



Franz Liszt: A Faust Symphony, S. 108 – Mephisto Waltz No. 3, S. 216

aud 97.761

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Editor's Choices

Liszt's orchestral portraits of Faust, Marguerite and Mephistopheles positively leap off the page in this vital, richly characterised account of the Goethe-inspired symphony: the Weimar brass glow and growl in the opening movement depicting Faust's torment, principal oboe and viola are on eloquent form when portraying Marguerite's innocence, and the devilish scherzo is given with dazzling clarity. Boris Lyatoshinsky's 1955 symphonic poem *Grazhyna* (which Karabits has previously recorded in Bournemouth) looks like a non sequitur on paper, but the kinship with Liszt's soundworld is striking.



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Presto Editor's Choices – August 2023

31st August 2023

by Katherine Cooper



Liszt: A Faust Symphony & Mephisto Waltz No. 3

Airam Hernandez (tenor), Staatskapelle Wiemar, Kirill Karabits

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