



Press Information:

**Max Reger** (1873-1916)  
*Organ Pieces, Op. 65/II*

**Richard Wagner** (1813-1883)  
*Prelude to Parsifal*  
Adaptation: Edwin Lemare

**Modest Mussorgsky** (1839-1881)  
*Pictures at an Exhibition*  
Adaptation: Carsten Wiebusch

**Carsten Wiebusch**  
at the Walcker Organ of the  
Essen-Werden Evangelical Church

Although organ compositions always played an important role in the production of **Max Reger**, the *12 Pieces, Op. 65* of 1902 are amongst his lesser-known works. The six pieces of the second volume result in a kind of four-movement sonata structure: the Prelude and Toccata, respectively, can be united with the closely dovetailed Fugue. With strong contrasts, Reger shows the enormous musical spectrum that he is able to gain from the organ.

Since its premiere in 1882, **Richard Wagner's Parsifal** has had an enormous influence on the musical world as one of the most intricate music-dramatic works ever written. The opera's mystical, almost religious content lends itself to an adaptation for the organ. The British organist Edwin Lamare, world famous around 1900, unites the preservation of the musical content with virtuoso developmental possibilities for the organist in his transcription of the Prelude.

The *Pictures at an Exhibition* are **Modest Mussorgsky's** best-known work today - even more so in Ravel's orchestral adaptation than in the original piano version. Carsten Wiebusch has made a new adaptation of the work, taking the special character of a particular instrument into consideration - the late Romantic Walcker Organ of the Essen-Werden Evangelical Church. This instrument is virtually predestined for Mussorgsky's work - so rich in tone-painting - through its fine dynamic gradation, the free-moving quality of its pneumatic tract, its colourful solo voices and rather dark, full sound.

**Carsten Wiebusch** has concertised as an organist in many European countries and the USA, and has repeatedly been awarded international prizes such as the Johann Sebastian Bach Prize of the City of Wiesbaden. In this recording, he shows the 1900 Walcker Organ, especially well-preserved as it is, from different sides. With the genuine organ works of Reger, the rather orchestral Parsifal Prelude and the virtuoso pianistic Pictures at an Exhibition, he presents a fascinating variety of tone colours and expressive nuances.

**Bestellnummer:** audite 20.029  
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