



George Szell conducts Dvorák & Brahms

aud 95.625

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[American Record Guide](#) (Donald R Vroon - 2014.01.20)

These are from 1962 (Brahms) and 1969 (Dvorak, with the Czech orchestra). George Szell's Dvorak is always great, and there's plenty of vitality in his Brahms. The Czech orchestra with Szell is a winning combination, though he manages to make the Cleveland Orchestra sound utterly Czech in his two recordings of the Dvorak with them. In fact, those recordings are so good that if you have either you need not bother with this one. Here the sound is too close-up; even a little irritating. That applies to both symphonies. There is no warmth at all.

And I don't like the Lucerne clarinet and flute soloists. Their sound is hard and brittle. So this is for people who can't get the Cleveland recordings.