



G. Mahler: Symphony No. 8

aud 95.551

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[www.SA-CD.net](http://www.SA-CD.net) (Oscar Gil - 09.06.2005)

Kubelik is one of the truly great Mahler conductors. He focuses on the more lyric and descriptive aspects of the works, never over-emphasizing the theatrical and dramatic sections. His Audite live recordings, with the Bayerisches Rundfunks Orchester are more succesfull than the DG studio recordings, made roughly at the same time. A case in point is this Mahler 8 Symphony, taped at a live concert, just prior to the DG recording, made with the same soloists.

Given the huge forces involved, the performance is a miracle of perfection, and the only glitch could be the under-the-note attacks of one of the soprano soloists in the last section of the work.

By contrast, Kubeliks work is much more inmediate and "alive" than on the DG recording, resulting in one of the outstanding M 8 recordings available. The sound is fine, not overly spacious but with suficient detail.