

**Hermann Reutter** (1900-1985)  
Lieder

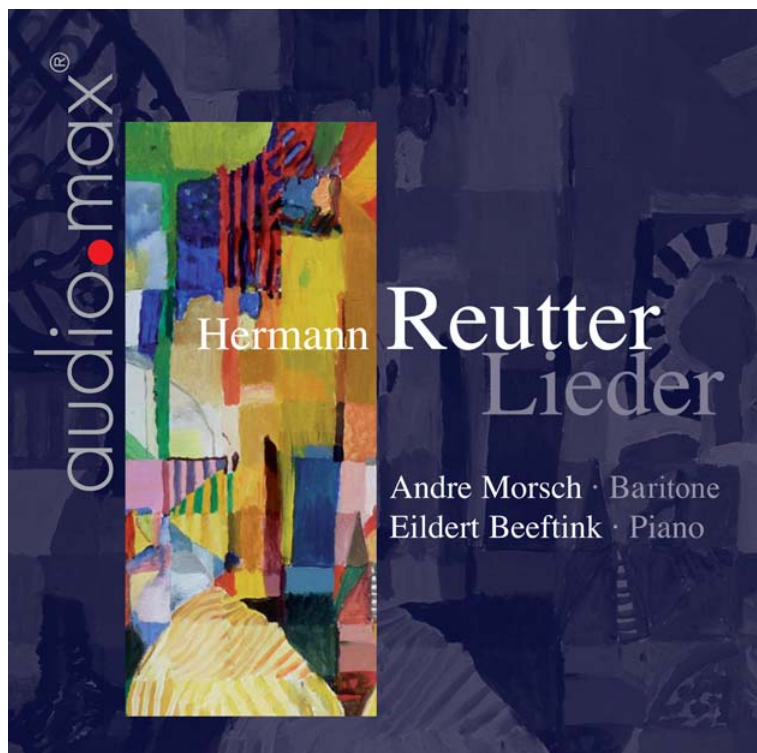
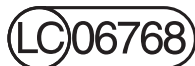
**Musicians:**

André Morsch, baritone  
Eildert Beeftink, piano

**Order Number:**

Audiomax 703 1609-2

**UPC-Code:**



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**“Little Operas” – Brilliantly Set**

**André Morsch and Eildert Beeftink Present Songs by Hermann Reutter**

For every singer art song is one of the necessary challenges along the path to opera stardom. This insight gave the baritone André Morsch the idea for a brilliant program. He occupied himself intensively with the songs of the German composer Hermann Reutter together with the Dutch pianist Eildert Beeftink and presented them at the Hugo Wolf Academy Voice Competition. His efforts reaped him the reward of two prizes: the competition's first prize and the Hermann Reutter Special Prize. His interpretations of these "little operas" can now be heard on CD.

During the early years of his career Hermann Reutter was famous as a concert pianist and song accompanist. The compositional craft was mediated to him during his close association with Paul Hindemith. During his middle years he was a college teacher and accompanied renowned singers such as Elisabeth Schwarzkopf and Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau. At the age of sixty-six he again turned to his favorite pastime; after his retirement from teaching this member of a Stuttgart family of musicians dedicated himself completely and entirely to art song. At an advanced age he continued to direct a master class in song interpretation at the Munich College of Music. Today some of his pupils continue to rave about the inspiration that Reutter once conveyed to them. Most of the texts which were set to music by Reutter are of a philosophical or melancholy character. The list of authors reads like a "Who's Who" of literature with names such as Friedrich Hölderlin, Theodor Storm, and James Joyce. The composer adapts the style of his songs to the poems with consummate artistry. Sometimes the objective, polyphonic style of a Hindemith is heard, then the music produces the effect of minimalism or expressionism, and finally we believe that we have discovered the influence of English song composers – to do proper musical justice to the texts from James Joyce.

André Morsch and Eildert Beeftink master these artistic challenges with bravura. We have the Hugo Wolf Academy and the composer's daughters to thank for encouraging current interpretations of these compositions, including the present recording – to keep Hermann Reutter's works from being forgotten.