



Sony Masterworks Announces New US Classical Releases for July 2017

Available July 7:

Daniel Behle: Schubert – *Arias, Romances & Overtures* Kurt Masur: *Eurodisc Recordings* (box set)



Daniel Behle: Schubert – Arias, Romances & Overtures L'Orfeo Baroque Orchestra, conducted by Michi Gaigg

Of all the great composers, Schubert left by far the largest number of uncompleted works: symphonies, piano and chamber music, songs, choral music, and operas. Six of the latter are represented on this disc – the early “Adrast” written around the age of twenty, and “Fierebras” written in 1823, five years before the sudden end of his short life. Schubert made many attempts to achieve success on the Viennese operatic stage but was singularly unlucky in doing so. Consequently none of his operatic music ever entered the repertoire and today it remains the most unknown aspect of his work. Therefore this disc is an assembly of some very rare music, most of which has never before been recorded. Indeed, most of these operas and singspiels have never been professionally mounted since they were written. For this recording, German tenor Daniel Behle traveled to Linz/Austria and worked together with the L'Orfeo Baroque Orchestra, conducted by Michi Gaigg.

German tenor and composer Daniel Behle is without question one of today's leading lyric German tenors. Especially at the ROH Covent Garden in London, he is a celebrated artist. He made his Royal Opera debut in the 2016/17 season as Ferrando (*Così fan tutte*). Behle's best-known composition is his adaption of Schubert's *Winterreise* for tenor and piano trio, performed at the Wigmore Hall in 2015 and recorded by Sony Classical with Behle and the Oliver Schnyder Trio.

Kurt Masur: *Eurodisc Recordings* (box set) Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra Reviewer's Rate: \$37.06



Kurt Masur's first important conducting job was with the Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra, with which he worked from 1955 to 1958 and again from 1967 to 1972. He also worked with the Komische Oper of East Berlin. From 1970 to 1996 he was the Kapellmeister (musical director) of the famous Gewandhausorchester Leipzig. In 1991, Masur became music director of the New York Philharmonic. He stayed there for over a decade, helping to make them one of the world's finest orchestras. From 2000 to 2007, Masur was principal conductor of the London Philharmonic Orchestra. From 2002 to 2008, he was music director of the Orchestre National de France. On his 80th birthday in 2007, Masur conducted musicians from both these orchestras at a Proms concert in London, conducting music by Tchaikovsky and Bruckner.

This box set, released in July 2017 which would have been Kurt Masur's 90th birthday month, includes his recordings of Robert Schumann's complete symphonies, Felix Mendelssohn's complete symphonies, Anton Bruckner's complete symphonies, and Beethoven's *Fidelio*, recorded with the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra.