

Part of the great French musical tradition and a member of Les Six, Darius Milhaud was an important avant-garde figure in early 20th century Paris. The *Oresteia of Aeschylus* trilogy arose from his lifelong interest in Greek mythology and drama, inspired by the expressive, syncopated rhythms of Paul Claudel's poetic texts. In addition to innovative rhythmic elements, the trilogy exhibits complex harmonic techniques, particularly polytonality, which Milhaud believed gave him more varied ways of expressing sweetness in addition to violence.



SCHOOL OF
MUSIC, THEATRE & DANCE
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Darius
MILHAUD
(1892-1974)

WORLD PREMIERE
RECORDING

L'Orestie d'Eschyle (1913-23)
(The Oresteia of Aeschylus)
Libretto by Paul Claudel

Clytemnestra Lori Phillips, Soprano
Orestes	Dan Kempson, Baritone
Apollo	Sidney Outlaw, Baritone
Leader of the Slave Women	Sophie Delphis, Speaker
Athena / A Slave Woman	Brenda Rae, Soprano
Athena	Tamara Mumford, Mezzo-soprano
Athena	Jennifer Lane, Contralto
Pythia (Oracle)	Julianna Di Giacomo, Soprano
Electra	Kristin Eder, Mezzo-soprano

University of Michigan Symphony Orchestra • Percussion Ensemble
Chamber Choir • University Choir • Orpheus Singers • UMS Choral Union
Kenneth Kiesler

CD 1	45:54	CD 2	48:11	CD 3	47:20
1 L'Agamemnon	11:12	1-19 Les Euménides, Acts 1 and 2	48:11	1-20 Les Euménides, Act 3	47:20
2-8 Les Choéphores	34:42				

A production of UMS and the University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre & Dance
A full track list, cast list, and recording and publishing details can be found inside the booklet.
The French libretto and an English translation can be accessed at www.naxos.com/libretti/660349.htm

Booklet notes: Ethan Allred, Kenneth Kiesler and William Bolcom
Cover photo: *Mask of Agamemnon, Athens* © Antonio Gravante (Fotolia.com)

NAXOS

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Playing Time
2:21:24



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Booklet notes and synopsis in English
Notice et argument en français
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