

**Franz Liszt: Sardanapalo - Mazeppa****aud 97.764****EAN: 4022143977649**

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The performance is excellent, captured in a very immediate-sounding acoustic, not over-reverberant and with voices somewhat to the fore. Dynamic range is also wide. Kirill Karabits and the excellent players of Staatskapelle Weimar take an energetic and appropriately exciting approach to the score with more than a whiff of the theatre to it. Joyce El-Khoury is an attractively italianate-voiced and involving Mirra, and although she has the necessary virtuosity and power she does occasionally sound stretched by some of the vocal writing.

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