



artists: Nicholas Phan, tenor
Myra Huang, piano
Telegraph Quartet
The Knights Chamber Orchestra,
Colin and Eric Jacobsen, conductors

title: Illuminations
Britten – Debussy – Fauré

price: Full price

release date: 20 April 2018

selection number: AV 2382

bar code: 822252238228

about the release

Following acclaimed albums devoted to Britten, baroque lute songs and German *lieder*, Grammy Award-nominated tenor **Nicholas Phan**

continues to spread his wings with *Illuminations*, an album featuring compositions by Benjamin Britten, Claude Debussy and Gabriel Fauré who were each inspired by the poetry of two 19th-century French literary titans, Paul Verlaine and his protégé and eventual lover Arthur Rimbaud. The intertwined lives of the French poets and composers manifested themselves in Fauré’s impassioned Verlaine-inspired *La bonne chanson* and Debussy’s *Ariettes oubliées* drawn from Verlaine’s *Romances sans paroles*. Just decades later Britten was inspired by Rimbaud’s influential prose-poetry *Les Illuminations*.

critical acclaim for Nicholas Phan

“one of the most beautiful young lyric voices around.” – *Opera News*

“The year has barely begun and already here’s a disc to remember come all those end-of-year round-ups.” – *Gramophone Editor’s Choice* (on *A Painted Tale*, AV 2325)

“so many strengths ... a dapper, cultivated timbre, splendid enunciation, and keen intelligence and musicianship.” – *WQXR* (on *Still Falls the Rain*, AV 2258)

“There are so many jewels here ... Phan's sheer sensitivity is a delight. An absorbing recital disc and an ideal introduction to the joys of *lieder*. Beautifully recorded” – *TheArtsDesk.com* (on *Gods & Monsters*, AV 2368)

summary

The poetry of 19th-century French literary titans Paul Verlaine and Arthur Rimbaud inspired composers Fauré, Debussy and Britten, and in turn spurred Grammy Award-nominated tenor **Nicholas Phan** to combine their works on *Illuminations*.

track list

Gabriel Fauré (1845 – 1924)

La bonne chanson

1. Une sainte en son aureole
2. Puisque l’aube grandit
3. La lune blanche luit dans les bois
4. J’allais par des chemins perdus
5. J’ai presque peur en vérité
6. Avant que tu ne t’en ailles
7. Donc, ce sera par un clair jour d’été
8. N’est-ce pas?
9. L’hiver a cessé

Claude Debussy (1862 – 1918)

- Ariettes oubliées
10. C’est l’extase
 11. Il pleure dans mon coeur
 12. L’ombre des arbres
 13. Chevaux de bois
 14. Aquarelles I – Green

also available

Benjamin Britten (1913 – 1976)

Les Illuminations

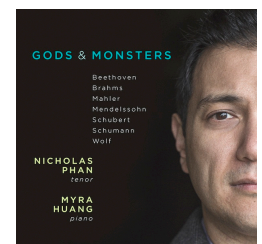
16. I. Fanfare
17. II. Villes
18. IIIa. Phrase
19. IIIb. Antique
20. IV. Royauté
21. V. Marine
22. VI. Interlude
23. VII. Being beauteous
24. VIII. Parade
25. IX. Départ

Total time:

Tracks 1 – 15 Recorded September 26 & 27 2017, Skywalker Sound, a Lucasfilm Ltd Company, Marin County, California
Producer, Engineer, editing, mixing & mastering: Marlan Barry
Assistant engineers: Dann Thompson, Robert Gatley
Tracks 16 – 25 Recorded October 6, 2017, Drew University Concert Hall



Britten: Still Falls the Rain (AV 2258)



Gods & Monsters (AV 2368)

MARKETING AND PROMOTION

media targets

Classical, Vocal

advertising

Print: Gramophone, BBC Music Magazine, Opera News

Online: Facebook, Twitter

reviews

Magazines: Gramophone, BBC Music Magazine, Fanfare, American Record Guide, Opera News

Newspapers: Sunday Times, The Times, Guardian, Observer, Bay Area Reporter, San Francisco Chronicle, Chicago Tribune

airplay

BBC Radio 3 – Record Review; KDFC – San Francisco; WFMT – Chicago

key territories

USA

listening link

tbc

lead / instant grat tracks

tbc

social media

Nicholas Phan: Facebook – 2,500; Twitter – 1,850; Instagram – 275; YouTube - 85

Myra Huang: Facebook – 1,250; Twitter – 130

Telegraph Quartet: Facebook – 590; Instagram – 133,000; YouTube – 30;

The Knights: Facebook – 2,800; Twitter – 2,930; YouTube – 40

AVIE Records: Facebook – 1,000; Twitter – 1,500

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