

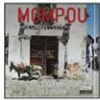
Juon Rhapsodische Sinfonie; Sinfonietta Capricciosa
Bamberg SO/Graeme Jenkins
CPO 777 908-2



Heavy-set late-Romantic orchestra fare. The Swiss composer's use of harmony is inviting; his orchestrations glisten, often with Straussian and Mahlerian magic. The Bambergers argue this music's case very convincingly. (OC) ★★★★★

Mompou Música callada; Cançons i danses; Cants màgics
Alessandro Deljavan (piano)

Piano Classics PCLD0115



Though works such as the *Cançons i danses* have their sprightly moments, much of Mompou's solo piano music is reflective and restrained. Alessandro Deljavan lingers appreciatively here, but never outstays his welcome. (JP) ★★★★★

Reger Organ works and songs
Suzanne Langner (mezzo), Ullrich Böhme (organ)

Rondeau ROP6133



Recorded in the one-time workplace of JS Bach, this disc explores Reger's relationship with the organ. The programme of rather samey works is given a serviceable performance. (EC) ★★

Reger Works for men's choir
Ensemble Vocapella Limburg/Tristan Meister

Rondeau ROP6126



A delicate and detailed performance of folk song arrangements and hymns. Ensemble Vocapella Limburg sings with a clear and well-rounded sound. (EC) ★★★★★

Röntgen String Trios Nos 13-16
Lendvai String Trio

Champs Hill CHRCD122



There's a Nordic flavour to this Dutch-German composer's meaty string trios, with their attractive, folksy dances and searching wistfulness. The superb Lendvai Trio makes a good case for them. (OC) ★★★★★

Stimpson Jesse Owens – incidental music and songs
Soloists; PO/Stuart Stratford

Stone Records 5060 1 92780659



The feats of the 20th century's most iconic athlete are celebrated in music of unmitigated drabness. Owens was a sprinter; this feels like more of a marathon. (JP) ★★

Augustin Hadelich and Joyce Yang
Works by Previn, Schumann, Kurtág and Franck

Hadelich (violin), Yang (piano)
Avie AV2347



An exciting programme delivered with guts and passion. The Prokofiev/Bernstein-inflected Previn *Tango Song and Dance* is a highlight, and Franck's Sonata gets a barnstorming performance. (OC) ★★★★★

Azerbaijani Music
Works by Hajiyev, Karayev et al
Nargiz Aliyarova (piano)

Et'cetera KTC 1566



A fine introduction to this attractive 20th-century music. The short works evoke a sense of Azerbaijan's folk heritage, but traverse a wide stylistic spectrum too. (OC) ★★

Early Transcriptions
Works by Marcello/Bach, Handel/Liszt, Bach/Busoni etc
Mariam Batsashvili (piano)

Cobra COBRA 0056



A promising debut. The Bach/Busoni Chaconne could be more searing, but the Mozart opera fantasy by Liszt and Howard takes flight. (RF) ★★★★★

Formosa Mea Songs by Caccini, Monteverdi et al

Tone Wik (soprano); Christian Kjos (harpsichord) et al

Lawo LWCT109



In a recital inspired by the Song of Solomon, Wik's voice is at its best in the lightly dancing numbers, a little constrained elsewhere. (RF) ★★

Idyll Serenades by Janáček, Elgar and Kalinnikov

Orchestra da Camera 'Ferruccio Busoni'/Belli

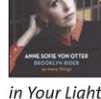
Brilliant Classics 95199



The Italian orchestra creates a lush, languid sound world in these Romantic works. Kalinnikov's Serenade, inspired by Russian folk music, is an unexpected delight. (EC) ★★

So Many Things Works by Adams, Bush, Shaw, Jacobsen, Björk et al
Anne Sofie von Otter (mezzo); Brooklyn Rider

Naive V5436



An eclectic contemporary collection impeccably performed. Standouts include Adams's *Am I in Your Light?* and Jacobsen's *For Sixty Cents*. (RF) ★★
Reviewers: Oliver Condy (OC), Elinor Cooper (EC), Rebecca Franks (RF), Jeremy Pound (JP), Jessica Duchon (JD)

The month in box-sets



SOVIET MASTER:
David Oistrakh's genius is celebrated on a 22-disc set

Top Glass and mighty Battle

This month's round-up embraces two US greats

As Philip Glass turns 80, right on cue arrives the handsome **Philip Glass Complete Sony Recordings** (Sony 8898537612; 24 CDs). The set includes his 'Portrait Trilogy', beginning with his breakthrough opera *Einstein on the Beach*, and completed by the operas *Satyagraha* and *Akhmaten*. Elsewhere, there's solo piano and organ works, songs and dance pieces, as well as music Glass composed with Ravi Shankar.

Fifty years on from moving to New York's Lincoln Center, which opened in 1966, the Metropolitan Opera has released ten operas in **The Inaugural**

Season: Extraordinary Met Performances from 1966-67 (Met Opera 1135701822; 22 CDs). It includes a performance of Barber's *Anthony and Cleopatra* that's never been on disc before, as well as Colin Davis conducting Britten's *Peter Grimes* and Karl Böhm at the helm of Strauss's *Die Frau ohne Schatten*.

Soprano Kathleen Battle made her Met Debut on 22 December 1977 and went on to appear there regularly before being dropped by the opera house in 1994, returning only

last year. In **Kathleen Battle: The Complete Sony Recordings** (Sony 88985381362; 10 CDs) there are several discs devoted to her crossover collaborations, as well as her Mahler Symphony No. 4 with the Vienna Philharmonic and conductor Lorin Maazel and a highlights 'portrait' disc.

The **David Oistrakh Edition: Complete recordings** on DG, Decca, Philips and Westminster (479 6580; 22 CDs) offers another portrait set, this time of the great Soviet violinist. Concertos

by Brahms, Glazunov, Mendelssohn, Prokofiev and Kabalevsky feature

alongside chamber works including Beethoven's complete violin sonatas with pianist Lev Oborin.

For more Beethoven, turn to **Beethoven Piano Sonatas** (ECM 481 2908; 11 CDs) from pianist Andrés Schiff. Recorded live in concert at the Tonhalle in Zurich, this 32-sonata cycle is packaged with a booklet bringing together all Schiff's conversations about the sonatas for previously released individual volumes, plus a new CD of 'Encores after Beethoven' (reviewed p88).

The Met has released ten operas from 1966-67

