Fanfare (Robert Maxham - 01.01.1970)

Want List for Robert Maxham

This year’s wants bear connections to the greatest of the great violinists. Dynamic’s eight-CD set offers a synoptic view of Paganini’s works for violin and orchestra. Even without the support of Paganini’s demonic presence, the pieces, heard one after another, still pack quite a wallop. If Paganini wasn’t the greatest violinist of all time, that mantle should fall on Heifetz. Both pioneers transformed violin playing—and we can actually hear how Heifetz did it in this overwhelming and affordable collection. Perhaps arguably, Michael Rabin showed such promise as well; and DOREMI’s set allows us to answer some of the persistent questions about what his later violin playing might have been like had his comeback not been cut short, while Audite offers material equally intriguing. So what’s teenager Caroline Goulding doing here? Well, she simply plays as though she belongs here—and that’s enough.