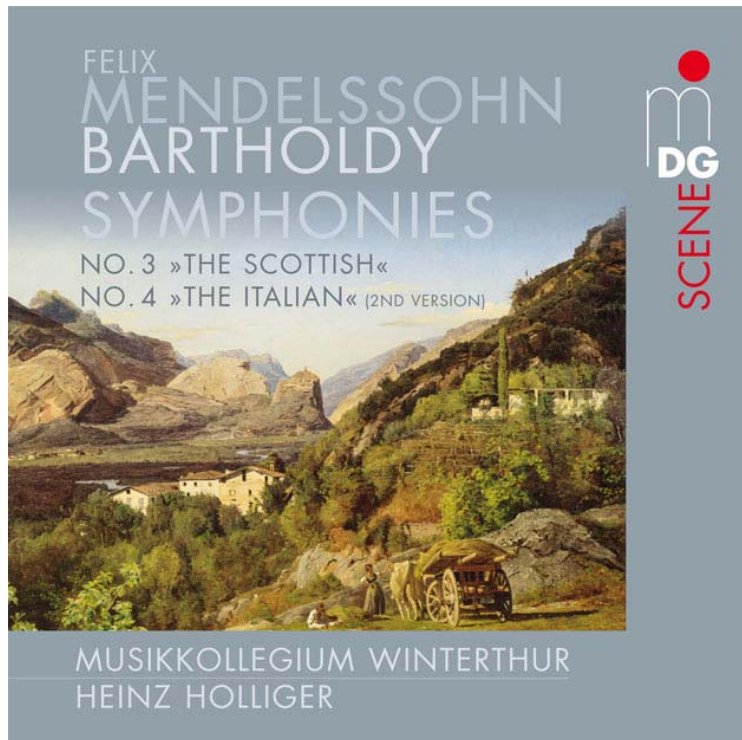


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08/11-(5)

Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy
(1809-1847)
Symphony No. 3 „Scottish“
Symphony No. 4 „Italian“
(Version 1833/34)

Musikkollegium Winterthur
Heinz Holliger, Cond.

1 Hybrid-SACD

222[®]
RECORDING

Order No.: MDG 901 1663-6

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LC06768

Mendelssohnian Tours

Shimmeringly, spiritedly, and with an ear for facility and finesse – it is thus that the Musikkollegium Winterthur conducted by Heinz Holliger travels with Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy on his educational tours. The star conductor and the renowned chamber orchestra present the *Scottish* and the *Italian Symphony*, the latter in the version revised by the composer during 1833-34.

Italian Sun

The idea for the *Italian Symphony* ripened under the southern sun. Mendelssohn composed it with ease. It was first after its successful premiere in London that he became self-critical about it. He spontaneously reworked the second to fourth movements but then set aside the manuscript – which meant that it was the first version that was printed and transmitted after his death. “The first version is illegal. Mendelssohn would never have authorized it in this form,” Holliger provocatively states in the booklet text, while at the same time offering a highly inspired presentation of Mendelssohn’s sound world.

Scottish Storm

The state of the sources for the Third Symphony is much clearer. Although thirteen years passed between Mendelssohn’s Scottish journey and the symphony’s premiere, with the composer in the meantime working to bring it to final perfection, different versions of it are no longer extant. It is already remarkable how Mendelssohn enables the listeners to experience impressive spatial effects with the most highly varied dynamics of the individual

orchestral groups. On this recording MDG’s 2+2+2 sound technique reinforces this sound picture and produces fascinatingly vivid and genuine audio imaging of the Winterthur Concert Hall.

Orchestral Feast

Heinz Holliger and the Musikkollegium Winterthur have been performing together for more than three decades: “The great advantage is the openness and flexibility to assume completely uncustomary tasks.” And our audio impression confirms this: the horn sound is rich in overtones, the strings refrain from vibrato, and the timpani boom with enthusiasm from the loud speakers – in what is pure listening pleasure.

Franz Schubert

Incidental Music to Rosamunde D 797
Serena Malfi, Alto + Schweizer
Kammerchor
MDG 901 1633-6 (Hybrid-SACD)

Franz Schubert

Symphony No. 7 b minor „The Unfinished“
Symphony No. 8 C major
MDG 901 1636-6 (Hybrid-SACD)

Josef Rheinberger

Complete Organ Concertos,
3 Movements for Violoncello & Organ
with Stefan Johannes Bleicher, organ
Cäcilia Chmel, violoncello
MDG 901 1643-6 (Hybrid-SACD)

