# **Paul Mann: Selected Recordings Reviews**



### **Leif Solberg: Orchestral, Choral and Organ Music**

Liepaja Symphony Orchestra, Paul Mann

[The Symphony] 'is a masterpiece of expressivity and poise, and under Mann's insightful direction the Latvian orchestra produce a fizzing account...The performances all round are sensitive and sympathetic, caught in very good sound to a total of 82 fascinating minutes. Warmly recommended.' **Gramophone March 2015** 

'The Liepaja players unearth the dark thread that runs under the uneasy vitality of the symphony's outer movements and move us with the grief of its central andante.'

The Guardian December 2014



#### David Hackbridge Johnson: Orchestral Music Volume 1

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, Paul Mann

'The Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra audibly believe in the music in three terrific performances. Conductor Paul Mann's unequivocal acclaim for the works is manifest in every bar' **Gramophone June 2017** 

'The Royal Liverpool Phil in top form, matched by first-class sound, conducted with total belief by Paul Mann'  $\star \star \star \star \star$ 

classicalsource.com December 2018



#### David Hackbridge Johnson: Orchestral Works, Vol. 2

Royal Scottish National Orchestra, Paul Mann

'The performances...under the excellent Paul Mann are wonderfully virtuoso...' **Gramophone Magazine, Awards Issue 2018** 



## <u>David Hackbridge Johnson: Orchestral Works, Vol. 3</u>

Liepaja Symphony Orchestra, Paul Mann

'Paul Mann's conducting is exemplary, drawing polished performances from the Latvian orchestra.' Fanfare January-February 2020

'The disc is wonderfully played and recorded and its presentation is ideal. Buy it!' **Music Web International June 2019** 

'The earlier Toccata Classics recording of my orchestral music had taught me to trust Paul Mann's unerring ability to get to the root of what the music is about.'

David Hackbridge Johnson 2019



#### Steve Elcock: Orchestral Music, Volume One

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, Paul Mann

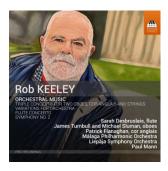
#### BBC Record Review Recording of the Week, 7 October 2017

'Well-recorded, vivid and dynamic, excellently played and conducted with conviction.'

The Arts Desk September 2017

'Music of awesome power and majesty that has gone completely unheralded...His Choses renversées par le temps ou la destruction pits fragile beauty against brute forces of ignorance, while his Festive Overture is a breathtakingly clever pastiche of Walton and Elgar...A triumphant debut recording.'

The Observer September 2017



#### **Rob Keeley Orchestral Works**

Liepaja Symphony Orchestra, Paul Mann

'Keeley's music is a wonderful discovery, especially the Symphony and the Variations. He is very well served by the dedicated performers.'

classicalsource.com July 2020



## <u>Music For My Love</u> Vol.1 Kodály Philharmonic Orchestra, Paul Mann

'The performances are sensitively realised under Paul Mann's firm direction...A really wonderful disc that I have played over and over'

Gramophone January 2017

'You won't find icy perfection in these performances - here's gusto, generosity, and lots of heart...' **BBC Music Magazine April 2017** 

'A moving start to a project that memorialises personal loss in the most positive way – commissioning and showcasing some fine and varied new works in the start of what promises to be a long and rewarding series.'

Music-Web International December 2016



<u>Music For My Love</u> Vol.2 Ukrainian Festival Orchestra, Paul Mann

'If anything, the standard of invention here is higher than on its wonderful predecessor. David Matthews's A June Song and John Kinsella's Song for Yodit are the most sheerly beautiful...There are compositions of considerable musical heft...No less artful are the simpler pieces...Mann again extracts performances of great sensitivity, this time from the Ukrainian festival Orchestra in Lviv, captured in terrifically clear sound.'

**Gramophone February 2019** 



<u>Music For My Love</u> Vol.3 Ukrainian Festival Orchestra, Paul Mann

'Vol 3 of Toccata Classics' enormously impressive, moving commemorative project (honouring Yodit Tekle, pictured on the cover; for the background, see 1/17, 3/19) brings together another 11 works, from composers on either side of the Atlantic...The range of mood, too, is remarkably wide, encompassing the elegiac to the celebratory...Paul Mann again produces wonderfully sensitive playing from the excellent Ukrainian Festival Orchestra. The sound, once again, is terrifically clear and warm. I cannot recommend this more highly.'

**Gramophone April 2020** 

'The performances of all these works are quite superb. The Ukrainian Festival Orchestra plays with a most attractive richness of tone, and the players' mastery of and commitment to music that was inevitably unfamiliar to them, is outstanding. Much of the credit for this must go to Paul Mann, a conductor whose curiosity for new music seems to know no bounds. The recording, by a Ukrainian team, is very fine.'

Music Web International June 2020

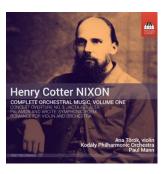


### **Rodney Newton Orchestral Works**

Málaga Philharmonic Orchestra, Paul Mann

'...the Málaga Philharmonic play excellently under guest conductor Paul Mann"..."this is a splendid CD... Paul Mann's service to present-day British symphonism (at least as represented by Toccata Classics!) could hardly be gainsaid.'

MusicWeb-International 2017



#### **Henry Cotter Nixon Complete Orchestral Music Vol.1**

Kodály Philharmonic Orchestra, Paul Mann

'Paul Mann's notes on the music are absolutely indispensable...It's hard to imagine that the music could receive better advocacy than Paul Mann and the Kodály Philharmonic Orchestra offer...and Mann, who also acted as producer of the disc, has clearly prepared the performances scrupulously and out of conviction.'

MusicWeb-International 2016



#### **Henry Cotter Nixon Complete Orchestral Music Vol.2**

Kodály Philharmonic Orchestra, Paul Mann

'All this is clearly something of a labour of love for Paul Mann. All the music that he's recording on the three discs is hitherto unpublished and he has edited the music for performance from manuscripts in the library of the Royal College of Music.'

**MusicWeb-International 2017** 



## Richard Flury: A Florentine Tragedy: Opera in One Act, The Death of Sappho

Nuremberg Symphony Orchestra, Paul Mann Julia Sophie Wagner (soprano), Long Long (tenor), Daniel Ochoa (baritone)

'Paul Mann conducts the Nuremberg Symphony Orchestra in a pulsating account...' **Gramophone September 2019** 

'Paul Mann's conducting catches the spirit of the piece, and the three soloists are good. Julia Sophie Wagner's soprano has sheen, though is a bit stretched at the top against the orchestral onslaught – she also offers Flury's The Death of Sappho on this disc. Long Long's tenor is a supple and elegant instrument, and Daniel Ochoa a firm baritone.'

Opera Now July 2019