



8.573471

DDD

Playing Time
66:33

© & © 2016 Naxos Rights US, Inc.
Booklet notes in English • Notice en français
Made in Germany
www.naxos.com

Olivier Messiaen's early organ works helped establish him as a towering figure of 20th century music. *L'Ascension* is the most significant of these, with its solemn majesty, dazzling colours and near-static serenity and timelessness. These qualities were already present in *Le Banquet céleste*, Messiaen's first published organ work, and in *Apparition de l'Église éternelle* – a powerful representation of the eternal church emerging and fading from view. The two works discovered posthumously in 1997, *Prélude* and *Offrande au Saint-Sacrement*, show the influence of Dupré and Tournemire. Tom Winpenny's acclaimed recording of Messiaen's *La Nativité du Seigneur* can be heard on Naxos 8.573332.

Olivier MESSIAEN

(1908-1992)

L'Ascension [The Ascension] (version for organ, 1933-34)

25:04

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|------|
| 1 | Majesté du Christ [Majesty of Christ] | 6:06 |
| 2 | Alléluias sereins [Serene Alleluias] | 6:06 |
| 3 | Transports de joie [Outbursts of Joy] | 4:59 |
| 4 | Prière du Christ [Prayer of Christ] | 7:53 |

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|-------|
| 5 | Diptyque [Diptych] (1928-1930?) | 10:51 |
|---|---------------------------------|-------|

- | | | |
|---|---|------|
| 6 | Offrande au Saint-Sacrement
[Offering to the Holy Sacrament] (1930s) | 6:04 |
|---|---|------|

- | | | |
|---|----------------------|------|
| 7 | Prélude (1928-1930?) | 8:14 |
|---|----------------------|------|

- | | | |
|---|---|------|
| 8 | Le Banquet céleste [The Celestial Banquet] (1928) | 7:14 |
|---|---|------|

- | | | |
|---|---|------|
| 9 | Apparition de l'Église éternelle
[Apparition of the Eternal Church] (1932) | 9:06 |
|---|---|------|

Tom Winpenny, Organ

With thanks to the Minister and staff of St Giles' Cathedral, and to Michael & Brigitte Harris for their generous assistance.

Recorded at St Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh, Scotland, on 17th and 18th February, 2015

Produced, engineered and edited by Adrian Lucas (Acclaim Productions) • Production assistant: David Wilkins

Publishers: Editions Alphonse Leduc (tracks 1-4, 6-8); Editions Durand & Cie. (track 5);

Editions Henri Lemoine (track 9) • Booklet notes: Tom Winpenny • Cover: Rolffimages (Dreamstime.com)