Maurice Andre - Music for Trumpet and Organ (1978)



1. Fanfare 2. Adagio 3. Gavotte En Rondeau 4. Largo 5. Aria: Mein Glaubiges Herz 6. Gloria In Excelsis Deo 7. Ave Maria 8. Trumpet Voluntary 9. Allegro Spiritoso 10. Air 11. Trumpet Tune 12. Bourree 13. Ave Maria 14. Alleluia 15. The Queen's Dolour 16. Chorale: Jesu Bleibet Meine Freude 17. Chorale: In Allen Meinen Taten 18. Adagio 19. Chorale: Jesu Meine Freude 20. Wachet Auf Maurice Andre – trumpet Jane Parker-Smith, Alfred Mitterhofer, Hedwig Bilgram – organ

To the best of my knowledge, the combination of trumpet and organ is a very recent one, and there is no 18th-19th century music written for such a combination. Thus, everything on this CD consists of adaptions of pieces written for other instruments/ensembles. To many purists, this is completely off-putting. However, not being a purist, I am not at all off-put.

Super-trumpeter Maurice André always felt the lack of music for his instrument and was always willing to adapt other pieces for it (the versatility of the piccolo trumpet made it possible to play things that could never be played on the natural instrument). The initial trumpet and organ records were made with the French label Erato and Hedwig Bilgram as partner, later with other partners.

To my ears, the combination two sounds, the clear sound of the trumpet and the sonorous richness of the organ, almost seem meant for each other, and the result here is a wonderful listening experience, with André's burnished tone and dazzling virtuosity showcased by splendid accompaniment. Indeed, the only quibble I can think of that listening to it all at once is like having a banquet consisting entirely of your favourite ice cream. You end up totally sated by it all. As a result, I tend to listen to bits at a time. I confess to having played some bits to death, such as the marvellous version of "Gloria in excelsis Deo " to the tune known as "Angels we have heard on high". --- Teemacs, amazon.com

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back