

ROBERT SCHUMANN

Complete Symphonic Works

Vol. II

Symphony No. 2 in C major, Op. 61
Symphony No. 3 in E flat major, Op. 97 'Rhenish'

HEINZ HOLLIGER
WDR Sinfonieorchester Köln

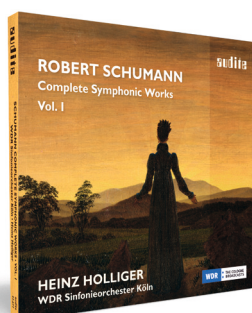
With this CD, audite is presenting the second volume of the complete recording of Robert Schumann's orchestral works. The series includes all the symphonies (with both versions of the Fourth) as well as all the overtures and concertos.



The Second and Third Symphonies, according to the usual numbering, passed through contrasting histories of reception. Whereas the 'Rhenish' remained relatively popular, the C major Symphony was received by contemporaries as trend-setting, but receded into the background from the late nineteenth century onwards. At this time, criticism was primarily levelled at its instrumentation, which had still been praised after its premiere. Heinz Holliger and the WDR Symphony Orchestra have recorded the works with an orchestra of the same size that was available to Schumann. In so doing, they not only uncover the sonic ideal of the composer, but also its consistent and convincing realisation.

Holliger's performances draw on a lifetime study of Schumann's music, thought, personality and fate. His approach imparts lightness and lucidity to these opulent scores through a hierarchical balance of parts, delicately graded dynamics and invigorating tempos. The widespread image of this romantic composer as a weak orchestrator receives a refreshing and well-grounded correction.

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ROBERT SCHUMANN: COMPLETE SYMPHONIC WORKS VOL. I

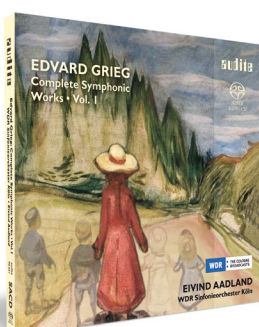
Symphony No. 1 in B flat major, Op. 38 'Spring'
 Overture, Scherzo and Finale in E major, Op. 52
 Symphony in D minor (original version 1841)

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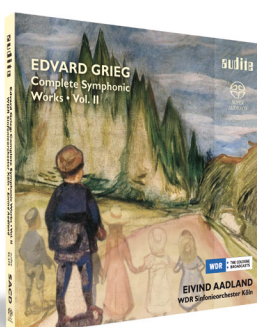
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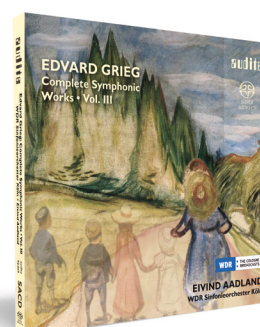
Recordings with the WDR Sinfonieorchester Köln and Eivind Aadland already issued at audite:



audite 92.651



audite 92.579



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