



Liszt - The Organ Composer

aud 97.793

EAN: 4022143977939



Choir & Organ (01.01.2023)

Yet another Liszt recording? Yes indeed, although this survey of the large-scale organ works has, as a bonus, the performer's own virtuosic transcription of Liszt's Totentanz which she delivers with considerable aplomb. Anna-Victoria Baltrusch holds positions at both the Hochschule für Kirchenmusik and concert hall in Halle, having previously taught at the Hochschule für Musik in Leipzig and having won many prizes at competitions as prestigious as St Albans, Magdeburg and the ARD International competition. The playing on this release is of considerable stature, and one seldom feels that Baltrusch's virtuosity is misplaced; Ad Nos clocks in at chunky 33 minutes. There is no information about the organ beyond a specification and the faintest of black and white photos. Perhaps not the most imaginative of choices (less evocative certainly than Michael Schönheit at Magdeburg or Zuzana Ferjenčíková at Fribourg, both on MDG), the high pressure Alphorns in the new Echowerk provide convincingly distant excitement, almost Strauss like (in Ad Nos's 'Tromba') fanfares, Baltrusch impresses with her muscularly vivid interpretations.

**Liszt: The Organ Composer**  
 Anna Victoria Baltrusch, Kuhn organ (1972-77, Echowerk 2015), Hofkirche, Luzern  
 Audite 97.793 (2CD) [46:46, 37:33]  
 ★★★★★



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