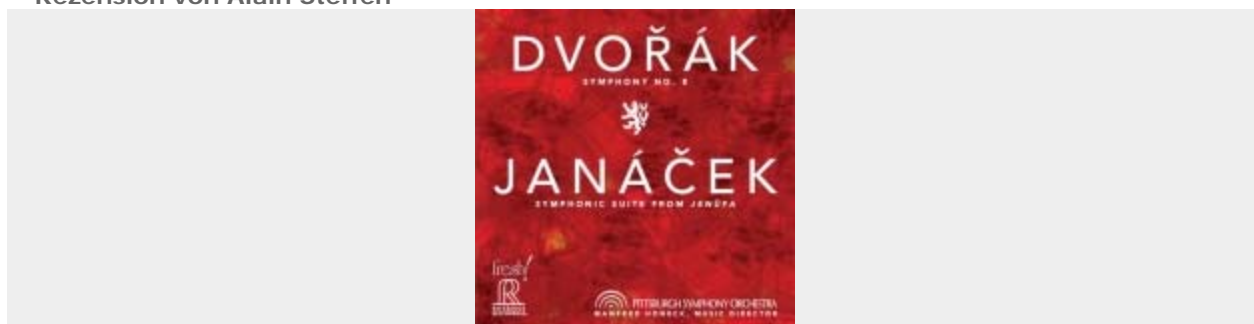


Sound gorgeous and captivating

14/07/2014



Antonin Dvorak: Symphonie Nr. 8; Leos Janacek: Jenufa-Orchestersuite; Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, Manfred Honeck; 1 SACD Reference Recording FR-710SACD; 10/13 (62'04) – Rezension von Alain Steffen



This sounded magnificent recording of Antonin Dvorak's 8th Symphony and the symphonic suite of Leos Janacek's 'Jenufa' is a good example of how today's sound technology can be put at the service of music. Record producer Dirk Sobotka and his team provide here an extraordinary work and see themselves as real partners of the conductors. Only if a coherent interpretative concept is present, the recording technique can react to it. And that happens here in the best possible way.

The Austrian conductor Manfred Honeck knows of course the Czech music very well. In Dvorak's Eighth him a very balanced blend of dramatic design, folksy moments and orchestral brilliance succeed. The latter now includes Dvorak than an excellent composer who writes not just first-class music, but it also instrumented wonderful.

In none known to me recording Dvorak talent of orchestra treatment stands as well and as clearly as in this shot from Pittsburgh. What's more, the cooperation between Honeck and the orchestra worked perfectly and pull both parties together and submit one of the most exciting recordings of this work, I know. The tandem Honeck and Pittsburgh grows qualitatively beyond themselves and now seems to continue the story of legendary partnerships, as we here in America by Solti and Chicago, Ozawa and Boston, Bernstein and New York, Szell and Cleveland, Tilson Thomas and San Francisco know or knew.

But worth listening to is also the successful processing of the musical material of Janacek's opera "Jenufa" by Manfred Honeck and Thomas Illie which is 23 minutes more compact than that of Peter Breiner, and also to convince white.

With regard to this great musical and sonic performance, we certainly hope that Honeck and his top ensemble will be followed by further Dvorak symphonies. Especially over a Sixth and Seventh, we would be very happy.

This is one of the most gripping performances of Dvorak's 8th Symphony that I ever heard. Honeck and Pittsburgh definitely team up to one of those great partnerships like Solti and Chicago, Ozawa and Boston, Bernstein and New York, Szell and Cleveland, Tilson-Thomas and San Francisco.