



Igor Stravinsky: Perséphone

aud 95.619

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[The Classical Review](#) (Michael Quinn - 2011.03.04)

Fritz Wunderlich sings Stravinsky's 'Perséphone' live in 1960 on Audite

Audite is to release a live performance by Fritz Wunderlich of Stravinsky's *Perséphone* recorded in 1960 for the Hessische Rundfunk in Frankfurt am Main, Germany.

The release offers a rare opportunity to hear the fondly remembered tenor in unfamiliar repertoire, this performance of *Perséphone* the only occasion he sang the piece, taking the role of Eumolpius – which, fittingly enough, translates as “he who sings beautifully”.

Set to a text by the French novelist André Gide, and composed during Stravinsky's neo-classical period, the speaking part of *Perséphone* is performed by the great German actress Doris Schade, with Dean Dixon – the first Afro-American to become a chief conductor (in 1961) of a German Radio Symphony Orchestra – conducting the Sinfonie-Orchesters und Chor des Hessischen Rundfunks and the Chor des Süddeutschen Rundfunks.