Character in abundance, spellbinding results

Recordings by some piano and conducting greats from the past gathered into handy collections of various sizes

[...] On the orchestral front, Audite's 'new remastering from original analogue tape' of Beethoven's Choral as performed at the Lucerne Festival on August 22, 1954, by the Philharmonia and the Lucerne Festival Chorus under Wilhelm Furtwängler (Furtwängler's last Ninth as it happened) has less tonal body than its Tahra predecessor but repeated to-ing and fro-ing between the two transfers suggests that the Audite version is marginally better balanced. As to the performance, sublime isn't the word. [...]