

Reviews

4	Index to reviews
44	Orchestral
68	Chamber
78	Instrumental
84	Choral and song
106	Opera and video
120	Collectors' corner
122	Brass and military

Features

14 Sir Simon Rattle

The conductor talks to the pianist Imogen Cooper about recording opera, future plans with the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra and of course his former orchestra, the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, and his ground-breaking series of television programmes on twentieth-century music, *Leaving Home*



Sir Simon Rattle
Photo EMII/Gusor

122 Brass and military

Major Richard Powell examines the history and current state of military bands while James Watson, conductor of the world-famous Black Dyke Mills Band, talks about his recording premiere of a new transcription of Holst's *The Planets*



The Coldstream Guards
Photo Bandleader

2 Gramophone February 1997

Regulars

6 Letters

More thoughts on the state of the industry and responses to our covermounted CD

32 What next?



James Jolly goes back to basics, taking as his starting point Beethoven's Ninth Symphony as he explores symphonies for chorus and orchestra



A4 North American retrospect

Barrymore Laurence Scherer has been listening to Gluck through the eyes of Berlioz and comparing two recordings of *Don Giovanni* as well as giving a warm welcome to the return of a classic set of *bel canto* singing (follows page 32, only in the North American edition)

33 Replay

In this month's survey of reissues Robert Cowan has been looking at recordings of baroque music that have little to do with authenticity and mainstream repertoire from great conductors of the past

36 Collection

Think of cello concertos written this century and those by Elgar and Shostakovich might be among the first to spring to mind. But, as Guy Rickards reveals, that is by no means the end of the story



40 Quarterly retrospect

With two major centenaries falling this year, Robert Layton has been listening to issues of Brahms and Schubert both old and new. He has also been looking at some recent releases of French orchestral music

75 Gramophone Concert-going

The directory for concert promoters to advertise their forthcoming plans to *Gramophone* readers

164 UK label distribution directory

168 New releases

Our listing of the month's releases

172 Index to advertisers

176 Hindsight

Alan Sanders looks back through issues of *Gramophone* from 70, 50 and 30 years ago

News

10 For the record

News of recent contract signings, a book on opera houses and memories of Dame Joan Hammond

18 Passing notes

The young Bulgarian mezzo-soprano, Vesselina Kasarova, talks to Richard Fairman about her new record of celebrated arias, Victor Pablo Pérez, a man with a mission, discusses recording Roberto Gerhard with Lionel Salter, Michael Oliver has been engrossed in a batch of new books on opera while Clive Portbury has been comparing star ratings in three CD guides. Forgotten Schubert is Christoph Sperring's current preoccupation, with the premiere recording of a one-act *Singspiel* and the retirement of Jan Timmer, the man who brought us Compact Disc, is marked by Edward Greenfield. Another innovator, Julian Vereker, who founded Naim Audio, talks to Nick Kimberley



Vesselina Kasarova
Photo RCA Red Seal



Christoph Sperring
Photo Opus 111



Osmo Vänskä
Photo Sinfonia
Lahiti/Sirkka