



French Music for Horn and Piano

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[American Record Guide](#) (Barry Kilpatrick - 2011.11.01)

An excellent recording of Italians playing French music. Guglielmo Pellarin is principal horn of the Santa Cecilia Academy Orchestra in Rome; Federico Lovato has a thriving career as pianist, cellist, and artistic director of the orchestra I Solisti in Villa. The program offers mostly standard works, but some listeners might not be familiar with the works by Jean-Michel Damase (b 1928) or Jean-Michel Defaye (b 1932). Damase bases much of his three-movement, 15-minute introspective Horn Sonata on a melody from Wagner's Siegfried-Idyll. Defaye's 'Alpha' (1973) is dissonant and compact, demanding much technical skill but ending in a quiet brooding mood.