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06/09-(6)

Title:
Jan Janca (* 1933)
Organ Works Vol. 3

Musicians:
Wolfgang Baumgratz,
Sauer organ, Bremen Cathedral
Andreas Sieling, Schuke organ,
Kaiser-Wilhelm-Gedächtnis-Kirche
Berlin
Opus-Vocale
Volker Hedtfeld, cond.

1 CD

Order Number:
MDG 606 1572-2

UPC-Code:



Dual System

The acoustics of church interiors and their organs always have a special significance for the Gdansk-born composer Jan Janca when it comes to the realization of his works. The sumptuous sound of the Bremen Cathedral and the surprisingly dry acoustics of the Emperor William Memorial Church in Berlin could hardly be more different. Added to this are two instruments perfectly representing the full breadth of Janca's music: the grand romantic sound tradition of Bremen's Sauer organ and Karl Schuke's modern instrument in Berlin.

Eloquent Logic

Janca's music creates a great many different moods, and the composer speaks an eloquent harmonic language. Although his music is mostly tonal, it repeatedly ventures into dissonant regions – never affectedly, never jarringly, with what is always a logical and cogent system reflected in the textual settings. The result is twentieth century organ music that is always surprising, sometimes suspenseful, often contemplative – and above all makes for good listening.

Interfaith Dialogue

The featured work on this CD is *The Church Year in Sixteen Chorale Preludes* from the Protestant tradition, and the Sauer organ in the Bremen Cathedral with its some one hundred stops lends its manifold tone colors to the interpretation of the text. In

contrast, the *Missa Orbis factor* draws on even older models from the Gregorian masses. Here the Opus Vocale chamber choir engages in the finest dialogue with the Schuke organ.

French Flair

The *Little Suite in Five Movements* is maintained completely in the French style – which is hardly surprising, since Janca studied organ under Marcel Dupré in Paris following his study of composition under Johann Nepomuk David in Stuttgart. The two instrumentalists heard on this recording, the Berlin cathedral organist Andreas Sieling and his Bremen colleague Wolfgang Baumgratz, live up in every way to these great models.

Jan Janca

Organ Works Vol. 1
Ludger Lohmann, Rieger organ,
St. Johannes, Tübingen
MDG 606 1104-2

Jan Janca

Works for trombone and organ
Organ Works Vol. 2
Ludger Lohmann, organ
Mike Svoboda, trombone
MDG 606 1462-2

