

It is a little known fact that Bizet's *Symphony No. 1* (Naxos 8.553027), now regarded as a minor masterpiece, was closely modelled on his teacher Gounod's *Symphony No. 1*, only rediscovered in the 1950s and still unaccountably neglected. Anyone familiar with Bizet's *Symphony* will recognize the melodic and rhythmic similarities of the delightfully vivacious outer movements, the wistful slow movements, and the drone-bass effect of the third movements. Gounod's *Symphony No. 2*, a more ambitious and elaborate work, particularly in its wind instrumentation, is more in the style of Beethoven or Mendelssohn.

Charles  
**GOUNOD**  
(1818-1893)

**Symphonies Nos. 1 and 2**

**Symphony No. 1 in D major 28:29**

- |   |                                 |      |
|---|---------------------------------|------|
| 1 | Allegro molto                   | 5:54 |
| 2 | Allegretto moderato             | 6:06 |
| 3 | Scherzo: Non troppo presto      | 7:42 |
| 4 | Finale: Adagio – Allegro vivace | 8:47 |

**Symphony No. 2 in E flat major 39:45**

- |   |                                 |       |
|---|---------------------------------|-------|
| 5 | Adagio – Allegro agitato        | 12:34 |
| 6 | Larghetto (non troppo)          | 9:22  |
| 7 | Scherzo: Allegro molto          | 7:32  |
| 8 | Finale: Allegro, leggiero assai | 10:17 |

**Sinfonia Finlandia Jyväskylä • Patrick Gallois**

Recorded in the Concert Hall, Suolahti, Finland, from 13th to 15th May, 2004.

Produced and engineered by Sean Lewis

Booklet Notes: Keith Anderson

Cover painting of Charles Gounod by Benjamin Chai

NAXOS

DDD

8.557463

Playing Time  
68:14



www.naxos.com

© & © 2006 Naxos Rights International Ltd.  
Booklet notes in English  
Kommentar auf Deutsch • Notice en français  
Made in the EU