

Gramophone Editor's Choice: October 2026 | The best new classical recordings

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11 September 2026



Editor Martin Cullingford's pick of the finest recordings from this month's reviews



Handel Giulio Cesare in Egitto

Sols; The English Concert / Harry Bicket (Linn)

A splendid recording of Handel's *Giulio Cesare in Egitto*, rich in character throughout, whether from the superb soloists or the brilliant players under Harry Bicket.

[Read the *Gramophone* review](#)



Bruckner Symphony No 3

Anima Eterna Brugge / Pablo Heras-Casado (Harmonia Mundi)

Pablo Heras-Casado brings a powerful sense of momentum to his performance of Bruckner's Third Symphony – and the recording has a wonderfully vivid spaciousness.

[Read the *Gramophone* review](#)

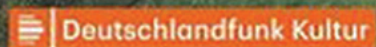


Shostakovich Symphony No 7, 'Leningrad'

San Diego Symphony Orchestra / Rafael Payare (Delos)

Rafael Payare leads an impressive account of Shostakovich's Seventh Symphony, rich in detail and powerful in drama.

[Read the *Gramophone* review](#)

The Naxos logo is a blue square with the word "NAXOS" in white, stylized capital letters.The Deutschlandfunk Kultur logo is an orange rectangle with a white icon of three horizontal lines and the text "Deutschlandfunk Kultur" in white.

Ernest BLOCH

Violin Sonatas Nos. 1 and 2 'Poème mystique'
Baal Shem • Suite No. 1 for Solo Violin

Spectrum Concerts Berlin
Boris Brovtsyn, Violin • Diana Ketler, Piano

Bloch Violin Sonatas

Boris Brovtsyn *vn* **Diana Ketler** *pf* (Naxos)

Exceptional performances of two quite different sonatas, violinist Boris Brovtsyn and pianist Diana Ketler bringing a real immediacy and lyricism to Bloch's music.

[Read the *Gramophone* review](#)



Brahms. Reger Clarinet Quintets

Michael Collins c/ Escher Quartet (BIS)

Michael Collins's third recording of Brahms's Quintet (here with the Escher Quartet) and his first of Reger's, both performances full of communicative spirit and elegance.

[Read the *Gramophone* review](#)

CHANDOS

ENESCU

String Octet
Piano Quintet in D major



KALEIDOSCOPE CHAMBER COLLECTIVE

Enescu Octet. Piano Quintet

Kaleidoscope Chamber Collective (Chandos)

The Kaleidoscope Chamber Collective's impeccable chamber instincts triumph again, with this album of warm, collegial performances of works by Enescu.

[Read the *Gramophone* review](#)

András Schiff
Johannes Brahms Klavierstücke



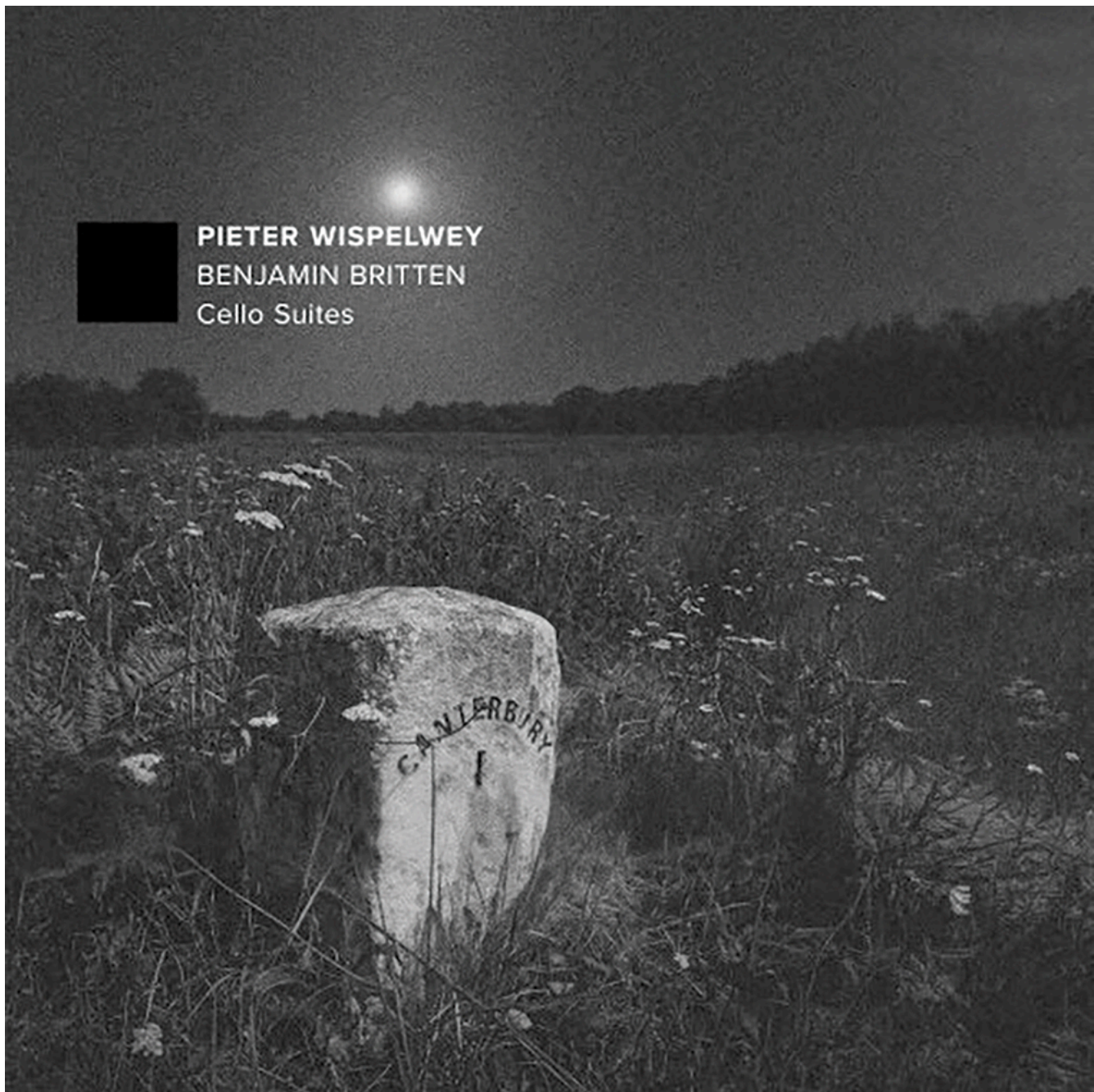
ECM NEW SERIES

Brahms Piano Pieces

András Schiff *pf* (ECM New Series)

Late Brahms played by András Schiff on a beautiful and distinctive-sounding 1859 vintage Blüthner piano, which adds a memorable colour to performances rich in character.

[Read the *Gramophone* review](#)



Britten Three Cello Suites

Pieter Wispelwey vc (Evil Penguin)

Pieter Wispelwey's third survey of Britten's Cello Suites draws on decades of reflection on the music, making for compelling and highly engaging listening, and recorded with striking intimacy.

[Read the *Gramophone* review](#)

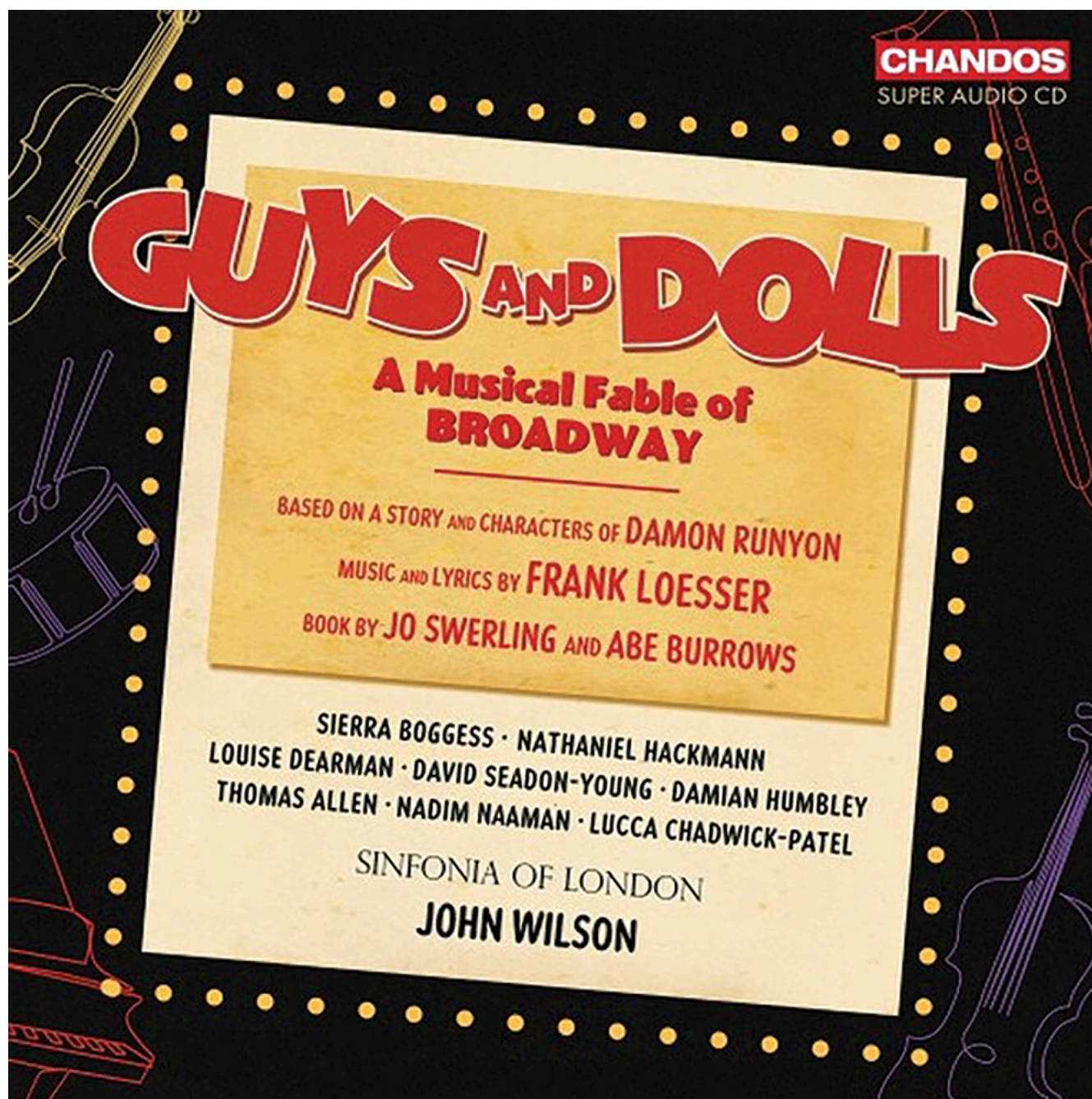


Lassus Requiems

Vox Luminis / Lionel Meunier (Ricercar)

Vocal ensemble Vox Luminis offer listeners a masterclass in performing music of this era – impeccable intonation, distinctive individual voices and lines, all beautifully balanced.

[Read the *Gramophone* review](#)



Loesser Guys and Dolls

Sols; Sinfonia of London / John Wilson (Chandos)

John Wilson takes us back to the original sound world – indeed the opening night – of *Guys and Dolls*, capturing the score's intricacies and personality.

[Read the Gramophone review](#)



Bartók The Miraculous Mandarin, etc

Cleveland Orchestra / Franz Welser-Möst (adella.live)

This all-Bartók programme is a thrilling example of Welser- Möst's adventurous programming with the Cleveland Orchestra.

[Read the Gramophone review](#)

Reissue/archive



Dvořák Rusalka

Sols; Prague National Theatre / Jaroslav Krombholc (Supraphon)

A historic *Rusalka* from Czech conductor Jaroslav Krombholc, the leading role sung movingly by Ludmila Červinková, the performance excellently transferred too.

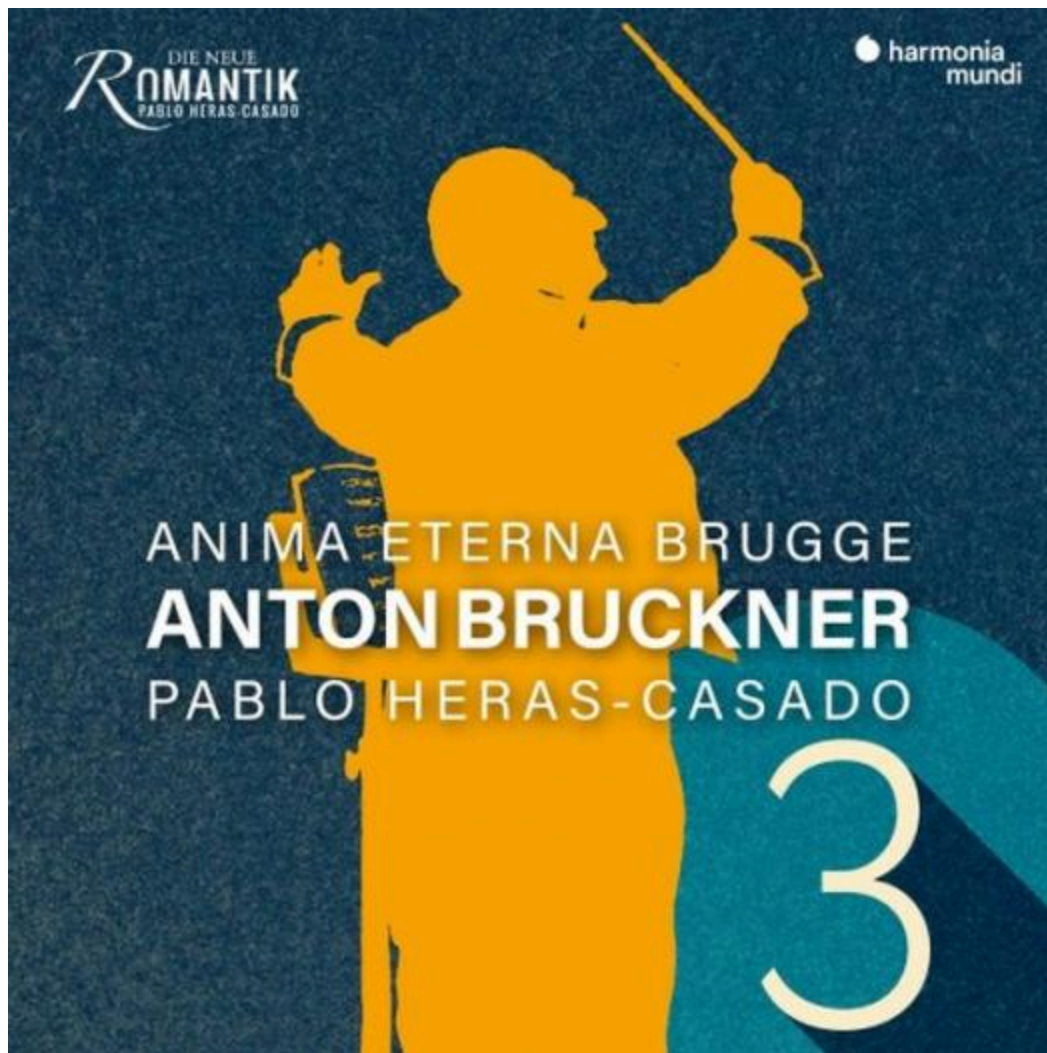
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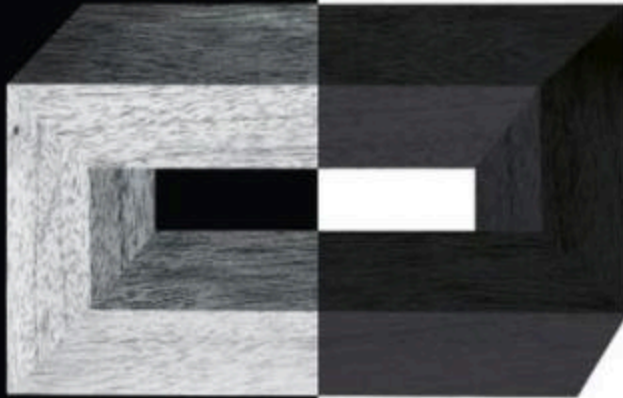


[BRUCKNER Symphony No 3 \(Heras-Casado\)](#)

This striking new account of the original 1873 version of Bruckner's Third Symphony – one of the finest Bruckner recordings I've heard in recent times – is e...



Handel
Giulio Cesare

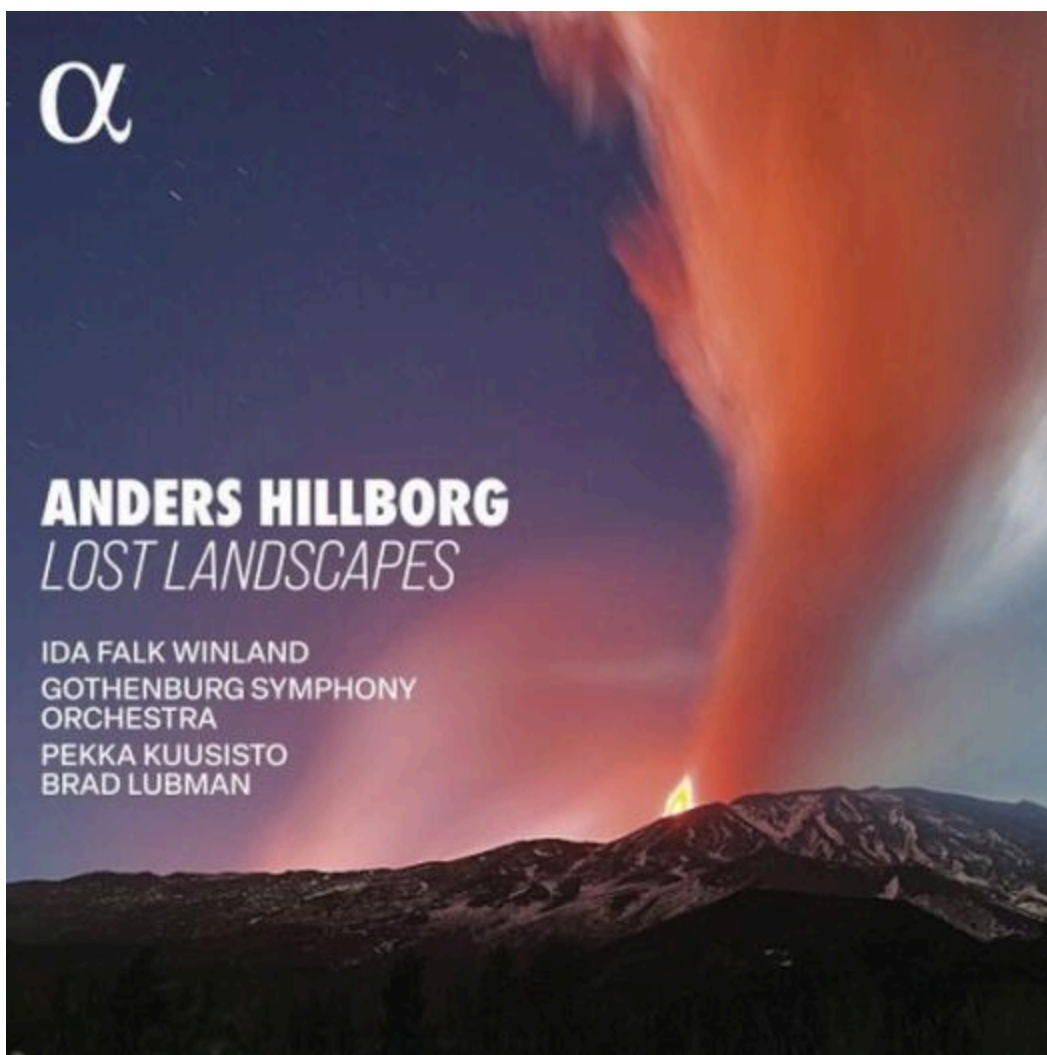


THE ENGLISH CONCERT

HARRY BICKET
LOUISE ALDER | CHRISTOPHE DUMAUX
BETH TAYLOR | PAULA MURRIHY
JOHN HOLIDAY | MORGAN PEARSE
MEILI LI | THOMAS CHENHALL

[HANDEL Giulio Cesare \(Bicket\)](#)

Considering that it is one of his best-known operas today, there are fewer recordings of Handel's Giulio Cesare in Egitto than one might expect and as such,...



[HILLBORG Lost Landscapes](#)

Hard on the heels of the first volume in BIS's new series devoted to Anders Hillborg's orchestral and concertante works, 'Vaporised Tivoli' (7/26), comes a n...

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