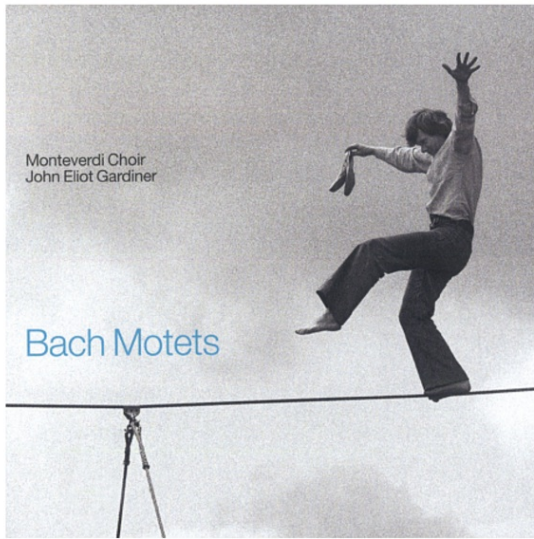


August 2012

GRAMOPHONE *Choice*



Informed by our unrivalled panel of critics, we choose the month's must-hear recordings



Recording of the Month

'Gardiner challenges orthodoxy in how these a cappella holy grails are fundamentally signposted with persuasive passion and genuine zeal'

JS BACH

Motets, BWV225-30. Ich lasse dich nicht, du segnest mich denn, BWVAnh 159

Monteverdi Choir /
John Eliot Gardiner
SDG SDG716

► JONATHAN FREEMAN-ATTWOOD'S REVIEW IS ON PAGE 42



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BRUCKNER

Symphony No 9
Berlin Philharmonic
Orchestra /
Sir Simon Rattle
EMI 952969-2

'I can't think of many recent releases that are more musically important than this. If you love Bruckner's Ninth, you have a duty to hear it.'

► REVIEW ON PAGE 44



DEBUSSY

Orchestral Works
Royal Scottish
National Orchestra /
Stéphane Denève
Chandos CHSA5102

'These performances convey both the dynamism and the delicacy of the music with understanding and stimulating freshness.'

► REVIEW ON PAGE 45



VIVALDI

La cetra, Op 9
Holland Baroque Society /
Rachel Podger *vn*
Channel Classics
CCSA33412

'Podger plays with her customary beauty of tone, purity of tuning and lively variety of articulation, giving a delightfully unforced, spontaneous impression.'

► REVIEW ON PAGE 53



BEETHOVEN

Diabelli Variations
Andreas Staier *fp*
Harmonia Mundi
HMC90 2091

'Perfectly judged tempi, angular demeanour, characterful contrasts, biting accents and cumulative sweep add up to a performance that abounds with probing details.'

► REVIEW ON PAGE 64



CHOPIN

Piano Works
Janina Fialkowska *pf*
ATMA Classique ACD2 2666
HMC90 2091

'When you hear her unleash such a formidable tempest of sound in the *presto* storms of the Second Ballade, you seem to see Delacroix's pained and tortured portrait of the composer.'

► REVIEW ON PAGE 66