

NAXOS

BERLIOZ: La Damnation de Faust

8.660116-17

When Hector Berlioz was sent by his physician father to study medicine in Paris, he instead entered the Conservatoire to study composition. Goethe's *Faust*, in a French translation by Gérard de Nerval, formed the basis of the *Damnation of Faust*, which Berlioz termed a *Légende dramatique*. The plot centres on Faust's bargain with Méphistophélès, the seduction of Marguerite, her imprisonment for matricide and her salvation, while Faust himself is dragged down to Hell, in damnation. These events are vividly captured with all Berlioz's skill of dramatic orchestral writing. The opera includes the popular *Rákóczy March* and two frequently-performed dance movements: *Minuet of the Will-o'-the-Wisps* and *Dance of the Sylphs*.



**Hector
BERLIOZ**
(1803-1869)
La Damnation de Faust



Marguerite..... Marie-Ange Todorovitch, Mezzo-soprano
Faust Michael Myers, Tenor
Méphistophélès Alain Vernhes, Baritone
Brander..... René Schirrer, Bass

Philippe Gérard: Cor anglais (CD 2/13)

Slovak Philharmonic Choir

Chorus master: Jan Rozehnal

Orchestre National de Lille/Région Nord-Pas de Calais

Jean-Claude Casadesus

CD 1	58:22	CD 2	65:23
1-4 Part 1	15:11	1-12 Part 3	33:51
5-20 Part 2	43:11	13-21 Part 4	31:32

A full track listing can be found on pages 3 and 4 of the booklet

The French libretto can be found at www.naxos.com/libretti/faust.htm

Recorded live on 4th and 5th November, 2003, at L'Auditorium du Nouveau Siècle, Lille, France

Producer: Andrew Walton (K&A Productions) • Engineer: Mike Clements

Vocal coach: Nathalie Steinberg • Assistant to Jean-Claude Casadesus: Pierre-Michel Durand

This recording has been made and edited at 24 bit resolution

Post-production: Andrew Walton • Digital Mixing: Mike Clements • Booklet Notes: Keith Anderson
Cover image: *Front cover for the score of 'The Damnation of Faust'* by Georges Fraipont (1873-1912)

(Private Collection / Archives Charmet / The Bridgeman Art Library)

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DDD

Playing Time
2:03:45



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