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LIMELIGHT

Thinking-Man's Schumann

Holliger's scholarly perspective impresses in symphonic mop-up

No man or woman alive knows more about the inner-workings of Schumann's music than Holliger, [...] teases out those melodic and harmonic fingerprints about to blossom in his mature symphonies. His Manfred Overture reminds us of the daring instability of Schumann's harmony – a music that opens the door, and takes a peek, at some harmonic traits of 20th-century music. The final volume has a slight feeling of mopping up what was left; but Holliger's interpretive perspectives make it worthwhile.

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