



Eduard Franck: Orchestral Works II

aud 20.034

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www.amazon.co.uk (Michael Gilchrist - 2013.01.01)

amazon More Romantic era gems

Amazon has facilitated an endless journey of discovery for the classical music enthusiast wanting to move beyond the well trodden paths of Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Brahms, Tchaikovsky, etc. These and other giants of the 18th and 19th centuries had a host of lesser or unknown contemporaries composing works not far short of the established masterpieces. Specialist labels like cpo, Chandos and Naxos have opened the doors to numerous composers I hadn't heard of. After I came across the Sterling label and bought up much of its catalogue including a very appealing album of Richard Franck's orchestral works. I then learned that Richard's father Eduard was also an accomplished composer and the very favourable Amazon reviews prompted me to purchase the three releases on the audite label of his symphonies, violin concertos and orchestral items, including the present one. The music is invariably tuneful and beautifully orchestrated, performed and recorded. Anyone who enjoys Mendelssohn and his contemporaries should try Franck's works. I would rate the present CD and the other audite releases as among my more successful discoveries along with Czerny, Wilms, Kalliwoda, Gouvy, Onslow and other lesser known 19th century composers.