

Antonin Dvorak - Symphony No.8 (Szell) [1983]

Written by bluesever

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01. Allegro con brio 02. Adagio 03. Allegretto grazioso; Molto vivace 04. Allegro ma non troppo Cleveland Orchestra George Szell – conductor

My mother sang with this orchestra under the baton of this man and I have grown up listening to the recordings that he made. I hasten to say that this orchestra/conductor combination was one of the best in history and every attempt should be made to resurrect all of the recordings which are not currently available. One need not look further than Szell's definitive Mahler 4th, with Judith Raskin, his Beethoven set, or his classic Haydn and Mozart recordings. Even though this Symphony is the only item on this disc, it is still well worth the bargain price. One is immediately drawn into the recording with the powerful string statement at the onset. This is a masterwork by a great composer and a master performance by a great maestro. My only regret is that there is no filler, say a Slavonic Dance or two, like his recording of the Ninth. Every once in a while, if you are a real listener, you can hear the great conductor's breathing, but that price is insignificant and hardly worth mentioning. This is not low-priced for lack of quality, it is an absolute gem! --- Michael A. Steele (Michigan)

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