

Compact Disc

reviews

Editor's Choice

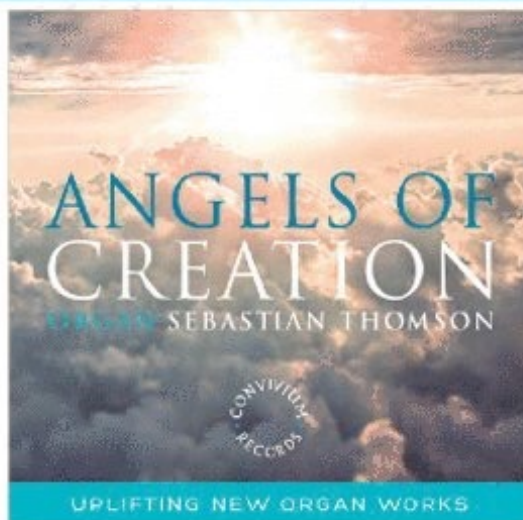
Angels of Creation

Thomas Hewitt Jones *Angels of Creation*; David Briggs *Berceuse*; David Briggs *Toccata for St Matthew's Day*; Simon Whalley *Festal Paean*; David Bednall *Rhapsody*; Philip Moore *Noël Nouvelet*; Neil Cox *Laudate*; John Hosking *The 14 Stations of the Cross*

Organist Sebastian Thomson
Keble College Chapel, Oxford

There is a palpable freshness about this exciting and eclectic programme. Every composer brings his own harmonic and melodic palette to the table. Words alone cannot begin to describe the emotional and dramatic content of this outstanding programme. The climax comes in the form of the *Stations of the Cross*. A creation *sans pareil*, it feels so spontaneous.

It's good to meet a more



substantial work by Thomas Hewitt Jones. Many of us will know the plangent *What Child is this* at the end of *Carols for Choirs 5*. David Briggs needs no introduction. His lush *Berceuse* is a charming foil to his outspoken *Toccata*. Former Director of Music at Keble, Simon

Whalley wrote the *Festal Paean* to show off the myriad colours of the new organ. David Bednall is no stranger to larger forms, and clearly enjoys every aspect of a well-stocked instrument. The work received its première in St Paul's Cathedral. I love Philip Moore's writing. He always has something fresh to say. Neil Cox's composition is a response to the Chagall window in Chichester Cathedral which depicts Psalm 150. The climax of the programme, as if we haven't had many already, is John Hosking's most apposite response to the 14 Stations of the Cross.

None of this, of course, would be possible without the breath-taking input of the stunning organist, Sebastian Thomson, about whom we should know and hear much more!

Andrew Fletcher

CD reviews at a glance...

Abbey Spectacular, p.56

TT 75:09, Priory Records, PRCD 1175, £11.99

American Voices, p.56

TT 74:18, Resonus, RES 10187, £7.99

Angels of Creation, p.55

TT 76:12, Convivium Records, CR034, £8.49

Bach and Friends, p.57

TT 74:17, Ambronay, AMY048, £7.99

Before the Ending of the Day, p.57

TT 60:47, Rubicon, RCD1004, £13.50

César Franck Intégrale de l'oeuvre d'orgue, p.58

TT 148:00 (2 CD), La Dolce Vita, LDV178.8, €15

David Briggs plays Gustav Mahler: Symphony no.2 in C minor "Resurrection", p.59

TT 92:19 (2CDs), Chestnut Music, CD012, £16

François Couperin Intégrale de l'oeuvre d'orgue, p.63

TT 150:00 (2CD), La Dolce Vita, LDV147.8, €15

Great Anthems from Liverpool, p.61

TT 73:38, Priory Records, PRCD 1172, £11.99

Inventio Musik fro Galten Kirke, p.60

TT 65:52, CD-Klassisk-DK, CDK 1170, 79,20kr

Judith Bingham Organ Works, p.62

TT 123:02 (2CDs), Resonus, RES 10191, £11.99

Liszt Organ Works, p.60

TT 66:43, Fuga, FUGA-9403, €20

Multum in Parvo – Margaret Phillips, p.60

TT 71:26, EOSCD21, £10

Music from a Higher Sphere, p.59

TT 86:29 (2 CD), Pro Organo, CD 7276, £16

Nicolas de Grigny Intégrale de l'oeuvre d'orgue, p.64

TT 151:00 (2CD), La Dolce Vita, LDV149.0, €15

Organs of the Lake District, p.64

TT 79:33, Priory Records, PRCD 1177, £11.99

The Enlightenment Influence, p.65

TT 79:01, Regent Records, REGCD 476, £10

The Organ Works of Marco Lo Muscio, p.65

TT 76:51, Priory Records, PRCD 1170, £11.99

Variations Sérieuses, p.66

TT 67:32, Gateway Music, £13.19

Wayne Marshall plays the new Hugo Mayer organ of the Basilica of St Kastor Koblenz, p.66

TT 79:54, Fugae State Films, FSRCD011, £14.50