Antonin Dvorak – Serenades (Marriner) [2013]



- 1. Serenade for Strings in E, Op.22 1. Moderato play
- 2. Serenade for Strings in E, Op.22 2. Tempo di valse
- 3. Serenade for Strings in E, Op.22 3. Scherzo (Vivace)
- 4. Serenade for Strings in E, Op.22 4. Larghetto
- 5. Serenade for Strings in E, Op.22 5. Finale (Allegro vivace)
- 6. Serenade for Wind in D minor, Op.44 1. Moderato, quasi marcia play
- 7. Serenade for Wind in D minor, Op.44 2. Minuetto (Tempo di minuetto)
- 8. Serenade for Wind in D minor, Op.44 3. Andante con moto
- 9. Serenade for Wind in D minor, Op.44 4. Finale (Allegro molto) Academy of St. Martin-in-the-Fields Neville Marriner conductor

Dvořák's two splendidly tuneful serenades are so attractive that you will find the tunes stuck in your head for days afterwards. If this makes you crazy, then you might want to exercise caution before playing them! Each is written for different forces: one for strings, the other for winds (with a single double bass to reinforce the bottom end). The Serenade for Winds is particularly special, being the ultimate example of a form that Czech composers really did better than anyone else. The wind writing has that essential "outdoors" quality, but it's also completely smooth and euphonious. Sir Neville Marriner's band does the music proud. This is one of their best recordings. ---David Hurwitz, amazon.com

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