

#### SOUNDS OF YORK MINSTER

Directed by Philip Moore John Scott Whiteley, organ Séan Farrell, Organ Scholar David Potter, Ringing Master York Minster Choir and Organ York Minster Society of Change Ringers

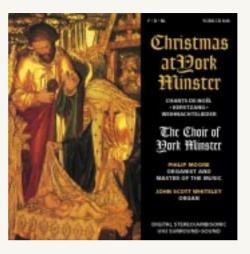
YORK CD 103 • DDD • 54.34 Barcode: 5015414221038

The Heavy Octave and Great Peter; **Mozart** Dies irae; **Noble** Grieve not the Holy Spirit of God; **Handel** Overture to the Occasional Oratorio; **Bairstow** Lord, I call upon thee; **Stanley** Trumpet Tune; He that is down (Tune: York); **Moore** Through the day; **Bruckner** Os justi; **Festing** Largo, Allegro, Aria and Variations; **Britten** Hymn of St. Columba; **Bairstow** Jesu, the very thought of thee; **Widor** Toccata; Plain Bob Triples.

The opening peal, in a magical way, is a perfect evocation of this great cathedral of the north... **Gramophone.** 

For me, it revives pleasant memories of Evensong one winter evening in York when, revelling in the splendid music from voices and organ that filled the vault, I wondered if anything could fully capture the thrilling scale, weight and shining brilliance of those sounds. Well, this recording comes excitingly close... Altogether a fine sampling of the Minster's proud musical tradition. Performance 9 Sound 10. **Which Compact Disc.** 

This CD combines interest and variety with musical quality. It introduces all the voices of York Minster, the bells, the organ and the choir; it includes music by former organists of the Minster and pieces connected with it in some way; the programme spans 250 years and several countries, revealing the imagination of the planner and the versatility of the performers. All the performances are of a high standard and the recording captures the feel of the Minster, making this a very attractive CD. **Organists' Review.** 



## CHRISTMAS AT YORK MINSTER

The Choir of York Minster Directed by Philip Moore John Scott Whiteley, organ

YORK CD 846 • DDD • 56.26 Barcode: 5015414228464

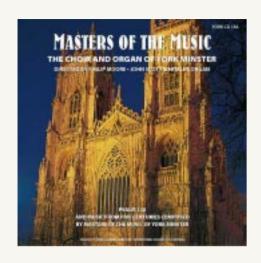
°We've been awhile a-wandering Trad. arr. Vaughan Williams; Away in a manger Kirkpatrick arr. Philip Moore; Noël Mulet; See amid the winter's snow Goss/Caswall; I saw three ships Trad. arr. Francis Jackson; I sing of a maiden Lennox Berkeley; Offertoire sur des Noëls Commette; O come, O come Emmanuel Arr. Andrew Carter; A babe is born William Mathias; The Holy Boy John Ireland; Tomorrow shall be my dancing day John Gardner; I sing the birth M. Praetorius arr. Philip Moore; Benedicamus Domino Peter Warlock; A great and mighty wonder M. Praetorius; A child is born in Bethlehem Scheidt ed. Willcocks; O little town of Bethlehem Trad. arr. Vaughan Williams; The three kings Peter Cornelius arr. Atkin; Unto us a boy is born Piae Cantiones arr. Geoffrey Shaw; Carillon de Longpont Vierne.

York Minster's boys are cultivated in sound, bright and forward, and the men more operatic than might be imagined from the stereotype. But the most gratifying observation has to do with the liberal sense of interpretation. Phrases and dynamics are wonderfully shaped.

The American Organist.

A likeable selection with some good organ solos. **Gramophone.** 

This is a lovely album with many firm favourites with some, such as Away in a manger, in attractive new arrangements... The French organ solos are attractive as well as an arrangement of The Holy Boy... Hauntingly beautiful I sing of a maiden by Lennox Berkeley... This album is having many playings and October is not out as I write these words. **Braille Music Magazine.** 



#### MASTERS OF THE MUSIC

The Choir and Organ of York Minster
Directed by Philip Moore
John Scott Whiteley, organ

YORK CD 164 • DDD • 64.44 Barcode: 5015414221649

Psalm 150 and music from five centuries composed by Masters of the Music of York Minster.

Thorne Stella coeli; Hutchinson Behold, how good and joyful a thing it is; Quarles Out of the deep; Nares The souls of the righteous; Matthew Camidge Concerto for Organ No 1; Monk Angel voices; Naylor If ye then be risen with Christ; Noble Te Deum in B minor; Bairstow I sat down under His shadow; Bairstow Though I speak with the tongues of men; Jackson Benedicite in G; Moore Prayer before the crucifix; Moore O quam gloriosum; Talbot Psalm 150.

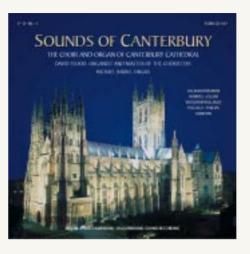
This is a thoroughly satisfying disc... Yorkshire Evening Press.

York Minster has produced a fascinating disc of music written by a whole succession of its Masters of the Music... **BBC Music Magazine.** 

... engaging disc ... sung with impressive enthusiasm... Yorkshire Post.

The performance standard here is very high...a fine program very well presented.

American Record Guide.



### SOUNDS OF CANTERBURY

The Choir and Organ of Canterbury Cathedral Directed by David Flood Michael Harris, organ

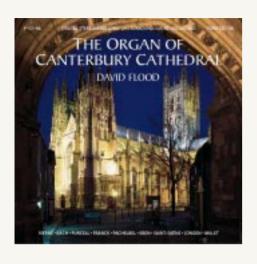
YORK CD 107 • DDD • 68.28 Barcode: 5015414221076

Handel Zadok the Priest; Piccolo Jesus walking; Piccolo Wonder; Elgar The Spirit of the Lord; Allegri Miserere; Philips Ecce vicit Leo; Gibbons O Clap your hands; Vaughan Williams Five Mystical Songs; Vaughan Williams Lord, thou hast been our refuge.

Choirmaster Flood's interpretations and eye for nuance inspire brilliant, even virtuoso singing never unmindful of the delicate equilibrium between the polyphonic line and the coloration of harmony. **The American Organist.** 

The 30-voice Canterbury Cathedral Choir presents an eclectic programme... allowing them to display a broad tonal palette. Anthony Piccolo's two works show the choir's strength in the modern idiom... Gregorio Allegri's Miserere presents a musical challenge for the choir, as the solo treble line rises to a high c. The chorister seems to handle it effortlessly, and the performance of this Renaissance work makes for a memorable rendition. Excellent opportunities to display the choir's tonal range are provided by Vaughan Williams' Mystical Songs and his setting of Psalm 90. The trumpet obbligato provides for an exciting closing, and thus makes a fitting concluding work for the disc. One can only be impressed by the superb singing of the Canterbury Cathedral Choir. It would be wonderful to experience this music live at the minster where the choir sings on a daily basis. The next best thing is to own a copy of this excellent CD. **The Diapason (USA).** 

Here are thirteen more glorious treats from this choir... the Allegri Miserere will make your hair stand on end... To own (this series) is to possess the cream of the Men and Boy Choir experience. **The Journal of the Association of Anglican Musicians (USA).** 



### THE ORGAN OF CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL

**David Flood** 

YORK CD 108 • DDD • 56.46 Barcode 5015414221083



An attractive programme of well-known pieces... David Flood puts the organ through its paces...to demonstrate its versatility in a way which will please the general listener. **Organists' Review.** 





#### CANTERBURY CAROLS

The Choir and Organ of Canterbury Cathedral Directed by David Flood Michael Harris, organ

YORK CD 109 • DDD • 59.55 Barcode: 5015414221090

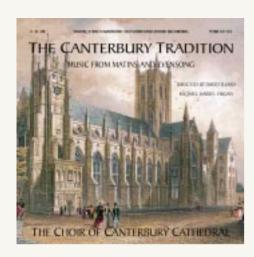
O come, all ye faithful Arr. Willcocks; Sussex Carol Arr. Ledger; Stille Nacht Grüber arr. Ledger; Once in royal David's city Alexander/Gauntlett; Ding dong! Merrily on high Woodward arr. Willcocks; Candlelight Carol Rutter; God rest ye merry, gentlemen Arr. Willcocks; The three kings Cornelius arr. Atkins; O little town of Bethlehem Walford Davies; Good King Wenceslas Arr. Jacques; The little road to Bethlehem Rose/Head; Gaudete, Christus est natus Ed. Wulstan; In the bleak midwinter Darke; While shepherds watched Tate; Away in a manger Arr. Jacques; Hark! the herald angels sing Mendelssohn arr. Willcocks; Toccata for Organ Dubois.

This CD from Canterbury contains all the old favourites... It also includes John Rutter's Candlelight Carol and Michael Head's Little Road to Bethlehem. The organ voluntary at the end is Dubois' Toccata which receives a properly cheerful performance from Michael Harris. The highlights for me in terms of performance were Philip Ledger's arrangement of the Sussex Carol, Harold Darke's In the bleak midwinter and, again, the Candlelight Carol. The singing throughout is confident and bright... The recording captures the cathedral acoustic well... **Organists' Review.** 

...benefits from some fine, sturdy treble singing and from the magnificent sound of the Cathedral organ... Candlelight Carol has characteristic easy sweetness about it; Gaudete, sung with spirit by the men, is almost a 'pop'. **Gramophone.** 

The choral performances are immaculate... Prototypical. **The Diapason, USA.** 

Some real gems... The men of the choir are quite excellent... **Classic CD.** 



# THE CANTERBURY TRADITION

**Music from Matins and Evensong** 

The Choir and Organ of Canterbury Cathedral Directed by David Flood Michael Harris, organ

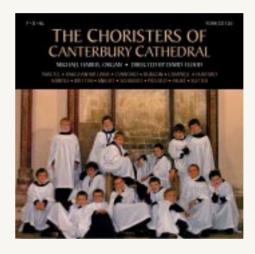
YORK CD 116 • DDD • 60.04 Barcode: 5015414221168

Fauré Cantique de Jean Racine; Walford Davies Psalm 121; Grayston Ives Te Deum laudamus; Walton Jubilate Deo; Tippett Five Negro Spirituals from A Child of our Time; Purcell Remember not, Lord, our offences; Barnby Psalm 59; Turle Psalm 60; Knight Psalm 61; Gibbons Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis (Second Service); Mendelssohn Warum toben die Heiden.

Performances of all the works are predictably excellent. **The American Organist.** 

De klank van het koor staat in de beste Engelse tradities... Een zeer Engels geheel dus, deze cd en voor wie daar van houdt absoluut aantrekkelijk. De opname klinkt heel natuurlijk. **NKV Muziek-bulletin.** 

...notable for the jaunty Te Deum commissioned from Grayston Ives for Dr Carey's enthronement and the lovely Fauré Cantique de Jean Racine. **Church Times.** 



# THE CHORISTERS OF CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL

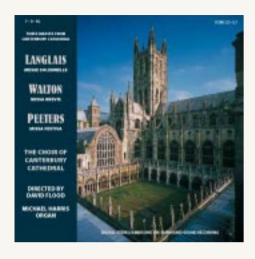
Directed by David Flood Michael Harris, organ

YORK CD 120 • DDD • 61.00 Barcode: 5015414221205

**Purcell** Sound the Trumpet; **Vaughan Williams** Song of the Tree of Life; **Stanford** A Song of Peace; **Stanford** A Song of Wisdom; **Burgon** Nunc Dimittis; **Campbell** Praise to God in the highest; **Hurford** Litany to the Holy Spirit; **Handel** Let the bright seraphin; **Britten** Missa Brevis; **Britten** A New Year Carol; **Knight** Christ whose glory; **Schubert** The Lord is my Shepherd; **Piccolo** O hear us Lord; **Fauré** Pie Jesu; **Rutter** All things bright and beautiful.

Here is another CD with York Ambisonic recording technique which gives you the building without losing the choral line or vice versa. Eighteen pieces of the most diverse sort whet the appetite beyond control. Included are: Purcell's Sound the Trumpet; Vaughan Williams' Song of the Tree of Life; Stanford's Song of Peace and Song of Wisdom (Oh, how they sound!); Handel's Let the Bright Seraphim; Britten's Missa Brevis; and Schubert's The 23rd Psalm (what a winner that is!). These are the highlights, and HIGH LIGHTS they are!

Journal of the Association of Anglican Musicians (USA).



### THREE MASSES FROM CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL

The Choir and Organ of Canterbury Cathedral Directed by David Flood Michael Harris, organ

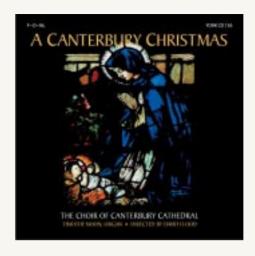
YORK CD 127 • DDD • 58.00 Barcode: 5015414221274

Jean Langlais Messe Solennelle William Walton Missa Brevis Flor Peeters Missa Festiva

At Canterbury, both choir and organ rank among the best...The choir's superb balance and control is evident from the beginning of the Peeters Kyrie, an ascent from the deepest, softest levels to a full climax, at all times undistorted and clear. (One of the beauties of these choirs is the effortless vocal energy of the male altos.)

At all times the organ supports and complements the voices without covering them. From a wide variety of colors, especially in the quieter moments, to the hair-raising full organ at the end of the Credo, the sound of organ and choir combined is almost certainly more 'accurate' than it is when seated in Canterbury Cathedral.

One cannot help comparing the excellent performances of the Langlais and Peeters works recorded many years ago by the legendary choir of St John's College Cambridge under George Guest. In contrast, the new Canterbury CD has greater presence and the organ sound is more transparent. It would appear that some credit is due the recording system called Ambisonics... However it is done, the musical result is glorious! **American Record Guide.** 



#### A CANTERBURY CHRISTMAS

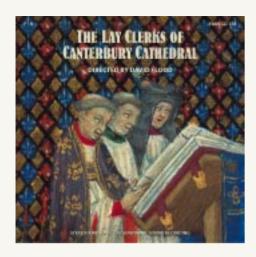
Advent and Christmas at Canterbury Cathedral

The Choir and Organ of Canterbury Cathedral Directed by David Flood Michael Harris, organ

YORK CD 136 • DDD • 69.20 Barcode: 5015414221366

Hymn to the virgin Britten; Vigilate Byrd; Exsurge Domine Byrd; Laetentur coeli Byrd; The angel Gabriel (Basque carol arr. Willcocks); Hymn to the Mother of God Tavener; The Lamb Tavener; Célébrons la naissance (French carol arr. Trepte); \*O magnum mysterium Lauridsen; The Wexford Carol (Irish trad. melody arr. Noon); Les anges dans nos campagnes (French carol arr. Trepte); As I outrode this enderes night Hendrie; Puer nobis Rodney Bennett; Riu, riu, chiu (Spanish carol arr. Harrison); There is a flower Rutter; A New Year Carol Britten (arr. Flood); Look up sweet babe Lennox Berkeley; What sweeter music Rutter.

\* As heard on In Tune - BBC Radio 3.



### THE LAY CLERKS OF CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL

**Directed by David Flood** 

YORK CD 158 • DDD • 67.40 Barcode: 5015414221588

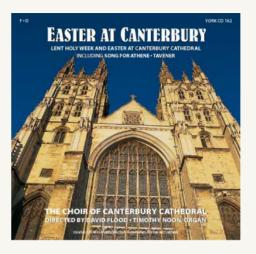
Anon St Thomas honour we, O bone Jesu and Alleluya psallat; Asola Quem vidistis pastores; Byrd Reges Tharsis, Vidimus stellam eius, Surge illuminare and Ave Maria; Ferguson Throw away thy rod; Gombert Lugebat David Absalon; Hendrie Ave verum corpus; Poulenc Quatre petites prières; Ridout Salve lux laetitiae; Victoria Magnificat.

A delightful disc with extreme clarity thoughout and surely putting the Canterbury Lay Clerks high on the list of our finest performers. **The Organ.** 

\*\*\*\* These 14 men sing with a perfection of ensemble that will make listeners forget what a treble is. Well recorded in the warm, clear acoustic of the cathedral's Trinity Chapel, there is not a superfluous work to be found... David Flood's concise sleeve notes highlight the interpretation of the words: an attitude implicit in the clerks' attention to detail. Choir & Organ.

Both sound and performance are first rate... The sound is luscious and rich, yet always clear. The men of the Canterbury choir compare favorably with the best English early-music vocal ensembles... David Flood directs performances notable for their coherence and nuance.

American Record Guide.



# EASTER AT CANTERBURY

Music for Lent, Holy Week and Easter

The Choir and Organ of Canterbury Cathedral Directed by David Flood Timothy Noon, organ

YORK CD 162 • DDD • 62.15 Barcode: 5015414221625

**Byrd** Civitas sancti tui *and* Haec dies; **Casals** O vos omnes; **Gabriel Jackson** O sacrum convivium; **Palestrina** Super flumina Babylonis *and* Exultate Deo; **Poulenc** Quatre motets pour un temps de pénitence *and* Exultate Deo; **Scarlatti** Laudate pueri; **Tallis** Salvator mundi; **Tavener** Song for Athene; **Weelkes** Christ rising again.

12 strongly dramatic and emotional pieces for Lent, Holy Week and Easter...The recording was made in the nave of the cathedral and exploits the building's marvelous acoustic to great effect...The choir's sound is exquisitely ethereal, with much purity and grace...

American Record Guide.

Lovely. Here is one of our very best Cathedral Choirs in the most excellent imaginable form, performing beautiful music with commitment ... The recording quality is superb and faultless ... and the performances use the great Gothic space of Canterbury's Nave with consummate effect, blending the natural acoustics of the building with David Flood's long experience in subtlety of texture and shapely nuances of momentum... **Organists' Review.** 

The whole programme...is compelling in its musicality: serene one moment, dramatic the next and ever sensitive to the words. \*\*\*\*\* The Yorkshire Post.

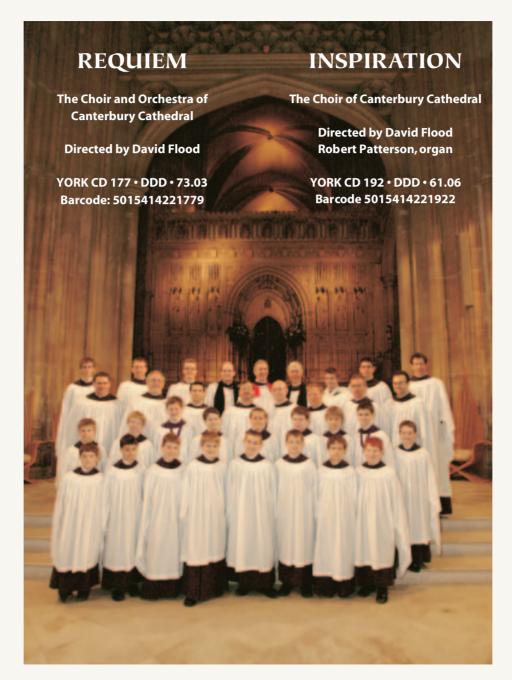


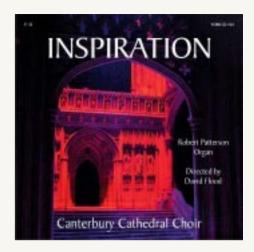
#### Gabriel Fauré Requiem (1893 version edited by John Rutter)

Joseph Rawlins, treble; Ian White, baritone John Perkins, violin The Choir and Orchestra of Canterbury Cathedral Matthew Martin, organ Directed by David Flood

#### Maurice Duruflé Requiem Op. 9

Ian White, baritone; Julia Vohralik, cello The Choir of Canterbury Cathedral Matthew Martin, organ Directed by David Flood

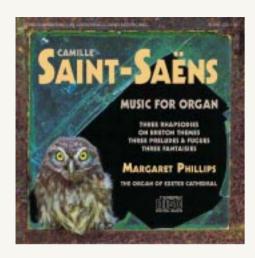




Richard Rodney Bennett Missa Brevis Lauridsen Ubi caritas Macmillan To my successor Jonathan Dove I am the day Harris Bring us, O Lord Matthew Martin Justorum animae Harris Strengthen ye the weak hands Ridout Litany Tippett Plebs angelica Chilcott Irish blessing

Choral sound is exquisite throughout, and the recording has remarkable clarity with fine acoustical presence. **Journal of the Association of Anglican Musicians USA** 

The recording balance is one of the best I've heard, giving enough distance to enhance the excellent acoustic of the Cathedral without losing any clarity of either the text or the fine expressive singing of the performers. **Church Music Quarterly** 



### SAINT-SAËNS: MUSIC FOR ORGAN

Margaret Phillips
The Organ of Exeter Cathedral

YORK CD 110 • DDD • 65.52 Barcode: 5015414221106



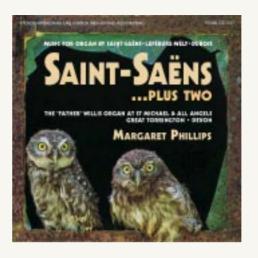
Phillips' playing is a model of precision, restraint and style... attention to detail and elegance of approach. There is a most rewarding performance of the C major Fantaisie... and the Rhapsodies on Breton themes come across with considerable wit and charm. **Gramophone.** 

Mature performances ... style and elegance. Musical Times.

Rejoice in these masterly post-Mendelssohnian sweet-meats, especially as Margaret Phillips' performances are perfectly attuned to the idiom and the recording quality unimpeachable... a series of works for the instrument whose relative neglect is quite unaccountable... this disc comes highly recommended. **CD Review.** 

An ideal interpreter of this music, responding to all the elements and balancing them perfectly. She brings to her performances musicianship, technique, thorough preparation and an ear for colour... Do listen to this one - you will enjoy it. **Organists' Review.** 

A welcome survey of a neglected corner of the repertoire... all that a good recital should be - technically accurate with well-chosen registrations throughout and displaying musicanship of a high order so that the listener is thoroughly satisfied and uplifted by the music and the performance. **The Organ.** 



# SAINT-SAËNS... PLUS TWO

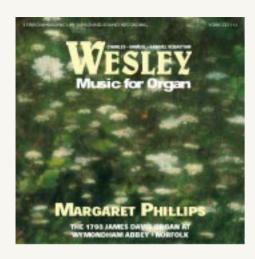
Margaret Phillips The 'Father' Willis Organ at St Michael & All Angels, Great Torrington, Devon

> YORK CD 117 • DDD • 74.45 Barcode: 5015414221175

Saint-Saëns Seven Improvisations Op. 150; Three Preludes and Fugues Op. 99; Bénédiction Nuptiale Op. 9; Lefébure-Wély Sortie in B flat; Andante Chœur de Voix humaines; Dubois Toccata

Saint-Saëns' Improvisations are among the most delightful and whimsical music he ever wrote... they are cunningly grouped by Margaret Phillips to form a well-balanced programme, interspersed with the similarly rewarding Preludes & Fugues. The ubiquitous Lefébure-Wély tops and tails the Saint-Saëns pieces appropriately enough and the whole enjoyable experience is wrapped up by a vivacious performance of the Dubois Toccata. Miss Phillips plays throughout with scrupulous care, with impeccably contrived articulation and with a warm and colourful use of this fine Father Willis organ. The typical early Willis reeds, flutes and strings seem to suit mid-nineteenth century French music particularly well. Warmly recommended. **Organists' Review.** 

Phillips cuenta con un excelente instrumento... Su tímbrica de colorido matizado se adapta perfectamente a las exigencias de este menú, que la intérprete sirve con elegancia, destreza y fino lírismo... La tradición organística francesa del siglo XIX en su mejor expresión. **Audioclásico.** 



# WESLEY: MUSIC FOR ORGAN

Margaret Phillips The 1793 James Davis Organ of Wymondham Abbey, Norfolk

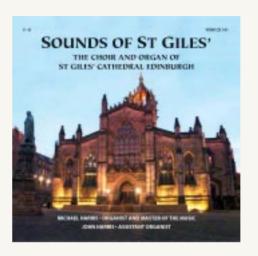
YORK CD 111 • DDD • 68.27 Barcode: 5015414221113

**Charles Wesley** Voluntary in G minor/major; **Samuel Wesley** "Twelve" Short Pieces; Voluntary in G minor/major Op. 6 No. 9; **Samuel Sebastian Wesley** Choral song in C Fantasia: Andante Cantabile in G; Introduction and Fugue in C sharp minor; An Air for Holsworthy Church Bells; Andante in G.

Here is Margaret Phillips once again bringing ravishingly alive hidden corners of the repertoire... The 1793 James Davis organ is a perfect vehicle for this music; Miss Phillips restricts herself as much as possible to the seventeen stops which remain from the original organ. The recording allows Phillips' neat finger-work to shine to maximum musical advantage. An enjoyable and important release. **Organists' Review.** 

The organ in Wymondham Abbey, Norfolk, remains a monument to English organ building. Margaret Phillips clearly loves and understands it well, using, very largely, only the Davis stops. What a lovely sound they produce and how well she registers the pieces she has selected from the works of the three principal musicians of the Wesley family. **The Organ.** 

The instrument is very well recorded. The acoustic does not seem to be very reverberant, but the effect is not dry. The sound has good presence but not the annoying in-your-face quality of so many modern organ recordings. Margaret Phillips seems to understand the character of this repertory better than most organists, including most English ones... The character of the instrument helps greatly here, but the insight and sensitivity of the artist are indispensable. Anyone with the least interest in this repertory will want to acquire this disc for the quality of the playing and as a document of a fine historic instrument. **The American Record Guide.** 



# SOUNDS OF ST GILES'

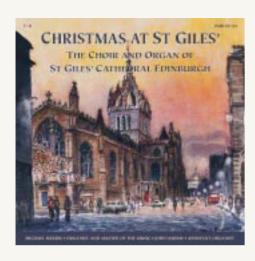
The Choir and Organ of St Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh Directed by Michael Harris John Harris, organ

YORK CD 141 • DDD • 63.02 Barcode: 5015414221410

J S Bach Prelude and Fugue in G BWV 541; Britten Jubilate Deo in C; Bach Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme BWV 645; Tavener God is with us - A Christmas Proclamation; Fleury Variations sur un Noël Bourguignon; Franck Pièce Héroïque; Bach An Wasserflüssen Babylon BWV 653; Leighton Drop, drop, slow tears; Bach O Mensch, bewein' dein' Sünde gross BWV 622; Langlais Incantation pour un jour saint; Mendelssohn Heilig; Vaughan Williams O, clap your hands; Mulet Tu es Petra.

This is an attractive and varied programme, very well recorded. The choral works are given polished, vibrant performances with sympathetic accompaniments. In the solo items, Michael Harris clearly enjoys the colours of the Rieger organ - widely regarded as one of the best instruments in the world. **Gramophone.** 

The nimble, expressive playing of Michael Harris ...showcases the tonal brilliance of the 1992 Rieger organ. **BBC Music Magazine.** 



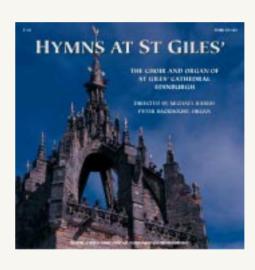
# CHRISTMAS AT ST GILES'

The Choir and Organ of St Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh

Directed by Michael Harris John Harris, organ

YORK CD 152 • DDD • 61.05 Barcode: 5015414221526

Psallite unigenito Praetorius; Hark! The herald angels sing Mendelssohn; A Hymn to the Virgin Britten; In dulci jubilo Buxtehude; In dulci jubilo Arr. J S Bach / J Walter; In the bleak midwinter Holst; The Lamb Tavener; Les Bergers Messiaen; O little town of Bethlehem Trad. arr. Vaughan Williams; I saw three ships Trad. arr. Herrick Bunney; Angels from the realms Harm. Martin Shaw; Josef, lieber Josef mein Arr. L Schroeter; Ding dong! Merrily on high Trad. harm. Charles Wood; It came upon a midight clear Trad. arr. A Sullivan; Coventry Carol Leighton; Susanni Rodney Bennett; O Magnum Mysterium Poulenc; A babe is born Mathias; O Come all ye faithful Trad. arr. David Willcocks; Noël Suisse Daquin.



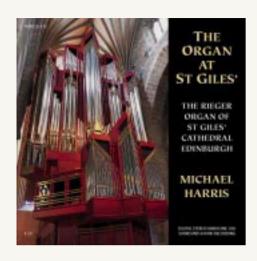
# HYMNS AT ST GILES'

The Choir and Organ of St Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh

Directed by Michael Harris Peter Backhouse, organ

YORK CD 167 DDD • 54.13 Barcode: 5015414221670

Praise to the Holiest in the height (Gerontius); The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want (Stracathro); Lo! He comes with clouds descending (Helmsley); Teach me, my God and King (Sandys); Dear Lord and Father of mankind (Repton); There is a green hill far away (Horsley); When I survey the wondrous cross (Rockingham); Good Christian men, rejoice and sing! (Vulpius); Away with gloom, away with doubt! (Barnton); Come down, O Love Divine (Down Ampney); O send thy light forth (Martyrs); All my hope on God is founded (Michael); Loving shepherd of thy sheep (Battishill); The Church's one foundation (Aurelia); Blessing and honour and glory and power (Bonnie George Campbell); Jesus, these eyes have never seen (St Botolph); Come, ye thankful people, come (St George's, Windsor); Ye that know the Lord is gracious (Abbot's Leigh); The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended (St Clement).



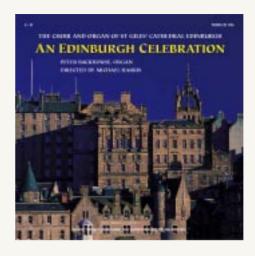
# THE ORGAN AT ST GILES'

The Rieger organ of St Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh Michael Harris

YORK CD 172 • DDD • 66.39 Barcode: 5015414221724

Langlais Hymne d'Actions de Grâce *Te Deum*; Bach Concerto in A minor BWV 593; Böhm Partita *Wer nur der lieben Gott lässt walten*; Saint-Säens Prelude and Fugue in G Op. 109 No 2; Franck Fantaisie in A; Franck Pièce Héroïque; Hollins A Song of Sunshine; Walton Coronation March (1953) Orb and Sceptre; Vaughan Williams Prelude on Rhosymedre; Vierne Symphony No 1 – Final.

From the opening full-swell snarl of Langlais'Te Deum, he is afire with vitality, the big-scaled Rieger (why aren't they all as gutsy as this one?) responding with relish to his every demand... The organ has its classical side too: a nimble and musical performance of the Vivaldi-Bach A minor shows this, as does a delicious chorale partita by Böhm. Delicacy of tone and touch is displayed in Saint-Saëns' rarely-recorded Prelude and Fugue in G and in the cheeky delights of A Song of Sunshine by that son of Edinburgh, Alfred Hollins. Vaughan Williams adds a touch of Anglican warmth, Franck a central plank in a performance of the twelve-minute Fantaisie in A which achieves that rare thing – a pulling together of all its sections so that it is welded into one satisfying whole. That just about sums up this disc:music, organ and player welded into one satisfying whole. A great joy. Organists' Review.



# AN EDINBURGH CELEBRATION

The Choir and Organ of St Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh Directed by Michael Harris Peter Backhouse, organ

YORK CD 185 • DDD • 69.21 Barcode: 5015414221854

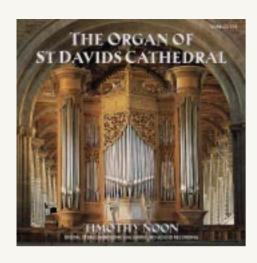
**Gibbons** Lift up your heads **Tallis** O nata lux **Byrd** Sing joyfully **Buxtehude** Praeludium in C **Kuhnau** Tristis est anima mea **Philips** Ecce vicit Leo **Blow** Salvator mundi **Elgar** The spirit of the Lord **Stanford** Beati quorum via **Leighton** Let all the world **Stanford** Fantasia and Toccata Op. 57 **Macmillan** A New Song **Bunney** Psalm 121 **Howells** A Hymn for St Cecilia **Tayener** The Lamb **Handel** Zadok the Priest.

#### **IN PREPARATION**

#### I WAS GLAD

The Choir and Organ of St Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh Directed by Michael Harris Peter Backhouse, organ YORK CD 201

**Elgar** Give unto the Lord **Howells** Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks **Walton** Jubilate Deo **Macmillan** O sing unto the Lord **Holst** Psalm 148 **Boyce** Turn thee unto me, O Lord **Mendelssohn** Richte mich, Gott **Brahms** How lovely are thy dwellings **Stanford** The Lord is my shepherd **de Jongh** O come let us sing unto the Lord; Blessed is the man **Parry** I was glad



### THE ORGAN OF ST DAVIDS CATHEDRAL

**Timothy Noon** 

YORK CD 173 • DDD • 65.52 Barcode: 5015414221731

**Bach** Prelude and Fugue in G BWV 541; **Alain** Trois Pièces; **Tomkins** Fantasia in G; **Mendelssohn** Sonata No 3 in A; **Leighton** Paean; **Howells** Psalm-Preludes Set 2 No1; **Mulet** Carillon-Sortie; **Whelan** Cloudsong and Riverdance

First compact disc of the 'Father' Willis/Harrison & Harrison organ of St Davids Cathedral since the rebuild and restoration.

This disc exuded a warmth and intimacy which made it attractive listening...
The recording quality is very good, Noon's playing is distinguished. **Choir & Organ** 

Music by Tomkins, played to quiet perfection, rubs shoulders with Noon's use of soft reed for Jehan Alain's Jannequin Variations, and the Iulling mystery he evokes from the same composer's Le Jardin Suspendu.

I loved the unashamed grandeur and broad treatment of Mendelssohn's Third Sonata, and the timbre of the flute he uses for the Andante. Leighton's Paean sounds terrific on the fourmanual Willis organ, most recently restored by Harrison's.

Noon ends with an arrangement of Bill Whelan's "Cloudsong and Riverdance". Paired flute and clarinet bring it agreeably close to Alain: a fitting finale. **Church Times** 



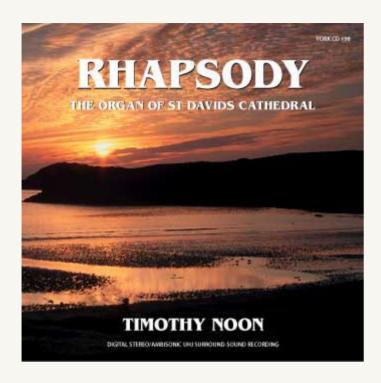
#### SING JOYFULLY

The Choir and Organ of St Davids Cathedral Directed by Timothy Noon Simon Pearce, organ

YORK CD 181 • DDD • 65.41 Barcode 5015414221816

Byrd Sing joyfully Shephard Jesu! dulcis memoria Noon A Song for St Cecilia's Day Eccard When to the temple Mary went Archer Nature's Hymn to the Deity Stanford Te Deum in A Goodall Festival Jubilate Whitlock Exultemus Langlais Incantation pour un jour Saint Sumsion Magnificat in D Watson Nunc Dimittis in F Purcell Thou knowest, Lord Battishill O Lord, look down from heaven Bainton And I saw a new heaven Goodall Love divine Parry I was glad.





#### **RHAPSODY**

Timothy Noon
The Organ of St Davids Cathedral

YORK CD 198 • DDD • 66.43 Barcode 5015414221984

Howells Rhapsody no. 3 in C# minor Naji Hakim Expressions Nos. 16 & 17 Couperin Offertoire & Elevation (from Messe des couvents) J.S. Bach Prelude and Fugue in C Duruflé Prélude et Fugue sur le nom d'Alain Saint-Saëns Le cygne Whitlock The Plymouth Suite.

Beautiful disc... first-rate sound... highly recommended.

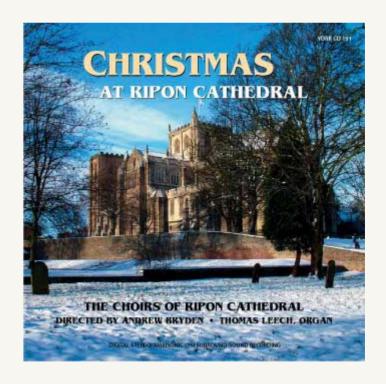
Journal of the Association of Anglican Musicians (USA).

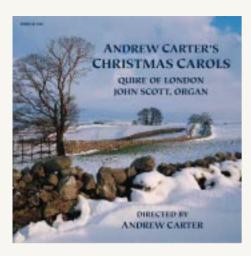
#### CHRISTMAS AT RIPON CATHEDRAL

The Choirs of Ripon Cathedral Directed by Andrew Bryden Thomas Leech, organ

YORK CD 191 • DDD • 64.46 Barcode 5015414221915

Wade O come, all ye faithful Mathias Wassail Carol Piccolo Jesus Christ the apple tree Hemingway People, look east Carter I wonder as I wander Karg-Elert Vom Himmel hoch da komm ich her Lloyd The Angel Gabriel Dalby Mater salutaris Cleobury Joys Seven Warlock Balulalow Warlock The Sycamore Tree Bryden Seek him out Hendrie As I outrode this endrys night Langlais La Nativité Lauridsen O magnum mysterium Jamieson The Burning Babe Rutter Candlelight Carol Carter Hodie Christus natus est Mendelssohn Hark! the herald angels sing





### ANDREW CARTER'S CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Quire of London
Directed by Andrew Carter
John Scott, organ

YORK CD 169 • DDD • 72.42 Barcode: 5015414221694

A maiden most gentle, Angelus ad virginem, Chanticleer Carol, Down in yon forest, Hodie Christus natus est, I come from highest heaven, I wonder as I wander, Make we merry, Mary's Magnificat, The Morning Star, Nightingale Carol, O come, O come Emmanuel, Personent Hodie, Polish Carol, Spanish Carol, Spanish Lullaby, Stille Nacht, There is no rose, Austrian Yodel Carol, C'était la veill' de Noé, Sweet was the song, Tomorrow shall be my dancing day **Organ solos** Canon on Forest Green, Toccata on Veni Emmanuel.

...the recording is of demonstration quality. The hand-picked Quire of London, directed by the composer, are alive to every subtle nuance of the master craftsman. Carter is the supreme carolist who can take the most hackneyed tune (Stille Nacht) and revive it into something ravishingly beautiful. My top recommendation.

Gramophone, Christmas Round-up 2002.

The Quire of London's loving interpretations (under the composer's direction) are utterly beguiling and, coupled with John Scott's organistic wizardry, this superb collection continues to cheer and charm.

Gramophone Critics' Choice, December 2003.

....the sound of this choir lacks nothing. It is full, rich and perfect in tuning and enunciation... With John Scott at the console, the accompaniment is quite simply perfection itself... Each (carol) is its own delight. One might think one's Christmas recording collection complete. A listen to this CD could cause one to rethink that position. Highly recommended. The American Organist.

\*\*\*\*\* If you buy only one seasonal disc this Christmas, make it this. Carter has no peer amongst living composer-arrangers of carols... Highlights abound... Choir and organ are top-notch and the first-class booklet includes full texts. Guaranteed to please year after year. Yorkshire Evening Press. His new collection...confirms an individual voice, with a predominantly gentle sense of wonder, simply but subtly harmonised. BBC Music Magazine.

The 20-voice choir makes some impressive sounds, ably caught in the stunning sonic ambience...The ladies' voices soar freely, and the men's voices confidently underpin the vocal web... American Record Guide.

Performance \*\*\*\*\* Recording \*\*\*\* Yorkshire Post

BBC Music Magazine 2007: 'the ten best classical Christmas albums ever to have found their way under the tree... discs to cherish for years to come, whatever the season'

In the art of arrangement the key word is often restraint, and few know this better than Andrew Carter. He has an ear for the elliptical harmonically ambiguous traditional carols, and transforms them into exquisite art songs. His 'I wonder as I wander' has a haunting beauty as does the deft 'There is no rose'. But he can also do powerful showpieces choirboys love, like 'Tomorrow shall be my dancing day' and his explosive 'O Come, O Come Emmanuel'. Helen Wallace, BBC Music former editor.

If you like John Rutter you'll love... Andrew Carter's Christmas Carols. Where Rutter employs a jazzy beat, Carter's carol settings shine with stillness and subtlety. This combines traditional carols with Carter's own, from the joy of Tomorrow shall be my dancing day to the haunting beauty of I wonder as I wander. A must for Christmas. Saga Magazine 2007.