



BUILDING A LIBRARY

Recommendations: September 2003 – July 2004

All selections were made from recordings available in the UK at the time of the broadcast and are full price unless otherwise stated.
CD Review cannot guarantee that they have not subsequently been deleted.

Presenter: Andrew McGregor **Producers:** Andrew Lyle / Mark Lowther/ Lindsay Kemp/ Jessica Isaacs

Broadcast Assistants: Ben Warren/ Elizabeth Arno/ Bea Cooper

Key:

c/w = coupled with

IMS = a recording which is only available through Universal Classics' Import Music Service

Previous editions of this factsheet are available from CD Review's website: visit www.bbc.co.uk/radio3

J.S. Bach: The English Suites, BWV 806-811

Simon Heighes
3rd January 2004

First Choice (Piano):

Angela Hewitt (piano) (recorded 2002-2003)
HYPERION CDA67451/2 (2 hybrid CD-SACD)

First Choice (Harpsichord):

Gustav Leonhardt (harpsichord) (recorded 1973)
SONY SB2K 62949 (2-CD, mid-price)

Mid-price Choice (Piano):

Robert Levin (piano) (recorded 1998-1999)
HANSSLER 113 (2-CD, mid-price)

J.S. Bach: The Orchestral Suites, BWV 1066-1069

Andrew Manze
3rd April 2004

First Choice:

Musica Antiqua Koln, Reinhard Goebel (1st Violin/director) (recorded 1982 & 1985; c/w The Brandenburg Concertos; Sonatas for Violin & Harpsichord; Sonatas for Violin & Continuo; Concerto for Flute, Violin, Harpsichord and Strings in A Minor: Wilbert Hazelzet (flute), Andreas Staier (harpsichord), Reinhard Goebel (violin)
ARCHIV 4716562 (8-CD, budget)

Beethoven: Violin Concerto, Op.61 in D Major Martin Cotton

20th September 2003

First Choice:

Thomas Zehetmair (violin), Orchestra of the 18th Century, Frans Bruggen (conductor)
(recorded 1997; c/w Violin Romance No.1 in G Major, Op.40; Violin Romance No.2 in F Major, Op.50)
PHILIPS 462 123-2 (CD)

Mid-Price Choice:

Jascha Heifetz (violin), Boston Symphony Orchestra, Charles Munch (conductor)
(recorded 1955; c/w MENDELSSOHN Violin Concerto, Op.64)

RCA Victor 09026 689802 (CD, mid-price)

Beethoven: Fidelio

Stephen Johnson
20th March 2004

First Choice:

Christa Ludwig (Leonore), Jon Vickers (Florestan), Walter Berry (Don Pizarro), Gottlob Frick (Rocco), Ingeborg Hallstein (Marzelline), Gerhard Unger (Jaquino), Franz Crass (Don Fernando), Kurt Wehofschitz (Erster Gefangener), Raymond Wolansky (Zweiter Gefangener), Philharmonia Chorus & Orchestra, Otto Klemperer (conductor)
(recorded 1962; c/w Leonore Overture No.3)
EMI 5673642 (2-CD, mid-price)

Beethoven: Piano Sonata No.21, Op.53 'Waldstein'

Penelope Thwaites
19th June 2004

First Choice:

Maurizio Pollini (piano) (recorded live 1997; c/w Piano Sonata No.11 in B Flat Major, Op.22; Piano Sonata No.12 in A Flat Major, Op.26)
DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON 435 472 2 (CD) IMS

Berlioz: Symphonie Fantastique, Op.14

Chris De Souza
20th December 2003

First Choice:

London Philharmonic Orchestra, Zubin Mehta (conductor)
(recorded 1993; c/w Le carnaval romain, Op.9; Overture from Beatrice et Benedict)
APEX 8573895332 (CD, budget)

Berio: A Survey of his works

Gillian Moore

17th April 2004

BERIO Concerto II "Echoing Curves"; SCHUBERT/BERIO Rendering for Orchestra;
BOCCHERINI/BERIO Quattro versioni originali della "Ritirata notturna di Madrid":
London Symphony Orchestra, Luciano Berio (conductor)
RCA 09026 688942 (CD)

BERIO Naturale; Voci; Sicilian Folk Music:
Kim Kashkashian (viola), Robyn Schulkowsky (percussion)
Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra, Dennis Russell Davies (conductor),
ECM 461 808-2 (CD)

BERIO Formazioni; Folk Songs; Sinfonia: Jard van Nes (mezzo), Electric Phoenix,
Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Riccardo Chailly (conductor)
DECCA 425 832-2 (CD)

BERIO Sequenzas: Luisa Castellani (soprano), Gabriele Cassone (trumpet), Eliot Fisk (guitar),
Teodoro Anzellotti (accordion), Ensemble Intercontemporain: Sophie Cherrier (flute),
Frederique Cambreling (harp), Florent Boffard (piano), Benny Sluchin (trombone),
Christophe Desjardins (viola), Laszlo Hadady (oboe), Jeanne-Marie Conquer (violin),
Alain Damiens (clarinet), Pascal Gallois (bassoon), Christian Wirth (alto saxophone)
DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON 457 038-2 (3-CD)

BERIO Recital I for Cathy*; Folk Songs; 3 Songs by Kurt Weill (arr. Berio):
Cathy Berberian (mezzo), *London Sinfonietta; Juilliard Ensemble, Luciano Berio (conductor)
RCA 09026 625402 (CD, mid-price)

Bernstein: Chichester Psalms

Ash Khandekar
1st May 2004

First Choice:

Soloist from the Vienna Boy's Choir, Vienna Jeunesse Choir, Israel Philharmonic Orchestra,
Leonard Bernstein (conductor) (Live performance 1977; c/w Symphony No.3 'Kaddish')
DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON 447 954-2 (CD, mid-price)

Reduced Scoring (Organ, Harp, Percussion) Choice:

Choir of Clare College, Cambridge, Rachel Masters (harp), Timothy Brown (conductor)
(recorded 1995; c/w RUTTER Gloria; *PART Magnificat Antiphon; Missa Sillabica):
* Capella Breda, Ensemble Calefax, Daan Manneke (conductor)
REGIS RRC 1003 (CD, budget)

Britten: Serenade for Tenor, Horn & Strings

Iain Burnside
3rd July 2004

First Choice:

Anthony Rolfe-Johnson (tenor), Michael Thompson (horn), Royal Scottish National Orchestra,
Bryden Thomson (conductor) (recorded 1988; c/w *Les illuminations, Op.18; Quatre chansons francaises)
* Felicity Lott (soprano)
CHANDOS CHAN 10192 X (CD, mid-price)

Budget-Price Choice:

John Mark Ainsley (tenor), David Pyatt (horn), Britten Sinfonia, Nicholas Cleobury (conductor)
(recorded 1995; c/w Les Illuminations, Op.18; Nocturne, Op.60)
CLASSICS FOR PLEASURE CFP 575 5632 (CD, budget)

Britten: The String Quartets

Stephen Johnson
18th October 2003

First Choice for String Quartet No. 1:

Brodsky Quartet (recorded 2001; c/w Three Divertimenti; TCHAIKOVSKY String Quartet in D, Op. 11, No. 1)
CHALLENGE CLASSICS CC 72106 (CD)

First Choice for String Quartet No. 2:

Sorrel Quartet (recorded 1988; c/w BRITTEN String Quartet in F major (1928);
String Quartet in D major (1931)
CHANDOS CHAN 9664 (CD)

First Choice for String Quartet No. 3:

Maggini Quartet (recorded 1997; c/w BRITTEN Simple Symphony, Op. 4, Quartettino, Alla Marcia)
NAXOS 8.554360 (CD, budget)

Overall Choice for Complete Set of String Quartets:

Maggini Quartet: String Quartets Nos. 1 and 2 (recorded 1996; c/w BRITTEN Three Divertimenti):
NAXOS 8.553883 (CD, budget)

and

Maggini Quartet: String Quartet No. 3 (recorded 1997; c/w BRITTEN Simple Symphony, Op. 4;
Quartettino, Alla Marcia)
NAXOS 8.554360 (CD, budget)

Byrd: The Masses

**Tess Knighton
6th December 2003**

First Choice (all 3 Masses):

The Cardinal's Musick, Andrew Carwood (director) (recorded 1999; c/w Fantasia in D Minor;
Voluntary a3; Fantasia in C): Patrick Russill (organ)
ASV CD GAU 206 (CD)

Budget Choice (4-part & 5-part masses):

Oxford Camerata, Jeremy Summerly (conductor) (recorded 1991; c/w Infelix ego)
NAXOS 8.550574 (CD, budget)

Cathedral Tradition (5-part mass only):

Winchester Cathedral Choir, David Hill (director of music) (recorded 1995; c/w
Propers for the Feast of Corpus Christi (Cibavit eos; Oculi omnium; Lauda Sion Salvatorem;
Sacerdotes Domini; Quotiescunque manducabitis; Pange lingua gloriosi; Ab ortu solis;
Cognoverunt discipuli; O sacrum convivium; O salutaris hostia; Ave verum corpus)
HYPERION CDA 66837 (CD)

Charpentier: A Survey of his works

**Graham Sadler
29th May 2004**

Discs Recommended:

CHARPENTIER Messe a quatre chœurs; La reniement de St Pierre; Salve regina a trois chœurs;
Salut de la veille des 'O': Ex Cathedra, Jeffrey Skidmore (conductor)
HYPERION CDA67435 (CD)

CHARPENTIER Transfige dulcissime Jesu; Le Reniement de St Pierre;
Extremum Dei judicium; Salve Regina pour trois chœurs;
Litanies pour deux dessus et une basse chantante;
Motet pour les Trepassees: Ensemble europeen William Byrd, Yannick Varlet (organ),
Pascal Monteilhet (theorbo), Philippe Couvert, Françoise Couvert (violins),
Helene Couvert-Suignard (viola), Dominique Dujardin (cello), Graham O'Reilly (conductor)
PAN CLASSICS 10175 (CD)

CHARPENTIER Andromede; Le Ballet de Polieucte: Rachel Elliott (soprano), James Gilchrist (tenor),
Thomas Guthrie (baritone), Giles Underwood (bass), New Chamber Opera, The Band of Instruments,
Gary Cooper (director)
ASV CD GAU 303 (CD)

CHARPENTIER Acteon; Intermede pour 'Le Mariage force or La Comtesse d'Escarbagnas':
Les Arts Florissants, William Christie (conductor)
HARMONIA MUNDI HMA 1951095 (CD, budget)

CHARPENTIER La Descente d'Orphee aux Enfers: Patricia Petibon (Daphne), Monique Zanetti (Proserpine),
Katalin Karolyi (Arethuze), Sophie Daneman (Euridice), Paul Agnew (Orpheus),
Les Arts Florissants, William Christie (conductor)
ERATO 0630 11913-2 (CD)

CHARPENTIER Les Plaisirs de Versailles; Airs sur Les Stances du Cid; Amor Vince Ogni Cosa
: Sophie Daneman (La Musique), Katalin Karolyi (La Conversation), Steve Dugardin (Le Jeu),
Jean-Francois Gardeil (Comus), Francois Piolino (Un Plaisir),
Les Arts Florissants, William Christie (conductor)
ERATO 0630 14774-2 (CD)

CHARPENTIER Lecons de Tenebres: Sandrine Piau (soprano),
Gerard Lesne (haute-contre), Ian Honeyman (tenor), Peter Harvey (bass),
Il Seminario Musicale
VIRGIN 5450752 (CD)

CHARPENTIER Messe de Minuit; In Nativitatem Domini Canticum:
Choir & Orchestra of Les Arts Florissants,
William Christie (conductor)
ERATO 8573 858202 (CD)

CHARPENTIER Mors Saulis et Jonathae; Sacrificium Abrahae;
Dialogus inter angelum et pastores: Il Seminario Musicale, Gerard Lesne (conductor)
ASTREE NAIVE E8821 (CD)

CHARPENTIER David et Jonathas: Jean-Francois Gardeil (Saul),
Dominique Visse (La Pythonisse), Bernard Deletre (L'Ombre de Samuel/Achis),
Gerard Lesne (David), Jean-Paul Fouchecourt (Joabel), Monique Zanetti (Jonathas),
Les Arts Florissants, William Christie (conductor)
HARMONIA MUNDI HMA 1901289.90 (2-CD, budget)

CHARPENTIER Medee: Lorraine Hunt (Medee), Mark Padmore (Jason),
Bernard Deletre (Creon), Monique Zanetti (Creuse), Jean-Marc Salzmänn (Oronte),
Les Arts Florissants, William Christie (conductor)
ERATO 4509 965582 (3-CD)

CHARPENTIER Missa 'Assumpta est Maria'; Litanies de la Vierge; Te Deum:
Les Arts Florissants, William Christie (conductor)
HARMONIA MUNDI HMC 901298 (CD)

CHARPENTIER Te Deum; Nuit (from the Christmas Oratorio 'In nativitatem Domini canticum');
Messe de minuit: Annick Massis (soprano), Magdalena Kozena (mezzo),
Eric Huchet (haute-contre), Patrick Henckens (tenor), Russell Smythe (baritone),
Jean-Louis Bindi (bass), Choir & Orchestra of Les Musiciens du Louvre, Marc Minkowski (conductor)
ARCHIV 453 479-2 (CD)

Chopin: Piano Sonata No.3 in B Minor, Op.58

David Owen Norris
8th May 2004

First Choice:

Nelson Goerner (piano)
(recorded 1996; c/w Polonaise-fantaisie in A flat, Op.61; Nocturne in C minor, Op.48, No.1;
Scherzo No. 4 in E, Op.54; Barcarolle in F sharp, Op. 60; Ballade No. 4 in F minor, Op.52)
EMI 569701 2 (CD, budget)

Historic Choice:

Dinu Lipatti (piano)

(recorded 1947; c/w ENESCU Sonata No.3 in B Major, Op.25; LISZT Sonetto del Petrarca No. 104;

RAVEL Alborada del gracioso; BRAHMS Waltzes Op. 39 Nos. 1, 2, 5, 6, 10, 14, 15 (with Nadia Boulanger)

EMI 5675662 (CD, Mid-price)

Copland: Concerto for Clarinet & String Orchestra with Harp & Piano**Geoffrey Smith****22nd May 2004****First Choice:**

Richard Hosford (clarinet), The Chamber Orchestra of Europe, Thierry Fischer (conductor)

(recorded 1989; c/w Rodeo; *Sextet; *Quartet for Piano and Strings) * Vanbrugh Quartet

with Martin Roscoe (piano)

ASV PLT8504 (CD, mid-price)

Debussy: Jeux**Jonathan Swain****29th November 2003****First Choice:**

Cleveland Orchestra, Pierre Boulez (conductor) (recorded 1991;

c/w DEBUSSY Nocturnes; Premiere Rhapsodie – with Franklin Cohen, clarinet – ; La Mer

DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON 439 896-2 (CD)

Budget-price Choice:

Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Bernard Haitink (conductor) (recorded 1979;

c/w DEBUSSY Berceuse heroïque (Eduard van Beinum, conductor); Images;

Marche ecossaise; Prélude a l'Après-midi d'un faune; Nocturnes; La Mer;

Premiere Rhapsodie (with George Pieterse, clarinet);

Danses sacrée et profane (with Vera Badings, harp)

PHILIPS 438 742-2 (2-CD)

Historic Choice:

L'Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, Ernest Ansermet (conductor)
(recorded 1958; c/w DEBUSSY Prelude à l'Après-midi d'un faune;
La Mer; Khamma (orch. Charles Koechlin)
DECCA 470 255-2 (CD-budget)

Donizetti: Don Pasquale

Patrick O'Connor
4th October 2003

First Choice:

Renato Bruson (Don Pasquale), Eva Mei (Norina), Thomas Allen (Dottor Malatesta),
Frank Lopardo (Ernesto), Alfredo Giacomotti (Un Notaro), Bavarian Radio Chorus,
Munich Radio Orchestra, Roberto Abbado (conductor)
(recorded 1993)
RCA 09026 61924-2 (2-CD)

Mid-Price Choice:

Enzo Dara (Don Pasquale), Luciana Serra (Norina), Alessandro Corbelli (Dottor Malatesta),
Aldo Bertolo (Ernesto), Guido Pasella (Un Notaro), Orchestra and Chorus of the Teatro Regio di Torino,
Bruno Campanella (conductor) (recorded 1988)
NUOVO ERA 6715/16 (2-CD, mid-price)

Budget-price Choice (mono):

Sesto Bruscantini (Don Pasquale), Alda Noni (Norina), Mario Borriello (Dottor Malatesta),
Cesare Valletti (Ernesto), Armando Benzi (Un Notaro), Orchestra and Chorus of RAI Turin,
Mario Rossi (conductor) (recorded 1952)
WARNER FONIT 8573 87476-2 (2-CD, budget price)

Dvorak: Symphony No.7 in D Minor, Op.70

Rob Cowan
15th May 2004

First Choice:

Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, Rafael Kubelik (conductor) (recorded 1971; c/w Symphony No.8 in G Major, Op.88)
DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON 457 902-2 (CD, mid-price) IMS

Elgar: Cello Concerto in E Minor, Op.85**Richard Morrison
14th February 2004****First Choice:**

Jacqueline du Pre (cello), London Symphony Orchestra, Sir John Barbirolli (conductor)
(recorded 1965; c/w Sea Pictures, Janet Baker (mezzo),
EMI 556806 2 (CD – mid price)

Also available c/w DVORAK Cello Concerto EMI 555527 2 (CD)

Also available as part of: 'Jacqueline du Pre: The Concerto Collection';
also includes works by BOCCHERINI, HAYDN, SAINT-SAENS, MONN, DVORAK, DELIUS and STRAUSS
EMI 567341-2 (4-CD – mid price)

Modern Recording Choice:

Truls Mork (cello), City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Simon Rattle (conductor)
(recorded 1999; c/w BRITTEN Cello Symphony)
VIRGIN 545356 2 (CD)

Alternative Mid-price Choice:

Yo-Yo Ma (cello), London Symphony Orchestra, Andre Previn (conductor) (recorded 1984; c/w WALTON Cello Concerto)
SONY SMK89712 (CD)

Grieg: Piano Concerto in A Minor, Op.16**Lucy Parham
10th January 2004****First Choice:**

Radu Lupu (piano), London Symphony Orchestra, Andre Previn (conductor)
(recorded 1973; c/w SCHUMANN Piano Concerto in A Minor, Op.54)
DECCA (Legends) 466 383-2 (CD, mid-price)

Budget-price Choice:

Clifford Curzon (piano), London Symphony Orchestra, Oivin Fjeldstad (conductor) (recorded 1959; c/w *FRANCK Symphonic Variations; **SCHUMANN Piano Concerto in A Minor, Op.54: * London Philharmonic Orchestra, Adrian Boult (conductor), ** Friedrich Gulda (piano), Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra, Volkmar Andreae (conductor)
DECCA 433 628-2 (CD, budget)

Historic Choice (Mono):

Dinu Lipatti (piano), Philharmonia Orchestra, Alceo Galliera (conductor)
(recorded 1947; c/w *CHOPIN Piano Concerto No.1 in E Minor, Op.11; 2 Etudes):
* Tonhalle Orchestra Zurich, Otto Ackermann (conductor)
EMI 5748022 (CD, budget)

Franck: Symphonic Variations

David Owen Norris
25th October 2003

First Choice:

Louis Lortie (piano), BBC Philharmonic, Yan Pascal Tortelier (conductor) (recorded 2000; c/w Les Eolides; Symphony in D Minor)
CHANDOS CHAN 9875 (CD)

Mid-price Choice:

Artur Schnabel (piano) Symphony of the Air, Alfred Wallenstein (conductor) (recorded 1963; *SAINT-SAENS Piano Concerto No.2 in G Minor; RAVEL Valses nobles et sentimentale; Forlane; La vallee des cloches; DEBUSSY Jardins sous la pluie; La soiree dans grenade; Poisson d'or; La fille aux cheveux de lin; La cathedrale engloutie; Reflets dans l'eau; FAURE Nocturne; CHABRIER Scherzo-valse:
*The Philadelphia Orchestra, Eugene Ormandy (conductor)
RCA 74321 846062 (2-CD, mid-price)

Budget-price Choice:

Francois-Joel Thiollier (piano), Arnhem Philharmonic Orchestra, Roberto Benzi (conductor) (recorded 1995; c/w Les Djinns;
*Piano Concerto No.2 in B Minor, Op.11: * Martijn van der Hoek (piano)
NAXOS 8.553472 (CD, budget)

Historic Choice (Mono):

Alfred Cortot (piano) London Philharmonic Orchestra, Landon Ronald (conductor)

(recorded 1934; *SAINT-SAENS Piano Concerto No.4 in C Minor, Op.44; Etude in the form of a Waltz; +RAVEL Piano Concerto for the Left Hand: * 'Orchestra', Charles Munch (conductor), + L'Orchestre de la Societe des Concerts du Conservatoire, Paris, Charles Munch (conductor)
NAXOS 8.110613 (CD, budget)

Handel: Ode on St Cecilia's Day

**Jeremy Summerly
22nd November 2003**

First Choice:

Heather Harper (soprano), Peter Pears (tenor), Chorus of East Anglian Choirs,
English Chamber Orchestra, Benjamin Britten (conductor)
(recorded 1967; c/w BRITTEN Hankin Booby; Choral Dances from 'Gloriana')
BBCM BBCB 8009-2 (CD, Mid-price)

Period instrument choice:

Felicity Lott (soprano), Anthony Rolfe Johnson (tenor), English Concert Choir, English Concert,
Trevor Pinnock (conductor) (rec.1985)
ARCHIV 474 5492 (CD, Mid price)

Haydn: The Creation

**Dermot Clinch
10th July 2004**

First Choice:

Dorothea Roschmann (Soprano), Michael Schade (Tenor),
Christian Gerhaher (Baritone), Arnold Schoenberg Choir,
Concentus Musicus Wien, Nikolaus Harnoncourt (conductor) (recorded live 2003)
DEUTSCHE HARMONIA MUNDI 82876 583402 (2-CD)

Runner Up:

Ann Monoyios (Soprano), Jorg Hering (Tenor), Harry van der Kamp (Bass), Tolzer Knabenchor,
Tafelmusik, Bruno Weil (conductor) (recorded 1993)
SONY CLASSICAL SX2K 57965 (2-CD, budget)

Mid-Price Choice:

Gundula Janowitz (Soprano), Fritz Wunderlich & Werner Krenn (Tenor), Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau (Baritone), Walter Berry (Bass),

Christa Ludwig (contralto), Wiener Singverein, Berlin Philharmonic, Herbert von Karajan (conductor) (recorded 1966, 1968, 1969)
DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON 449 7612 (2-CD, mid-price)

Haydn: The Paris Symphonies

Denis McCaldin
13th March 2004

First Choice:

Orchestra of the 18th Century, Frans Bruggen (conductor) (recorded live 1996; c/w Sturm und Drang, Paris & London Symphonies)
PHILIPS 473 015-2 (13-CD, budget)

Also Recommended:

Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, Sigiswald Kuijken (conductor) (recorded 1989)
VIRGIN 5616592 (2-CD, budget)

Holst: The Planets

Piers Burton-Page
27th September 2003

First Choice:

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, Yoel Levi (conductor) (recorded 1998)
TELARC CD-80466 (CD)

Runner-Up Choice:

Philharmonia Orchestra, Sir John Eliot Gardiner (conductor) (recorded 1994; c/w GRAINGER The Warriors)
DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON 445 860-2 (CD)

Bargain Choice:

BBC Symphony Orchestra, Sir Andrew Davis (conductor) (recorded 1994 c/w Egon Heath)
APEX 8573 89087-2 (CD, budget)

Kodaly: Hary Janos

David Nice

6th March 2004

First Choice:

RIAS Symphony Orchestra Berlin, Ferenc Fricsay (conductor)
(recorded 1961; c/w Marosszeker Tanze; Tanze aus Galanta; Psalmus hungaricus, Op.13)
DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON 457 7452 (CD, mid-price)

Budget-Price Choice

London Symphony Orchestra, Istvan Kertesz (conductor)
(recorded 1970; c/w Dances of Galanta; Variations on a Hungarian Folk-song (The Peacock)
BELART 461 0122 (CD, budget)

Also Recommended:

The Cleveland Orchestra, George Szell (conductor) (recorded 1969; c/w MUSSORGSKY (orchestrated Ravel) Pictures at an Exhibition;
PROKOFIEV Lieutenant Kije Symphonic Suite, Op.60)
SONY SBK 48162 (CD, budget)

Mahler: Kindertotenlieder

**Hilary Finch
11th October 2003**

First Choice (baritone):

Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau (baritone), Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, Rudolf Kempe (conductor) (recorded 1955; c/w *Lieder eines fahrenden
Gesellen; **5 Gesänge aus "Des Knaben Wunderhorn"; **5 Ruckertlieder): * Philharmonia Orchestra, Wilhelm Furtwangler (conductor)
**Daniel Barenboim (piano)
EMI 567556 2 (CD, mid-price)

First Choice (mezzo):

Janet Baker (mezzo), Halle Orchestra, Sir John Barbirolli (conductor)
(recorded 1967; c/w Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen; *5 Ruckertlieder): * New Philharmonia Orchestra
EMI 566981 2 (CD, mid-price)

Historic Choice (mono):

Heinrich Rehkemper (baritone), Berlin State Opera Orchestra, Jascha Horenstein (conductor) (recorded 1928; c/w historic recordings of five other Mahler songs: Various singers; * 1924 acoustic recording of Symphony No.2: *Oskar Fried (conductor)
NAXOS 8.110152-3 (2-CD, budget)

Mendelssohn: Violin Concerto in E Minor, Op.64

**Ivan Hewett
24th April 2004**

First Choice:

Joshua Bell (violin), Camerata Salzburg, Sir Roger Norrington (conductor)
with original cadenza by Joshua Bell (Recorded 2000; c/w BEETHOVEN Violin Concerto in D Major, Op.61)
SONY SK 89505 (CD)

Historic Choice:

Yehudi Menuhin (violin), Orchestre des Concerts Colonne, George Enescu (conductor) (Recorded 1938 c/w *LALO Symphonie Espagnole;
*CHAUSSON Poeme, Op.25): * Paris Symphony Orchestra, George Enescu (conductor)
NAXOS 8.110967 (CD, budget)

Also available (c/w BRUCH Violin Concerto No.1 in G Minor; BACH Concerto for Two Violins in D Minor) on
AVID AMSC590 (CD, budget)

Mozart: Bassoon Concerto in B Flat Major, K191

**Anthony Burton
12th June 2004**

First Choice:

Julie Andrews (bassoon), Britten Sinfonia, Nicholas Cleobury (conductor) (recorded 1998; c/w Concerto in C for Flute, Harp & Orchestra, K 299;
Sinfonia Concertante in E Flat for Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon & Horn K297b)
CLASSIC FM 75605 570382 (CD, mid-price)

Mozart: The Magic Flute

John Deathridge
17th January 2004

First Choice:

Nicolai Gedda (Tamino), Gundula Janowitz (Pamina), Walter Berry (Papageno), Lucia Popp (Queen of the Night), Gottlob Frick (Sarastro), Franz Crass (Speaker), Elisabeth Schwarzkopf, Christa Ludwig, Marga Hoffgen (The Three Ladies), Ruth-Margret Putz (Papagena), Gerhard Unger (Monostatos), Agnes Giebel, Anna Reynolds, Josephine Veasey (The Three Boys), Philharmonia Chorus & Orchestra, Otto Klemperer (conductor) (recorded 1964)
EMI CMS 567388 2 (2-CD, mid-price)

Choice with Dialogue (Mono):

Josef Greindl (Sarastro), Rita Streich (Queen of the Night), Maria Stader (Pamina), Ernst Haefliger (Tamino), Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau (Papageno), Lisa Otto (Papagena), Kim Borg (Speaker), Marianne Schech, Liselotte Losch, Margarete Klose (The Three Ladies), Wilhelm Borchert, Howard Vandenburg, Siegmund Schneider (Three Priests), Martin Vantin (Monostatos), Margot Guillaume, Maria Reith, Diana Eustrati (The Three Boys), Howard Vandenburg, Kim Borg (Armoured Men), RIAS-Kammerchor, Berliner Motettenchor, RIAS Symphonie-Orchester Berlin, Ferenc Fricsay (conductor) (recorded 1954)
DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON 435 741-2 (2-CD, mid-price)

Choice with Dialogue (Stereo):

Franz Crass (Sarastro), Roberta Peters (Queen of the Night), Evelyn Lear (Pamina), Fritz Wunderlich (Tamino), Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau (Papageno), Lisa Otto (Papagena), Hans Hotter (Speaker), Hubert Hilten, Martin Vantin, Manfred Rohrl (Three Priests), Friedrich Lenz (Monostatos), Hildegard Hillebrecht, Cvetka Ahlin, Sieglinde Wagner (The Three Ladies), Rosl Schwaiger, Antonia Fahberg, Raili Kostia (Three Boys), James King, Martti Talvela (Armoured Men), RIAS-Kammerchor, Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, Karl Bohm (conductor) (recorded 1964)
DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON 449 749-2 (2-CD, mid-price)

Mozart: Requiem

Ivan Hewett
1st November 2003

First Choice:

Margaret Price (soprano), Trudeliene Schmidt (mezzo-soprano), Francisco Araiza (tenor), Theo Adam (bass), Leipzig Radio Choir, Staatskapelle Dresden, Peter Schreier (conductor) (recorded 1982; c/w Coronation Mass K.317; Ave Verum Corpus K.618)
PHILIPS 4647202 (CD, Mid-price)

* Also available on Gramophone Award Winners PHILIPS 475 2052 (CD, Mid-price)

Period instrument Choice:

Barbara Bonney (soprano), Anne Sofie von Otter (contralto), Hans Peter Blochwitz (tenor)
Willard White (bass), Monteverdi Choir, English Baroque Soloists, John Eliot Gardiner (conductor) (recorded 1986; c/w Kyrie (K.341)
PHILIPS 420 197-2 (CD)

Historic Choice (Mono):

Lisa della Casa (soprano), Ira Malaniuk (contralto), Anton Dermota (tenor), Cesare Siepi (bass), Konzertvereinigung Wiener Staatsopernchor,
Vienna Philharmonic, Bruno Walter (conductor) (recorded 1956; c/w Symphony in G minor K.183)
ORFEO C 430 961 B (CD, mid-price)

Rachmaninov: Vespers

William McVicker
28th February 2004

First Choice:

National Academic Choir of Ukraine "Dumka", Olga Berusene (soprano), Yuri Korinnyk (tenor), Mykhaylo Tyshchenko (tenor),
Yevhen Savchuk (conductor) (recorded 2000)
REGIS RRC1043 (CD, budget)

Also Recommended:

Choir of King's College, Cambridge, Jan Lochmann (Deacon, bass), Richard Eteson (Priest, tenor), Margaret Cameron (alto),
James Gilchrist (tenor), Stephen Cleobury (conductor) (recorded 1998)
EMI 5567522 (CD, mid-price)

Ravel: Gaspard de la Nuit

Stephen Plaistow
27th March 2004

First Choice:

Jean-Efflam Bavouzet (piano)
(recorded 2003; c/w The Complete Solo Piano Works)
MUSIKPRODUKTION DABRINGHAUS UND GRIMM 604 1190-2 (2-CD)

Mid-Price Recommendation:

Louis Lortie (piano) (recorded 1988; c/w The Complete Solo Piano Works)
CHANDOS CHAN 10142X (2-CD, mid-price)

Historic Recommendation:

Vlado Perlemuter (piano) (recorded 1973; c/w The Complete Solo Piano Works)
NIMBUS NI 7713/4 (2-CD, mid-price)

D. Scarlatti: Stabat Mater

Jeremy Summerly
10th April 2004

First Choice:

Ensemble William Byrd, Yannick Varlet (organ), Graham O'Reilly (conductor)
(recorded 1999; c/w Messa Breve 'La Stella'; Te Deum Laudamus; Iste Confessor;
A. SCARLATTI O Magnum Mysterium)
PIERRE VERANY PV799111 (CD)

Budget-price Choice:

Choir of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, Anthony Pleeth (cello), Chi-Chi Nwanoku (double bass), Timothy Byram-Wigfield (organ), Francis Grier (conductor/organ*) ** Charles Harris (treble), Nicholas Clapton (countertenor) (recorded 1985; c/w **Salve Regina; *Sonatas for Organ in D Major, Kk288; in G Major, Kk328; in C Minor, Kk254; in D Major Kk287; in C Major Kk255)
HELIOS CDH 55172 (CD, budget)

Schubert: Impromptus

Sarah Walker
15th November 2003

Modern Choice (Op.90, D899 & Op.142, D 935 only):

Mitsuko Uchida (piano) (recorded 1996)
PHILIPS 456 245-2 (CD)

First Choice (Op.90, D 899, Op.142, D 935 & Three Pieces Op. post, D 946):

Alfred Brendel (piano) (recorded 1962; c/w Moments Musicaux Op.94 (D 780); *Fantasia in F Minor for Piano 4-Hands Op.103 (D 940); *Allegro in A Minor for Piano 4-Hands Op 144, (D 947); *'Grand Duo' Sonata in C Major for Piano 4-Hands Op.140 (D812); Fantasy in C Op 15 'Wanderer' (D 760); SCHUBERT-LISZT Fantasy in C Major for Piano and Orchestra: * Evelyne Crochet (2nd piano), Orchestra of the Vienna Volksoper, Michael Gielen (conductor)
VOX CD3X 3041 (3-CD, budget)

Schubert: Mass in A Flat Major D678

Richard Wigmore

7th February 2004

First Choice:

Anna Korondi (soprano), Anke Vondung (mezzo), Andreas Karasiak (tenor), Kay Stieffermann (bass), RIAS-Kammerchor, Orchestre des Champs Elysees, Philippe Herreweghe (conductor)
(recorded live in 2002; c/w MENDELSSOHN Psalm 42 "Wie der Hirsch schreit")
HARMONIA MUNDI HMC 901786 (CD)

Budget-price Choice:

SCHUBERT The Complete Masses: Stefan Preyer, Benjamin Schmidinger, Alexander Nader, Thomas Puchegger (trebles), Thomas Weinhappel, Albin Lenzer, Georg Leskovich, Bela Fischer (altos), Jorg Hering, Kurt Azesberger (tenors), Harry van der Kamp (bass), Arno Hartmann (organ), Viennese Chorus, Vienna Sangerknaben, Orchestra of the Age Of Enlightenment, Bruno Weil (conductor)
(recorded in 1993; c/w The Complete Schubert Masses)
SONY SB4K90380 (4-CD, budget)

Sibelius: Violin Concerto in D Minor, Op.47

Roderick Swanston

31st January 2004

First Choice:

Joshua Bell (violin), Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra, Esa-Pekka Salonen (conductor)
(recorded 1999; c/w GOLDMARK Concerto for Violin and Orchestra No. 1 in A minor)
SONY SK65949 (CD)

Mid-price Choice:

Cho-Liang Lin (violin), Philharmonia Orchestra, Esa-Pekka Salonen (conductor)
(recorded 1988; c/w NIELSEN Concerto for Violin and Orchestra, Op.33)
SONY SMK89748 (CD, mid-price)

Budget-price Choice:

Gidon Kremer (violin), +Philharmonia Orchestra, Riccardo Muti (conductor) (recorded 1982; c/w *BRAHMS Violin Concerto in D, Op.77;
+SCHUMANN Violin Concerto in D Minor, Op. post; WEBER Grand Duo Concertant, Op. 48; HINDEMITH Violin Sonata in E Flat, Op.11;
SCHNITTKE Quasi una sonata): Berlin Philharmonic, Herbert von Karajan (conductor), Andrei Gavrilov (piano)
EMI 5693342 (2-CD, budget)

Historic Choice:

*Ginette Neveu (violin), Philharmonia Orchestra, Walter Susskind (conductor) (recorded 1945; c/w *BRAHMS Violin Concerto, Op.77)*
Issay Dobrowen (conductor)
EMI 7610112 (CD, mid-price)

*Also available c/w Symphony No.2
DUTTON CDBP9733 (CD, budget)

+Jascha Heifetz (violin), London Philharmonic Orchestra, Thomas Beecham (conductor) (recorded 1935; c/w *TCHAIKOVSKY Violin Concerto in
D Major, Op.35; *WIENIAWSKI Violin Concerto No. 2 in D Minor, Op.22): * John Barbirolli (conductor)
NAXOS 8.110938 (CD, budget)

+Also available c/w TCHAIKOVSKY & GLAZUNOV Violin Concertos on EMI 7640302 (CD, mid-price);
c/w TCHAIKOVSKY, MOZART Violin Concerto No.5, GLAZUNOV & BEETHOVEN Concertos; PEARL GEMM CDS9157 (2-CD, mid)

Stravinsky: The Rite of Spring

Peter Hill
26th June 2004

First Choice:

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, Yoel Levi (conductor)
(recorded 1991; c/w Pulcinella Suite)
TELARC CD 80266 (CD)

Runner-up Choice:

City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Sir Simon Rattle (recorded 1987; c/w Apollo)
EMI 749636 2 (CD)

Budget-Price Choices:

Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Antal Dorati (conductor) (recorded 1981; c/w Petrushka)
DECCA 448 226-2 (CD, budget)

London Philharmonic Orchestra, Sir Charles Mackerras (conductor)
(recorded 1987; c/w Fireworks, Op.4; Circus Polka; Greeting Prelude 'Happy Birthday')
CLASSICS FOR PLEASURE CFP 5 73441 2 8 (CD, budget)

Philharmonia Orchestra, Esa-Pekka Salonen (conductor) (recorded 1989; c/w The Firebird)
SONY SBK89894 (CD, budget)

Philharmonia Orchestra, Elisha Inbal (conductor) (recorded 1989; c/w Petrouchka; The Firebird; Scherzo Fantastique, Op.3)
ULTIMA 0630189642 (2-CD, budget)

Historic Choices:

The Philadelphia Orchestra, Leopold Stokowski (conductor) (recorded 1929 & 1930; c/w BACH – STOKOWSKI Toccata and Fugue in D Minor, BWV 565; TCHAIKOVSKY Nutcracker Suite; DUKAS The Sorcerer's Apprentice; MUSSORGSKY–STOKOWSKI A Night on the Bare Mountain)
PEARL GEMM CD 9488 (CD, mid-price)

Philharmonia Orchestra, Igor Markevitch (conductor) (recorded 1959; c/w their 1951 Rite of Spring recording)
TESTAMENT SBT 1076 (CD, mid-price)

Stravinsky: The Soldier's Tale

Nick Morgan
8th November 2003

First Choice (in French):

Gerard Carrat (Narrator), François Berthet (Soldier), François Simon (Devil), Nicolas Chumachenko (Violin), instrumental ensemble,
Charles Dutoit (Conductor) (recorded 1970; c/w Renard, Pulcinella, Le chant du rossignol)
APEX 2564 61367-2 (2-CD, budget)

English Choice:

David Timson (Narrator), Benjamin Soames (Soldier), Jonathan Keeble (Devil),

Northern CO, Nicholas Ward (Violin/Director) (recorded 1995/1998; c/w Concerto in Eb 'Dumbarton Oaks')
NAXOS 8.553662 (CD, budget)

First Choice Suite:

Prague Chamber Harmony, Libor Pesek (conductor) (recorded 1964; c/w Octet for Wind Instruments; Symphonies of Wind Instruments; Piano Rag-Music; *Ragtime for 11 Instruments; *Ebony Concerto: Jan Novotny (piano), Katerina Zlatnikova (dulcimer), Karel Krautgartner (clarinet), Karel Krautgartner Orchestra, Karel Krautgartner (conductor)
SUPRAPHON SU 31682 (CD, budget)

Vivaldi: Flute Concertos Op.10

George Pratt
21st February 2004

First Choice Flute Version:

Lisa Beznosiuk (flute), The English Concert, Trevor Pinnock (director/harpsichord)
(recorded 1987; c/w various Vivaldi Concerti)
ARCHIV 471 317-2 (5-CD, budget)

First Choice Chamber Version:

Giovanni Antonini (recorder), Il Giardino Armonico (recorded 1990; c/w Complete Concerti da Camera)
TELDEC 9031770402 (4-CD, budget)

Budget-Price, Single-disc Choice:

Bela Drahos (flute), Nicolaus Esterhazy Sinfonia (recorded 1995)
NAXOS 8.553101 (CD, budget)

Weber: Clarinet Quintet in B Flat Major, Op.34

Colin Lawson
24th January 2004

First Choice:

Pascal Moragues (clarinet), Prazak Quartet (recorded 2001; c/w Grand Duo Concertant in E Flat Major, Op.48; Variations on a Theme from Silvana, Op.33)
PRAGA DIGITALS PRD 250 164 (CD)

Mid-price Choice:

Antony Pay (clarinet), Members of the Nash Ensemble (recorded 1981; c/w Trio in G Minor for Flute, Cello and Piano):

Judith Pearce (flute), Christopher van Kampen (cello), Ian Brown (piano)
CRD 3398 (CD, mid-price)

Weill: The Threepenny Opera

Christopher Cook
5th June 2004

First Choice:

Rene Kollo (Macheath), Mario Adorf (Peachum), Helga Dernesch (Frau Peachum), Ute Lemper (Polly), Milva (Jenny), Wolfgang Reichmann (Brown), Susanne Tremper (Lucy), Rolf Boysen (Ausrüfer), RIAS Kammerchor, RIAS Berlin Sinfonietta, John Mauceri (conductor) (recorded 1988)
DECCA 430 075-2 (CD)

Of Historic Interest (Highlights featuring):

Lotte Lenya, Kurt Gerron, Erich Ponto, Willi Trenk-Trebitsch, Erika Helmke, Ruth Lewis Band, Theo Mackeben (conductor) (recorded 1930; c/w The Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny; NELSON Das Nachtgespenst; Peter; HOLLAENDER Guck doch nicht immer nach dem Tangoeiger hin; Jonny; GROSZ Vom Seemann Kuttel Daddeldu)
TELDEC 0927 426632 (CD, mid-price)

CRITICS' CHOICE 2003 – recommended discs

chaired by Andrew McGregor
13th December 2003

Hilary Finch's choices:

CORELLI Violin Sonatas, Op.5:
Andrew Manze (violin), Richard Egarr (harpsichord)
HARMONIA MUNDI HMU 907298.99 (2-CD, mid-price)

SCHUMANN String Quartet No. 1 in A minor, Op. 41, No. 1 and String Quartet No. 3 in A major, Op. 41, No. 3; Zehetmair Quartet
ECM 1793 (CD)

LEIFS Complete Songs:
Finnur Bjarnason (tenor), Orn Magnusson (piano)
SMEKKLEYSA SMK20 (2-CD)

DEBUSSY Melodies de jeunesse; Ariettes oubliées; Proses lyriques; Trois poèmes de Stéphane Mallarmé:
Sandrine Piau (soprano), Jos Van Immerseel (piano: Erard 1897)

NAÏVE V4932 (CD)

David Nice's choices:

PROKOFIEV Sinfonia Concertante in E Minor for Cello and Orchestra, Op.125; Sonata in C for Cello and Piano, Op.119:
Han-Na Chang (cello), London Symphony Orchestra, Antonio Pappano (conductor/ piano)
EMI 557438 2 (CD)

CD entitled 'Forbidden Music': KLEIN String Trio; Kaddish; Duo for Violin & Cello; KRASA Passacaglia & Fugue (String Trio); Tanec (Dance for String Trio); SCHULHOFF Duo for Violin & Cello; Sonata for Solo Violin: Daniel Hope (violin), Philip Dukes (viola), Paul Watkins (cello)
NIMBUS NI 5702 (CD)

CAINE/BEETHOVEN Diabelli Variations (arr. Uri Caine after Beethoven): Concerto Koln, Uri Kaine (piano)
WINTER & WINTER 910 086-2 (CD)

RAUTAVAARA Apotheosis; TCHAIKOVSKY Symphony No.6 in B Minor, Op.74 'Pathetique':
Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra, Mikko Franck (conductor)
ONDINE ODE 1002-2 (CD)

Andrew McGregor's choice:

BEETHOVEN Complete Symphonies: Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra, Sir Simon Rattle (conductor)
EMI 557 445-2 (5-CD, mid-price)

Harriet Smith's choices:

VIVALDI 'La Stravaganza' – 12 concertos Op. 4: Rachel Podger (violin), Arte Dei Suonatori
CHANNEL CLASSICS CCS 19598 (2-CD)

SCHUMANN Piano Concerto in A Minor, Op.54; GRIEG Piano Concerto in A Minor, Op.16: Leif Ove Andsnes (piano), Berlin Philharmonic,
Mariss Jansons (conductor)
EMI 557562 2 (CD)

LIGETI Hamburg Concerto (Horn Concerto); Double Concerto for Flute, Oboe & Orchestra; Ramifications; *Requiem (from CD entitled 'The Ligeti Edition Volume 4'): Marie Luise Neunecker (horn), Jacques Zoon (flute), Heinz Holliger (oboe), Caroline Stein (soprano),
Margriet van Reisen (mezzo), London Voices, Asko Ensemble, Schoenberg Ensemble, Reinbert de Leeuw (conductor), *Berlin Philharmonic
Orchestra, Jonathan Nott (conductor)
TELDEC 8573 88263-2 (CD)

PART Dopo la vittoria, Nunc dimittis; ... which was the Son of; I am the true vine; Littlemore Tractus; Triodion; *My heart's in the Highlands;
Salve Regina: *David James (countertenor), Christopher Bowers Broadbent (organ), Polyphony, Stephen Layton (conductor)
HYPERION CDA 67375 (CD)

LISTENERS' DISCS OF THE YEAR 2003 (as voted for by listeners to "CD Review"):

CHOPIN Mazurkas Op.63; Ballade No.3 in A Flat Major, Op.47; Ballade No.4 in F Minor, Op.52; Mazurkas Op.59, Polonaise No 5 in F Sharp Minor; Polonaise No.6 in A Flat Major; Mazurka in F Minor Op.68 No.4: Piotr Anderszewski (piano)
VIRGIN VC 5456202 (CD)

MAHLER 4 Lieder (Ruckertlieder); 4 Lieder (Des Knaben Wunderhorn); HAYDN Arianna a Naxos; SCHUMANN Frauenliebe und leben:
Alice Coote (mezzo), Julius Drake (piano)
EMI (Debut) 5855592 (CD, budget)

BRITTEN Violin Concerto, Op.15 (revised version); WALTON Viola Concerto (1961 version):
Maxim Vengerov (violin/viola), London Symphony Orchestra, Mstislav Rostropovich (conductor)
EMI 557510 2 (CD)

THE LISTENERS' DISC OF THE YEAR 2003 (as voted for by listeners to "CD Review"):

BAX The Symphonies: BBC Philharmonic, Vernon Handley (conductor) (CD5 Vernon Handley interviewed)
CHANDOS CHAN 10122 (5-CD, mid-price)

FAVOURITE RECORDINGS CHOSEN BY THE PANEL:

Chris Craker's choice:

RACHMANINOV *Symphony No.2 in E Minor, Op.27 (excerpt from slow movement played c/w Vocalise; Aleko – Intermezzo & Women's Dance):
The London Symphony Orchestra, Andre Previn (conductor) (recorded 1973)
EMI 566982 2 (CD, mid-price 'G.R.O.C.')

Joanna Macgregor's choice:

BRITTEN Winterreise D911 (Gute Nacht, played): Peter Pears (tenor), Benjamin Britten (piano) (recorded 1963)
DECCA 466 3822 (CD, mid-price)

Harriet Smith's choice:

BACH Concerto for 2 Violins, Strings & Continuo in D Minor, BWV 1043 (Slow movement played; c/w Violin Concerto in A Minor, BWV 1041;
Violin Concerto in E Major, BWV 1042): David & Igor Oistrach (violins), Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Sir Eugene Goossens (conductor)
(recorded 1962)
DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON 449 8442 (CD, budget)

Peter Alward's choice:

VERDI Falstaff (end of Act II played): Giuseppe Valdengo (Falstaff), Herva Nelli (Mistress Alice Ford), Nan Merriman (Mistress Meg Page), Cloe
Elmo (Mistress Quickly), Frank Guarrera (Ford), Teresa Stich-Randall (Nannetta), Antonio Madasi (Fenton), Gabor Carelli (Dr Caius), John
Carmen Rossi (Bardolph), Norman Scott (Pistol), Robert Shaw Chorale, NBC Symphony Orchestra, Arturo Toscanini (conductor)
(recorded 1950)
RCA 74321723722 (2-CD, mid-price)

RUNNERS UP – THE GREATEST RECORDINGS EVER (as voted for by listeners to "CD Review"):

BEETHOVEN Symphonies 5 & 7: Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra,
Carlos Kleiber (conductor) (recorded 1975 & 1976)
DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON 447 4002 (CD, mid-price 'Originals'.)

VAUGHAN WILLIAMS *Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis (coupled with Fantasia on Greensleeves; ELGAR Introduction & Allegro for Strings; Serenade for Strings; Elegy; Sospiri): Sinfonia of London, Sir John Barbirolli (conductor) (*recorded 1962)
EMI 5672402 (CD, mid-price, 'G.R.O.C.')

BRITTEN War Requiem: Galina Vishnevskaya (soprano), Peter Pears (tenor), Dietrich Fischer Dieskau (baritone), Melos Ensemble, London Symphony Orchestra & Chorus, Highgate School Choir, Simon Preston (organ), Benjamin Britten (conductor) (recorded 1963)
DECCA 414 3832 (2-CD)

LISTENERS' GREATEST DISC EVER (as voted for by listeners to "CD Review"):

WAGNER The Ring Cycle (complete):
Various Soloists (see below), Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra,
Sir Georg Solti (conductor) (recorded 1958-1965)
DECCA 455 555 2 (14-CD, mid-price)

Das Rheingold: George London (Wotan), Kirsten Flagstad (Fricka), Claire Watson (Freia), Waldemar Kmentt (Froh), Eberhard Wachter (Donner), Set Svanholm (Loge), Paul Kuen (Mime), Jean Madeira (Erda), Gustav Neidlinger (Alberich), Walter Kreppel (Fasolt), Kurt Bohme (Fafner), Oda Balsborg (Woglinde), Hetty Plumacher (Wellgunde), Ira Malaniuk (Flosshilde), Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra,
Sir Georg Solti (conductor) (recorded 1958)
DECCA 455 556 2 (2-CD)

Die Walkure: James King (Siegfried), Regine Crespin (Sieglinde), Gottlob Frick (Hunding), Hans Hotter (Wotan), Birgit Nilsson (Brunnhilde), Christa Ludwig (Fricka), Brigitte Fassbaender (Waltraute), Berit Lindholm (Helmwige), Helga Dernesch (Ortlinde), Vera Schlosser (Gerhilde), Helen Watts (Schwertleite), Vera Little (Siegfrune), Claudia Hellmann (Rosswesse), Marilyn Tyler (Grimgerde), Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra,
Sir Georg Solti (conductor) (recorded 1965)
DECCA 455 559 2 (4-CD)

Siegfried: Wolfgang Windgassen (Siegfried), Birgit Nilsson (Brunnhilde), Hans Hotter (Der Wanderer), Gerhard Stolze (Mime), Gustav Neidlinger (Alberich), Kurt Bohme (Fafner), Marga Hoffgen (Erda), Joan Sutherland (Der Waldvogel), Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra,
Sir Georg Solti (conductor) (recorded 1962)
*DECCA 455 564 2 (4-CD)

Gotterdammerung: Wolfgang Windgassen (Siegfried), Birgit Nilsson (Brunnhilde), Gustav Neidlinger (Alberich), Gottlob Frick (Hagen), Claire Watson (Gutrune), Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau (Gunther), Christa Ludwig (Waltraute), Lucia Popp (Woglinde), Gwyneth Jones (Wellgunde), Maureen Guy (Flosshilde), Helen Watts (1.Norn), Grace Hoffman (2. Norn), Anita Valkki (3. Norn), Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra, Sir Georg Solti (conductor) (recorded 1964)
*DECCA 455 569 2 (4-CD)

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