director and conductor of the Orquestra Petrobras Sinfônica, **Isaac Karabtshevsky** is also artistic director of the Baccarelli Institute and the Heliópolis Symphony Orchestra. He was awarded the Prêmio da Música Brasileira four times (2014, 2015, 2016 and 2018) for his recordings of the complete symphonies of Villa-Lobos with the Orquestra Sinfônica do Estado de São Paulo (Osesp). Karabtshevsky has served as the musical director of the Teatro La Fenice, the Orchestre National des Pays de la Loire and the Tonkunstler Orchestra. He has taught at the Musica Riva Festival in Italy since 2000.

DIGITAL PRE-RELEASE SINGLE



Heitor VILLA-LOBOS Cello Concerto No. 2 II. Molto andante cantabile

* Only available for download and streaming

9.50305 *

Release Date: 25 Aug 2023



8.574531

Release Date: 22 Sep 2023

LISTEN



Click to listen to
Cello Concerto No. 1, Op. 50:

I. Allegro con brio – Tempo de Gavotte: Moderato –

Key Features:

- Developed in collaboration with the Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the 'Music of Brazil' series presents around 100 orchestral, chamber, choral and vocal works from the 19th and 20th centuries recorded by the country's top orchestras, ensembles and artists, and selected according to their historical importance for Brazilian music.
- Villa-Lobos is of course an unmissable part of this series, and this release joins the *Complete Violin Sonatas* (8.574310), considered 'an attractive proposition' in *Gramophone*, *Choral Transcriptions* (8.574286), and the *Guitar and Harmonica Concertos* (8.574018) in 'universally first-rate performances' (*ClassicsToday.com*).
- The **São Paulo Symphony Orchestra** has made an acclaimed recording of Villa-Lobos's complete symphonies (8.506039), with *Gramophone* stating: 'Isaac Karabtshevsky directs secure and consistently colourful performances and the sound is excellent, as is necessary given the composer's wide-ranging orchestrations'. This team makes a significant contribution to the series and has already recorded *Choros, Vol. 1* by Carmago Guarneri (8.574197).
- Brazilian cellist **Antonio Meneses** won the First Prize and Gold Medal in the Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow at the age of 25 in 1982, and his subsequent international career has seen him appearing as soloist with many of the world's finest orchestras and working with eminent conductors such as Herbert von Karajan, Claudio Abbado, Riccardo Muti, Riccardo Chailly, Mariss Jansons and Mstislav Rostropovich.



© Sibelio Kurouda



Daniel Johansson as Elis and Elisabet Strid as Els
© Monika Fittershaus

Franz SCHREKER (1878–1934)
Der Schatzgräber
Opera in a prologue, four acts
and an epilogue (1918)

Elisabet Strid, Soprano
Daniel Johansson, Michael Laurenz, Tenors
Thomas Johannes Mayer, Baritone
Tuomas Pursio, Bass-baritone • Doke Pauwels, Actor
Deutsche Oper Berlin Chorus and Orchestra
Marc Albrecht, Conductor • Christof Loy, Stage director

Franz Schreker's career was cut short by the events of 1933 in Germany but he achieved real fame with his operas, and the huge success of *Der Schatzgräber* ('The Treasure Hunter') in the 1920s was the high point of his career. In a complex and ultimately tragic tale of destructive greed, desire and toxic social hierarchy, the innkeeper's daughter Els is forced to confront the consequences of her murderous intent in what conductor Marc Albrecht considers 'a work of exceptional quality, concentration and significance'. Following the huge success of Korngold's *Das Wunder der Heliane* (Naxos DVD 2.110584-85 / Blu-ray NBD0083V), director Christof Loy continues his exploration of strong female characters and neglected 20th-century masterpieces with this highly acclaimed Deutsche Oper Berlin production.



Also available on Blu-ray Video:
NBD0173V
Picture format: HD 16:9
Sound format: PCM stereo and DTS-MA 5.1
Language: German
Subtitles: German, English, Dutch, Japanese, Korean
Region: A, B, C
No. of disc/s: 1 (BD 50)
Release Date: 8 Sep 2023

2.110761
Picture format: NTSC 16:9
Sound format: Dolby Digital 2.0 and Surround 5.1
Language: German
Subtitles: German, English, French, Japanese, Korean
Region code: 0 (worldwide)
No. of disc/s: 1 (DVD 9)
Release Date: 8 Sep 2023



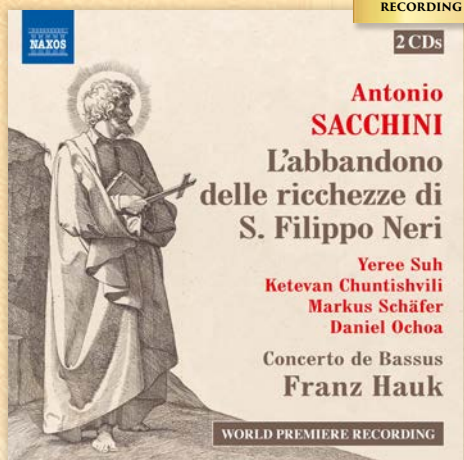
Key Features:

- Director Christof Loy and conductor **Marc Albrecht** have teamed up again to revive this neglected opera from the early 20th century. This opera was a triumph at its world premiere in 1920 and in subsequent years, but a National Socialist ban on performances sealed its demise. With its narrative blend of fantasy and realism and the powerful expressiveness and dramatic intensity of its music, this is an opera that has plenty of relevance today in both its themes and its stylistic richness.
- This 2022 **Deutsche Oper Berlin** production received wide critical acclaim: 'With the Swedish heroic tenor **Daniel Johansson** and the Swedish soprano **Elisabet Strid**, the ideal cast was indeed found. Johansson's powerful tenor also masters the lyrical passages effortlessly and uses his beautiful timbre very individually. Strid is convincing in the big dramatic outbursts, but she can also withdraw her technically brilliant soprano at any time for the lyrical sections' (*Klassik begeistert*).
- **Christof Loy** is one of the most sought-after directors in international opera and theatre today. His production of Korngold's *Das Wunder der Heliane* with Marc Albrecht was critically acclaimed, becoming a critic's choice for the *American Record Guide* and was given the *Preis der Deutschen Schallplattenkritik* ('German Record Critics' Award') in November 2019. Albrecht also triumphed with Berg's *Wozzeck* (2.110582 / NBD0081V), with *Gramophone* considering it 'among the most beautifully played and sung accounts on record and film'.



© Marco Burggreve





8.574526-27

Release Date: 22 Sep 2023

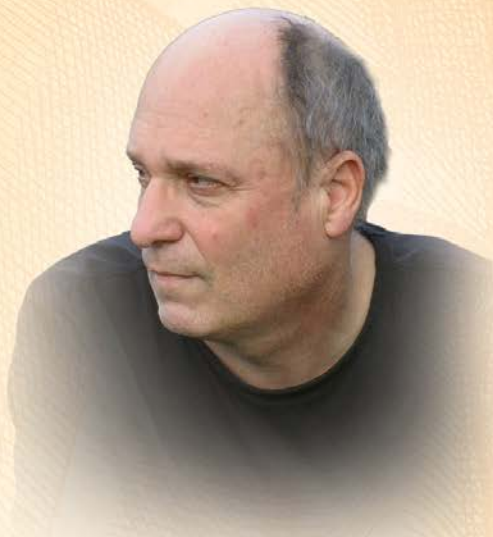
Antonio SACCHINI (1730–1786)**L'abbandono delle ricchezze di S. Filippo Neri****('Saint Philip Neri's Renunciation of All Worldly Wealth')**

Yeree Suh, Ketevan Chuntishvili, Sopranos
 Markus Schäfer, Tenor • Daniel Ochoa, Bass
 Giovanni Michelini, Harpsichord and Organ
 Concerto de Bassus • Franz Hauk

Antonio Sacchini's renowned melodic gifts and facility as a composer were developed amid the flourishing Neapolitan school of opera but, outgrowing the Italian tradition, he later found inspiration working in London and Paris. The oratorio *L'abbandono delle ricchezze di S. Filippo Neri* narrates the spiritual trials of St Philip Neri as he is hounded by the personifications of Splendour and Deception on his journey, assisted and defended by Poverty, towards God and virtue. First performed in 1765, *L'abbandono* is heard here in its world premiere recording.

Key Features:

- Antonio Sacchini is notably under-represented in recordings, with just one or two of his numerous operas and some chamber music more or less currently available on disc. Our 2006 release of his opera *Oedipe à Colone* (8.660196-97) remains a standard-bearer as 'one of those relatively rare instances where an "unearthed gem" reveals an opera that once rightfully belonged to the main course, rather than just an interesting side dish' (*AllMusic.com*).
- This performance is directed by Franz Hauk, who is well known for his revivals of the music of Johann Simon Mayr in numerous Naxos recordings that include the oratorio *David in spelunca Engaddi* (8.570366-67), a recording summed up as 'richly rewarding' in *MusicWeb International*.



Franz Hauk
 © Anna Götz

LISTEN



Click to listen to

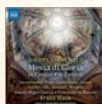
Aria: Vanne sospir tremante figlio del cor fedele

About Franz Hauk, Conductor

Born in Neuburg an der Donau in 1955, **Franz Hauk** studied church and school music, with piano and organ, at the Munich Musikhochschule and in Salzburg. In 1988 he took his doctorate with a thesis on church music in Munich at the beginning of the 19th century. From 1982 to 2021 he served as organist at Ingolstadt Minster, and since 1995 also as choirmaster. He has given concerts in Europe and the United States and made a number of recordings including several premieres of works by Johann Simon Mayr.



Concerto de Bassus

Companion Titles – Franz Hauk and Concerto de Bassus

8.574203



8.573910



8.573781



8.579049



INCLUDES A WORLD PREMIERE RECORDING

Paul CHIHARA (b. 1938)
**Concerto-Fantasy for Piano and Orchestra *
 Bagatelles • Reveries • Ami ****
*Quynh Nguyen, Rieko Aizawa ** , Piano*
*London Symphony Orchestra * • Stephen Barlow **

Recipient of numerous notable awards and commissions, Paul Chihara is renowned for his film and television scores as well as for an extensive catalogue of orchestral, choral and chamber works. Composed for and in close collaboration with award-winning pianist Quynh Nguyen, recognized for her sensitive and poetic playing, the lyrical *Concerto-Fantasy* is inspired by traditional Vietnamese music, expressing a sense of longing for a peaceful past and projecting jazz-tinged possibilities for the future. From the haiku-like *Bagatelles* and the haunting intimacy of *Ami*, to the characters and inspired adaptations that emerge through the *Four Reveries on Beethoven*, Chihara's delightfully approachable piano music is full of surprises and discoveries.

8.559894
 Release Date: 8 Sep 2023

[WATCH VIDEO TRAILER](#)

**Companion Titles –
 American Piano Concertos**
 8.559930 | 8.559925 | 8.559902 | 8.559875



Joachim RAFF (1822–1882)
Symphony No. 5 'Lenore'
Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott – Overture
Slovak State Philharmonic • Urs Schneider

The imposing nature and sweeping expressive range of Joachim Raff's *Fifth Symphony* has seen it become one of his most popular works in the genre. Its subtitle '*Lenore*' refers to a lurid and macabre poem by Gottfried August Bürger in which the forlorn heroine forsakes God to join her dead lover on a wild ride through an ultimately horrific night. With its delicately scored and touching love music, celebrated march and brutal finale, this is a spirited and memorable symphony. The overture *Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott* uses Martin Luther's famous melody to commemorate the drama of the Thirty Years' War.

8.555541
 Release Date: 8 Sep 2023

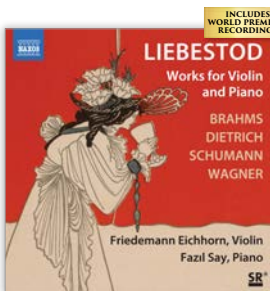
Key Feature:

This recording previously appeared in 1993 on the Marco Polo label (8.223455). The *Fifth* is generally regarded as Raff's best symphony, still appearing in concert halls today, and collectors of these reissued recordings will not want to be without this release.

[LISTEN](#)

Click to listen to
*Symphony No. 5 in E major, Op. 177 'Lenore':
 Part I. Liebesglück ('Love's Happiness'): Allegro*

**Companion Titles –
 Joachim Raff, Composer**
 8.555411 | 8.555491 | 8.555499



INCLUDES WORLD PREMIERE RECORDINGS

Liebestod
Works for Violin and Piano
BRAHMS • DIETRICH • SCHUMANN • WAGNER
Friedemann Eichhorn, Violin • Fazil Say, Piano

Turkish pianist and composer Fazil Say is joined by his long-standing friend, the violinist Friedemann Eichhorn, in an album of mid-19th-century German repertoire. Influenced by Liszt, Say's ingenious transcriptions of the *Prelude* and *Liebestod* from Wagner's *Tristan und Isolde* are heard here in world premiere recordings. The composite *F–A–E Sonata* of Dietrich, Schumann and Brahms is seldom encountered as a whole, while Schumann's *Violin Sonata No. 1*, though written at a time of unhappiness, contains moments of glorious beauty and intimacy.

8.574434
 Release Date: 8 Sep 2023

Key Feature:

Friedemann Eichhorn and **Fazil Say** recorded Say's violin music together on Naxos 8.574085. It was an ICMA nominated disc: 'Say as an extraordinary pianist and Friedemann Eichhorn as a versatile violinist perform these works with unquestionable skill and, certainly sharpened by the composer's participation, great musical expression and colours. The whole range of emotions is served from the slightest breath to the most vivacious outburst' (*Pizzicato*).



Fazil Say and Friedemann Eichhorn

[LISTEN](#)

Click to listen to
SCHUMANN, R.: Violin Sonata No. 1 in A minor, Op. 105: I. Mit leidenschaftlichem Ausdruck

**Companion Titles –
 Friedemann Eichhorn, Violin**
 8.574085 | 8.572066 | 8.573000 | 8.572188



WORLD PREMIERE RECORDINGS

Eduardo GRAU (1919–2006)
Concertos for Soloists and String Orchestra

Jana Jarkovská, Flute • Simon Reitmaier, Clarinet
Ana María Valderrama, Violin • David Fons, Viola
Miklós Szitha, Timpani • Fabio Banegas, Piano
Anima Musicæ Chamber Orchestra • Francisco Varela

The music of Spanish-Argentine composer Eduardo Grau is imbued with Hispanic elements. His *Concerto of 'Yuste'* for *Violin, Piano and Timpani* was inspired by the Spanish monastery of its title and is notable for its rhythmic drive, lyricism and mystical atmosphere. The *Concertino for Viola and Piano* is deeply expressive and intimate, while folkloric dances from Argentina are used in the *Concerto for Clarinet* including the vivacious *chacarera*. The verses of Spanish Golden Age poet Garcilaso de la Vega provided the inspiration for Grau's *To the Flower of Gnido for Flute and Piano*.

8.579107
 Release Date: 22 Sep 2023



Click to listen to *Concerto of 'Yuste' for Violin, Piano, Timpani and String Orchestra, Op. 88: I. Cántico ('Canticle'): Allegro giusto*

Companion Titles – Argentinian Composers

8.574128 | 8.572372 | 8.572271 | 8.574298



Domenico SCARLATTI (1685–1757)
Complete Keyboard Sonatas Vol. 28

Sang Woo Kang, Piano

A complete performance of Domenico Scarlatti's 555 keyboard sonatas would take over two days of continuous playing, and the majority are still little-known today. This 28th volume features a wide selection of these original, imaginative and colourful works. It includes spritely dances (*K.7*), an energetic triple-time romp (*K.55*) and a Spanish influenced evocation of flamenco (*K.142*) – among many other examples of Scarlatti's seemingly limitless musical invention.

8.573938
 Release Date: 8 Sep 2023

Key Feature:

Domenico Scarlatti's *Keyboard Sonatas* had appeared in complete editions on harpsichord from performers such as Scott Ross and Richard Lester, but while these sonatas are popular with today's audiences and players alike our ongoing and highly collectable *Complete Keyboard Sonatas* edition performed by a veritable panoply of leading pianists will be one of only a very few recorded on modern instruments.



Click to listen to *Sonata in A minor, K.7/L.379/P.63*

Companion Titles – Previous recordings in Scarlatti's Complete Keyboard Sonatas series

8.574374 | 8.574221 | 8.574146 | 8.574196
 8.574075 | 8.573713 | 8.573795 | 8.573604
 8.573590 | 8.573611 | 8.573708 | 8.573288
 8.573222 | 8.572586 | 8.572107 | 8.570745



James P. JOHNSON (1894–1955)
De Organizer The Dreamy Kid (excerpts) *
Libretto by Langston Hughes Libretto by Eugene O'Neill

* WORLD PREMIERE RECORDING

Rabihah Davis Dunn, Olivia Duval, Lori Celeste Hicks, Sopranos • Elizabeth Gray, Mezzo-soprano
Monique Spells, Contralto • Emery Stephens, Lonel Woods, Tenors • Darnell Ishmel, Baritone
Branden C.S. Hood, Kenneth Kellogg, Basses
University of Michigan Opera Theatre and Symphony Orchestra • Kenneth Kiesler

8.669041
 Release Date: 8 Sep 2023



Click to listen to *De Organizer*

Companion Titles – American Opera Classics

8.669003-04 | 8.669140-41
 8.669050-51 | 8.669012-13



8.559918
Release Date: 22 Sep 2023

Companion Titles –
John Harbison, Composer

8.559841 | 8.559188 | 8.559173 | 8.559243

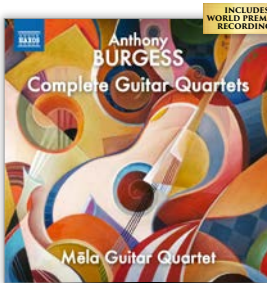
John HARBISON (b. 1938)
Piano Works
Nocturne * • Gatsby Etudes
Four More Occasional Pieces * • Leonard Stein Anagrams *
Piano Sonata No. 1, "In Memoriam Roger Sessions"
Se-Hee Jin, Piano

* WORLD PREMIERE RECORDING

Pulitzer Prize-winning composer, John Harbison, is recognized as one of the dominant figures of his generation, with commissions from most of America's leading musical institutions as part of a catalog of more than 300 works. Pianist Se-Hee Jin has been exploring Harbison's *oeuvre* with fearless and insightful interpretations ever since their first meeting at Tanglewood many years ago. From the rhapsodic and virtuoso *First Piano Sonata* to the fleeting images of the *Leonard Stein Anagrams* and the playful *Gatsby Etudes*, this program represents works from the 1980s to the present, including several world premiere recordings.



Click to listen to
Gatsby Etudes: No. 2. Parties



8.574423
Release Date: 22 Sep 2023

Companion Titles –
Guitar Classics series

8.573762 | 8.574339 | 8.579060 | 8.573575

Anthony BURGESS (1917–1993)
Complete Guitar Quartets
Méla Guitar Quartet

Composer and novelist, Anthony Burgess, was a unique creative artist whose dual mastery of music and literature resulted in a career strewn with an output of remarkable diversity. Burgess came into contact with the Aïghetta Guitar Quartet while living in Monte Carlo in 1986, and the sublime arrangements and original works in this recording were all composed for this ensemble. The three guitar quartets range from the well-crafted *First Quartet* intended as a homage to Ravel, while the *Second* and *Third Quartets* explore virtuoso technique alongside adventurous and at times haunting harmonies and polytonality.

Key Feature:

The wider public knows Anthony Burgess as the author of novels such as *A Clockwork Orange*, but few are aware of him as a composer of some distinction. With only a very small number of recordings of his music available, we have been working on raising his profile with orchestral works released on Naxos 8.573472 which was well received by *The International Anthony Burgess Foundation*: 'the recording is beautifully executed. The choice of pieces provides a larger picture of Burgess the composer'. His cycle of 24 Preludes and Fugues, *The Bad-Tempered Electronic Keyboard*, is also available on Grand Piano GP773.



Click to listen to
Guitar Quartet No. 1 'Quatuor en hommage à Maurice Ravel: I. Très vif



8.578365
Release Date: 22 Sep 2023

Companion Titles –
Previous releases in the series

8.578361 | 8.578362 | 8.578363 | 8.578364
8.578366 | 8.578367 | 8.578369 | 8.578368

GREAT COMPOSERS
IN WORDS AND MUSIC



Modest MUSSORGSKY (1839–1881)

The Great Gate of Kiev resounds to the tumultuous bell rings that end *Pictures at an Exhibition*, one of the most magnificent and virtuosic of all piano pieces. However, to some of his contemporaries, Modest Mussorgsky was 'insane' and 'a perfect idiot'. Born into a wealthy land-owning family, what drove this tormented man and why did he suffer with psychological breakdowns and alcoholism? How did he achieve a command of the realist idiom in his stage works? Illustrated with some of Mussorgsky's finest works, the biographical narrative includes excerpts from *Songs and Dances of Death*, *Boris Godunov*, *Night on Bald Mountain* and, of course, *Pictures at an Exhibition*.

