

“The mastery of a great symphonist can already be felt”

With their current CD, General Music Director Marcus Bosch and the Staatsphilharmonie Nürnberg finish their recording of all the symphonic works of Antonín Dvořák.



Antonín Dvořák (1841-1904)

SYMPHONY NO. 2 IN B-FLAT MAJOR OP. 4

[1] I. ALLEGRO CON MOTO

[2] II. POCO ADAGIO

[3] III. SCHERZO: ALLEGRO CON BRIO

[4] IV. FINALE, ALLEGRO CON FUOCO

[5] THE GOLDEN SPINNING WHEEL OP. 109

Staatsphilharmonie Nürnberg
Marcus Bosch *conductor*

1 SACD | Coviello Classics | COV 91735 | German Release: 2 March 2018

The much-acclaimed Dvořák cycle is complete. Marcus Bosch and the Staatsphilharmonie Nürnberg have saved up a lesser-known early work for the last CD: Dvořák's Second Symphony was written in 1865, shortly after the First. Here, too, we can observe a young composer engaged in the exciting quest to find his own individual language. References to German models such as Beethoven and Schumann are clearly to be heard, while the Bohemian flavour that was later to be typical of his works is still not particularly pronounced, even if it often makes a brief appearance.

But the symphonic poem “The Golden Spinning Wheel”, written some 30 years later, shows the supremely confident master. As in the other works he wrote in this genre, Dvořák bases his piece on a tale by the writer Karel Jaromír Erben – an extremely gruesome one, with brutal murders and mutilations. The brilliant combination of a sometimes almost literal interpretation of the text with sonata form marks a high point among Dvořák's symphonic poems and, in Marcus Bosch's customary thrilling interpretation, forms a worthy conclusion to the cycle.

Since 2011, General Music Director Marcus Bosch and the Staatsphilharmonie Nürnberg have performed and recorded all the symphonies by Antonin Dvořák. Their complete recording of Dvořák's symphonic works consists of seven CDs. The cycle is based on live recordings of Philharmonic Concerts in Nuremberg by the radio station Deutschlandradio Kultur. Music critics have been enthusiastic in their reactions. The “Aachener Zeitung” wrote of the recently-issued recording of the First Symphony: “An altogether successful continuation of a high-quality Dvořák cycle that can definitely bear comparison with those of more prominent interpreters.” And Alain Steffen, writing on pizzicato.lu, entitled his article about the same album “Top-class Dvořák”.

To conclude the project, which was carried out in cooperation with Deutschlandradio Kultur and the label Coviello Classics, the nine symphonies and Dvořák's late symphonic poems will be issued as a box set.

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