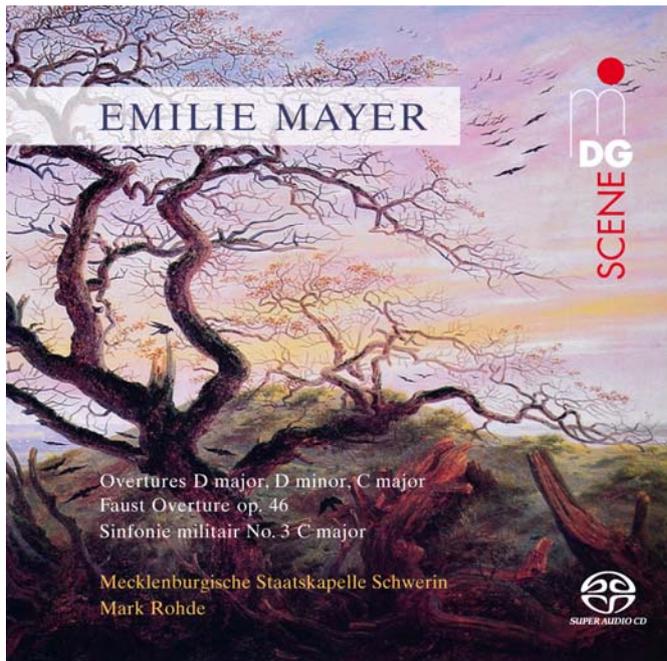


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Emilie Mayer

(1812 - 1883)

Overture No. 2 D major
Faust Overture for large
Orchestra B minor, op. 46
Overture D minor
Overture No. 3 C major
Sinfonie militair No. 3 C major

Mecklenburgische
Staatskapelle Schwerin
Mark Rohde



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RECORDING

pathbreaking

That's what happens when you let yourself be guided by prejudices: Emilie Mayer's contemporaries in the mid-19th century were unaware of the outstanding quality of her compositions because they only saw the woman instead of the composer. You might think you missed something when you listen to the brand-new Super Audio CD of the Mecklenburgische Staatskapelle: with chief conductor Mark Rohde on the podium, the musicians from Schwerin succeed in a salvation of honour that could not be more attractive.

breaking boundaries

Financially independent at an early age, Emilie Mayer was able to devote herself entirely to her passion for composing. Her misfortune: instead of salon music, which was at best acceptable to women, she ventured into the grand form. Eight symphonies alone came from her pen, as well as several overtures, of which only the "Faust" overture appeared in print during her lifetime.

emancipating

Interestingly, in her interpretation of Faust, Mayer places Gretchen at the centre, the brooding seriousness receding in favour of Margareth's naivety and piety. In her earlier works, the composer orientates herself on classical models; the overtures No. 2 and 3 hint at memories of Haydn and Mozart. But she is also no stranger to the romantic, and the D minor overture unfolds a world of sound reminiscent of Bruckner.

space-filling

The most extensive work of this commendable new publication is the "Sinfonie militair", whose genesis can perhaps be traced back to the influence of Mayer's teacher, the Prussian military musician Wieprecht. But here, too, Mayer finds a very individual approach: instead of triumphant sounds, an adagio of deep seriousness ends the half-hour opus - an ending that leaves room for far-reaching associations.

also available:

Amilcare Ponchielli (1834-1886)
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