



Naxos 8.574181
Hans Werner HENZE (1926–2012)
Nachtstücke und Arien I
Los Caprichos
Englische Liebeslieder 2
Juliane Banse, Soprano 1
Narek Hakhnazaryan, Cello 2
 ORF Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra
 Marin Alsop

This recording presents an aspect of Hans Werner Henze that is probably unfamiliar to many, and certainly gentler on the ear than the avant-garde extremes with which he's generally associated. The works on the programme reveal a skilled craftsman who knew the value of melodic and harmonic expression, as well as colourful and luminously transparent orchestration. There are few alternative recordings of the works, and the combined names of conductor Marin Alsop and the ORF Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra guarantee top quality musicianship and international standing. Similarly with the two soloists: soprano Juliane Banse is known for her diversity of repertoire, extensive discography and acclaimed concert and opera performances, while cellist Narek Hakhnazaryan won the Cello First Prize and Gold Medal at the XIV International Tchaikovsky Competition in 2011, at the age of 22.

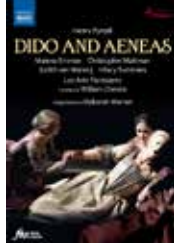


Naxos 8.555194
Eric COATES (1886–1957)
British Light Music, Vol. 4
Springtime Suite
Four Ways Suite • Saxo-Rhapsody*
*Kenneth Edge, Saxophone **
 Slovak Radio Symphony Orchestra
 Andrew Penny

Eric Coates was a master of refined and beautiful melodies, making him a household name during Britain's light music golden years in the first half of the 20th century. He will surely be long remembered for his iconic march *The Dambusters* and *Sleepy Lagoon*, the latter still in use by the BBC today. This programme, however, includes rarities that will complement any collection of his better-known works. The *Four Ways Suite* takes us from exotic China to the jazz rhythms of America; the virtuoso *Saxo-Rhapsody* is one of the era's major saxophone works; and *High Flight March* was to be Coates' last composition. All is in the experienced hands of conductor Andrew Penny, who has made over 50 recordings for the Naxos and Marco Polo labels, specialising in British music.

Naxos Priority Releases

January 2022



Naxos 2.110709 [DVD]

NBD0140V [Blu-ray]

Henry PURCELL (1659–1695)

Dido and Aeneas

Opera in a prologue and three acts

Libretto by Nahum Tate after

Virgil's Aeneid

Judith van Wanroij, Soprano

Malena Ernman, Mezzo-soprano

Hilary Summers, Mezzo-Soprano

Christopher Maltman, Baritone

Les Arts Florissants

William Christie, Conductor

Deborah Warner, Stage director

It's hard to avoid superlatives in recommending this reissue of a wonderful 2008 audiovisual recording of Purcell's opera *Dido and Aeneas* in a production from the Paris Opéra Comique. The intervening years have done nothing to diminish the impact of the production's brilliant stage direction (Deborah Warner), acclaimed musical direction (William Christie and Les Arts Florissants) and fine cast of singers (with Malena Ernman as Dido and Christopher Maltman as Aeneas). Malena Ernman, by the way, possibly provides another selling point as the mother of the Nobel Peace Prize winner and environmental activist Greta Thunberg. François Roussillon's elegant, sensitive and intelligent production for television sets the seal on what was described by one Amazon reviewer at its initial release as 'one of the most recommendable opera DVDs on the market.'



Naxos 8.505257

Ferdinand RIES (1784–1838)

**Complete Works for
Piano and Orchestra**

[5-Disc Boxed Set]

Christopher Hinterhuber, Piano

New Zealand Symphony Orchestra

Gävle Symphony Orchestra

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra

Uwe Grodd

I'm certain that many collectors will be quick to latch on to this collection of Ferdinand Ries' works for piano and orchestra, conveniently housed in one box set. Standing alongside those of Hummel as the finest and most important of their kind from the early decades of the 19th century, they reveal the intense lyricism and rugged Beethovenian grandeur of the pianist-composer's eight piano concertos (Ries was Beethoven's friend, pupil and secretary). A bonus is the inclusion of a number of varied companion pieces that are no less remarkable for their virtuosity and exceptional beauty. Following the release of the final volume in the series, *International Record Review* had some wise words: 'This is a real discovery; but then so is Ries' entire output for piano and orchestra ... it's time for a grass-roots effort to reinstate Ferdinand Ries in the concert hall where he belongs.'

Naxos Priority Releases

January 2022



Capriccio C5439
 Nicolai KAPUSTIN (1937–2020)
Blueprint
 Piano Music for Jazz Trio
 Frank Dupree, Piano
 Jakob Krupp, Double bass
 Obi Jenne, Drums

Pianist Frank Dupree's 2021 recording of concertos by Nikolai Kapustin on the Capriccio label ([C5437](#)) had *The New York Times* commenting: 'This makes for one of the most entertaining, put-it-on-repeat recordings of a dread-filled year. It's complex and bravely exuberant music that is also highly accessible.' Dupree himself describes Kapustin's music as 'a mix of American-influenced jazz music plus the Russian education.' That crossover cocktail is at the heart of this excellent new release, in which Dupree plays a selection of Kapustin's works for solo piano as originally written, while bassist Jakob Krupp and drummer Obi Jenne improvise around him. You'll find no better example of jazz poured so expertly into a classical mould. Highly recommended.



Dynamic DYN-37921 [DVD]
 DYN-57921 [Blu-ray]
 CDS7921.02 [CD]
 Giuseppe VERDI (1813–1901)
Rigoletto
 Enkeleda Kamani, Soprano
 Caterina Piva, Mezzo-soprano
 Javier Camarena, Tenor
 Alessio Cacciamani, Bass
 Luca Salsi, Baritone
 Orchestra e Coro del Maggio
 Musicale Fiorentino
 Riccardo Frizza, Conductor
 Davide Livermore, Stage director

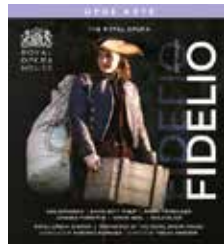
This recording of *Rigoletto* reflects not only its standing as the first operatic masterpiece of Verdi's mature period, but also the spirit of our time, in that it was filmed during the Covid-19 pandemic, in February 2021, without an audience and with limited access for the press. Despite the circumstances, the new production from Teatro del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino was a huge success, reflecting the collective strength of the artistic team. Tenor Javier Camarena (Duke of Mantua) was named Male Singer of the Year in the 2021 International Opera Awards; baritone Luca Salsi (*Rigoletto*) is internationally recognised as a leading interpreter of Verdi roles; soprano Enkeleda Kamani (*Gilda*) sings with 'precision, beautiful legato lines and a natural elegance in phrasing.' (*OperaClick*); while musical director Riccardo Frizza gives 'one of the most moving readings of the Verdi score that I have ever heard.' (*OperaLibera*)





Grand Piano GP874V [DVD]
 GP875BD [Blu-ray]
Nuit Erik Satie
Live at the Philharmonie de Paris
Nicolas Horvath, Piano

This audiovisual release is of a type and in a class of its own. In October 2018, Nicolas Horvath performed Erik Satie's complete works for piano, playing for more than eight hours without a break in the Philharmonie de Paris. The event was recorded in impeccable sound and subsequently transformed into a remarkable video experience in which acclaimed film director Thierry Villeneuve combines Horvath's stunning playing with dreamlike images in and around the concert venue, dancers in slow motion, and poetic images and texts sympathetic to the music. The audience was captivated. I should add that the video also represents a high point in our momentous, ongoing project to record Satie's complete solo piano music using Satie scholar Robert Orledge's new and entirely revised Salabert Edition that includes many world premieres of unknown pieces.



Opus Arte OA1334D [DVD]
 OABD7288D [Blu-ray]
 Ludwig van
BEETHOVEN (1770–1827)
Fidelio
Lise Davidsen, Soprano
Amanda Forsythe, Soprano
David Butt Philip, Tenor
Robin Tritschler, Tenor
Egils Silinš, Bass-baritone
Simon Neal, Baritone
Orchestra of the Royal Opera House
Royal Opera Chorus
Antonio Pappano, Conductor
Tobias Kratzer, Stage director

Lise Davidsen (Leonore) and David Butt Philip (Florestan) lead members of The Royal Opera in this striking production of Beethoven's only opera, *Fidelio*. Recorded in 2020, Tobias Kratzer's new staging brings together the dark terrors of both the French Revolution and our own times to illuminate *Fidelio*'s inspiring message of shared humanity, *The Guardian* reporting that it 'rips Beethoven's only opera in two to bring contemporary resonance.' And with Antonio Pappano on the rostrum, you know that musicianship of the highest quality is guaranteed: 'Pappano's interpretation makes this much revised score sound as though it had burst complete from Beethoven's brow.' (*The Times Literary Supplement*)

