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Bach's Brandenburg Concertos

by Stephen Ovades

I can think of no finer compliment to the Brandenburg Concertos than the fact that many of them are known to us only as reflections of their namesakes, rather than over ever the course of preparing this particular recording of them. The Brandenburgs are among the most interesting of Bach's works, and they reflect the substantial portion of his output that has been lost to history. Indeed, as the brilliant and influential critic Horace Richter pointed out in his study of the composer, "Bach never wrote a work that was not a reflection of his own life and times." The Brandenburgs are among the most fascinating of his works, and they reflect the composer's lifelong dedication to the art of harmony and counterpoint. In this recording, the Brandenburgs are performed with care and precision, and the result is a work that is both beautiful and thought-provoking. The Brandenburgs are among the most beloved of Bach's works, and they remain a cornerstone of the Baroque repertoire.