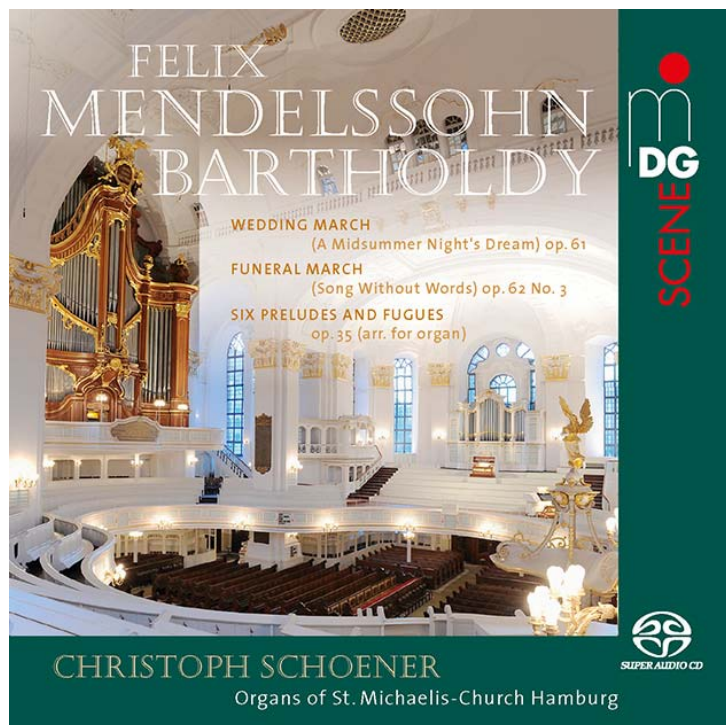


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MDG
SCENE



10/18-(5)

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy
(1809-1847)

Transcriptions for Organ

Wedding March
(A midsummer night's dream) op. 61
Funeral March
(Song Without Words) op. 62 No. 3
Six Preludes and Fugues op. 35
(arr.)

Christoph Schoener,
at the organs of
St. Michaelis, Hamburg

222[®]
RECORDING

1 Hybrid-SACD

MDG 949 2096-6

LC06768

UPC-Code:



Four Organs

A total of four organs group themselves around the listener in three dimensions in St. Michael's Church in Hamburg, and all four instruments are spectacularly employed on this Super Audio CD. Church music director Christoph Schoener has designed a very special program for the organs in his workplace: music by Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy that has never been heard before in just this way. Schoener pulls all the stops on the central console and covers a spectrum ranging from the complete late-romantic forces of the entire organ system to the filigree murmuring of individual tone colors. A special treat: a solo for the echo organ installed high above in the ceiling sphere!

Phenomenal Impression

The Six Preludes and Fugues op. 35 forming the focus here, though originally intended for the piano, create a phenomenal impression on the massive St. Michael's organ in this arrangement by Christoph Bossert. After all, it was Mendelssohn, who after the organ's Viennese classical "dry spell," supported the rehabilitation of this instrument. Accordingly, numerous piano pieces by him are ideally suited for transfers into the organ's much mightier sound dimension.

Rosette Illusion

Schoener is really able to give his all in the "Funeral March," for which Sigfrid Karg-Elert rather freely combined two piano pieces by Mendelssohn. "Pomposo e grave" is encountered along the way as a playing instruction – and how fine it is that the echo organ has a booming tuba stop! This makes the organist's heart beat a tierce higher – and audiophile music fans will rave about the tones that are indeed heard flowing down from the rosette in the ceiling vault on this Super Audio CD 3-D recording!

Three Dimensions

Things get underway with the so very famous "Wedding March" from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Even if many a bride and groom have entered many a church to this music, on this 3-D 2+2+2 recording it is as if the listener – in this acoustic situation – could reach out and embrace the bride right here and now. Whether a "Song without Words," a lovingly supplied fragment, or a "Theme with Variations," this Mendelssohn recording is a perfect complement to the Bach, Brahms, and Reger editions with which Christoph Schoener has brought delight to the organ world – and beyond!

Christoph Schoener, on all four organs of St. Michaelis, Hamburg:

J. S. Bach: Organ Toccatas
MDG 949 1893-6 (Hybrid-SACD)

Max Reger: Organ Works
MDG 949 1919-6 (Hybrid-SACD)

Bach/Reger: Toccatas BWV 910-916 arr. by Max Reger
MDG 949 1981-6 (Hybrid-SACD)

Johannes Brahms
Haydn Variations op. 56
Handel Variations op. 24
Variations op. 18 D minor
MDG 949 2051-6 (Hybrid-SACD)

