

# THE CLASSICAL CD

## MUSIC SHOP

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### TWO AMAZING BARGAINS FROM WARNER CLASSICS

#### RACHMANINOV

PIANO CONCERTOS 1 - 4/RHAPSODY on a THEME of PAGANINI  
Variations on a theme of Corelli/ Variations on a theme of Chopin  
Prelude in C sharp minor Op 3 no 2/10 Preludes Op 23

6 Moments musicaux Op 16/ Vocalise op 34 No 14 (piano version)

Cello Sonata in G minor Op 19 with Alexander Kniazev (cello)

Nikolai Lugansky (piano)/CBSO directed by Sakari Oramo

SYMPHONIES 1 - 3 / SYMPHONIC DANCES Op 45

Vocalise op 34 No 14 (for Orchestra) The Isle of the Dead Op 29

The Bells Op 35 with Sheila Armstrong/Robert Tear/John Shirley-Quirk

Aleko Intermezzo & Woman's Dance

London Symphony Orchestra/André Previn

WARNER CLASSICS 8 cds ~~£19.95~~ on offer **£15.95**

Nicolai Lugansky's performances of these concertos and the Paganini Variations are one of the finest of all time, highly acclaimed by the music press - the Gramophone wrote in December 2004 that they were 'a glorious example of Russian romantic virtuosity'. They were accorded a Rosette in the Penguin Guide. Originally on Teldec, but now re-issued in this new bargain box, they are coupled with the legendary recordings of the Rachmaninov Symphonies and Symphonic Dances from André Previn and the LSO originally on EMI but now re-released by Warner Classics. Previn's recording of the second Symphony was a BBC Radio 3 Record Review Building a Library First Choice.

This is an incredible bargain and unreservedly recommended.

Richard Gibson

#### VIVALDI CONCERTOS

Europa Galante Fabio Biondi

ERATO 9 cds ~~£21.95~~ on offer **£16.95**

#### Il cimento dell'armonia e dell'invenzione

12 concerti opus 8 includes the Four Seasons

BBC Radio 3 Building a Library Record Review September 2016

#### L'estro armonico - 12 concerti, Op. 3

'No other set of Vivaldi's concertos contains the sheer variety on display in *L'estro armonico*, though none begins to approach this version in respect of fantasy and exuberance. Fabio Biondi and his Italian ensemble, Europa Galante, bring something entirely fresh and vital to oft-performed repertoire,'  
Gramophone Classical Music Guide 2010

#### Concerti per viola d'amore

'Fabio Biondi plays with assurance and stylistic savoir faire

BBC Music Magazine, January 2008 \*\*\*

#### 'La tempesta di mare' Concerti con titoli

'... this is another disc to add to the growing pile of wonderfully refreshing and enlightening Vivaldi recordings to have come out of Italy in recent years.'  
Gramophone Classical Music Guide, 2010

#### Concerti per mandolini & Concerti con molti strumenti, vol.1

'This is exhilaratingly dangerous music-making, and it pays off.'

Gramophone Magazine

#### Concerti con molti strumenti, vol.2

The first movement of RV566 scoots along with delicious bustle and elsewhere tempi are often on the brisk side. His own violin-playing is typically fervent and loving... and none of his fellow soloists makes anything less than a bold and strong contribution.'

Gramophone Magazine, February 2006

#### La Stravaganza opus 4

'This ingenious new recording includes the six of Vivaldi's Op 4 published by Walsh in 1728.....what clinches this recording is the vivid, earthy playing by Biondi and his (Italian) forces.' The Observer, 5th June 2011

As with the Rachmaninov box this Vivaldi collection is at a ridiculously low price, especially as they are some of the finest Vivaldi recordings of all time. Europa Galante and their leader Fabio Biondi play with flair, style and compelling virtuosity, and always reveal the originality and inventiveness of these remarkable concertos, and invariably breathe new life into the more well known concertos such as the Four Seasons - here resoundingly chosen as the finest renditions by a long way in a recent BBC Radio 3 Building a Library review. There are nine cds and the sheer variety of styles and instrumental sounds means that played with such enthusiasm, panache and Mediterranean passion it's unlikely anyone will ever tire of any of these enthralling performances. Of particular note is the *L'estro armonico* set and the *Concerti per mandolini & Concerti con molti strumenti* with some breath-taking and beguiling mandolin playing,

Richard Gibson

#### DELIUS Orchestral and Choral Works

Including On Hearing the First Cuckoo in Spring/

A Song before Sunrise/Songs of Sunset/Dance Rhapsody No 1/

Violin Concerto/A Mass of Life/Piano Concerto in C minor/

A Village Romeo and Juliet

Jean Pougnet (violin), Betty Beecham (piano), Dora Labbette (soprano) & Sir Thomas Beecham (piano & conductor)

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra & London Philharmonic Orchestra

WARNER CLASSICS 7cds ~~£19.95~~ on offer **£13.95**

#### NEW RELEASES

#### JS BACH Goldberg Variations BWV 988

Beatrice Rana (piano)

Warner Classics **£11.75**

'Beware! I put on this disc and found myself barely able to move for the 78 minutes of Bach's masterpiece, so familiar yet suddenly so new. Rana's playing has a kind of Orphic seductiveness, a transcendent lightness of touch...' Sunday Times, 19th February 2017

'the return of the Aria is as emotionally multifaceted as you would expect - mysterious, quizzical, noble, resigned, hopeful - setting the seal on a life-affirming disc.'

Gramophone April 2017

In a recent interview with Pianist magazine, Beatrice Rana that if she had to devote her life to one composer it would be JS Bach with the Goldberg Variations in particular heading the list. So not surprising then, that she chose the Goldbergs as her first Bach recording.

This is a thoughtful and often highly original and revelatory interpretation. That she can breathe new life into classic works is no surprise as she did much the same in her recording of Tchaikovsky's First Piano Concerto, coupled then with an astonishing and exhilarating thrilling performance of Prokofiev's Second Piano Concerto, accompanied to great effect by Antonio Pappano and the Orchestra dell'Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia. This acclaimed recording on Warner Classics is still available from Classical CD for £10.00.

#### SZYMANOWSKI Litany to the Virgin Mary/Stabat Mater/ Symphony No. 3 'Song of the Night'

Warsaw Philharmonic Orchestra & Choir, Jacek Kaspszyk

Warner Classics **£11.75**

'Inflections of Polish folk music, glancing memories of north African travels - all are vividly conjured up by Kaspszyk and his players. The singers are excellent, the women of the choir igniting a glowing halo around Aleksandra Kurzak's soaring soprano.'

The Guardian, 6th April 2017 \*\*\*\*

#### JS BACH St John Passion BWV 245

Les Musiciens du Louvre/Marc Minkowski

Erato 2 cds **£12.95**

'Minkowski goes for minimalism...sharing out the solos and choruses between eight singers. His Evangelist, Lothar Odinius, is outstanding, delivering the text with clarity and an emotional angst that burns itself onto the memory.' Sunday Times, 9th April 2017

#### RECORD STORE DAY Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April

We will have a large range of cds at special offer prices throughout the day and the following week plus our bargain price nearly new cds - which includes many sought after deletions.

Plus a range of classical vinyl records - many of which are also much sought after. Proceeds from the vinyl sale will go to [Music for Everyone](#) and [St Mary's Church](#). Ring for further details,