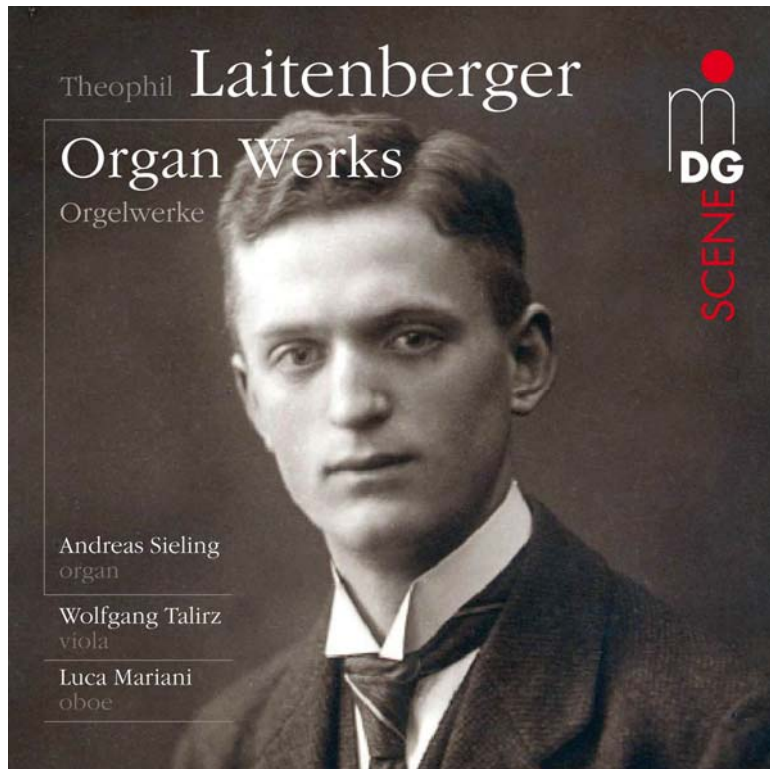


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06/10-(5)

Theophil Laitenberger
(1903-1996)
Organ Works

Andreas Sieling, Schuke Organ,
Grunewaldkirche Berlin
Wolfgang Talirz, viola
Luca Mariani, oboe

1 CD

Order No.: MDG 606 1630-2

UPC-Code:



Golden Years

Theophil Laitenberger dedicated thirty years of his life to music education and church music. It was not until his retirement years that he was able to give free rein to his creative energy and wrote a series of organ works including three sonatas, the Suite for Oboe and Organ, and the Variations for Viola and Organ. The Berlin cathedral organist Andreas Sieling has discovered these late works by Laitenberger and is now presenting their recording premiere.

Distinguished Service

Theophil Laitenberger always remained true to his native Württemberg. Born near Heilbronn as the youngest of the ten children of a grammar school teacher, he spent his school years and study years in Esslingen and Stuttgart. During his early thirties he took up residence in Calw, where he served in school and church and wrote piano and choral songs, cantatas, organ chorales, chamber music, and a school opera. He died in 1996 at the age of ninety-three.

Traditional Hallmarks

Laitenberger's oeuvre finds its place in music history in the context of the neoclassicism of the 1920s – even though the works for organ, viola, and oboe recorded here were written between 1971 and 1986. Clarity and intelligibility are his hallmarks, and he deliberately refrained from revolutionary innovation: "My concern is to engage in the careful cultivation of a linear construction that does not renounce harmonic needs. The old and the lasting arise in new splendor and fresh vibrancy."

Rich Inventory

Andreas Sieling finds in Berlin rich resources from which to select for the matching of instrument and work. He began by recording a highly regarded CD featuring works by Charles Tournemire on "his" Sauer organ in the Berlin Cathedral, continued with organ and choral music by Jan Janca on an instrument by Karl Schuke in the Emperor William Memorial Church, and for his third coup on MDG relies on the Schuke organ in the Grunewald Church, an instrument with three manuals and a neobaroque disposition. He is accompanied by the "philharmonic" soloists Luca Mariani (oboe) and Wolfram Talirz (viola).

Jan Janca (geb. 1933)

Organ Works Vol. 3
Wolfgang Baumgratz, Sauer Organ, Bremer Dom
Andreas Sieling, Schuke Organ, Kaiser-Wilhelm-
Gedächtnis-Kirche Berlin
Opus-Vocale, Cond.: Volker Hedtfeld
MDG 606 1572-2

Charles Tournemire (1870-1939)

Organ Works
Andreas Sieling, Sauer Organ Berliner Dom
MDG 946 1514-6 (Hybrid-SACD)

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