

# A master-modeller of sound

The reverse side of a record cover usually presents the artist in some detail, while the person responsible for the technical side of the recording has to be content with seeing his name in the "Facts" column. Sometimes this makes for a conspicuous imbalance, and in the case of Bertil Alving's recordings for the Proprius label there is every reason for bringing his name out into the limelight: what he has succeeded in doing with the spatial and acoustic conditions of Bollmoradalen's church is quite amazing.

The church is built in the manner of churches in Sweden during the last twenty years — well-suited to speech, but less favourable for music. But when I listen to Bertil Alving's sound it feels as though the space and the organ's tone melt together into a consummate whole. Great ability and experience lie behind this result.

In the case in point, the church was rapidly refurbished. The seating cushions were reckoned to be much too absorbent, so they were collected in small piles in different parts of the church. The microphones were placed further and further from the organ, their height being constantly adjusted. No big changes, but small, careful alterations. In this case the tone was not a complete success, until Bertil placed two small extra microphones at strategically important points in order to give the acoustic that little extra lift which the room demanded.

So the listener can imagine how much time was required for preparation before the artist and the recording technicians could call the ringing result a genuine Proprius sound — although it actually ought to be called "Alving-sound"!

*Erik Lundqvist, organist*

## A

### DIETRICH BUXTEHUDE

Preludium/fuga E major  
ED. WILHELM HANSEN

7'00"

### JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH

Jesus bleibet meine Freude  
ED. WILHELM HANSEN

3'05"

### JOHN STANLEY

Voluntary A minor  
OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

6'20"

### ESKIL HEMBERG

Epitaffio per organo, op. 34  
NORDISKA MUSIKFÖRLAGET

5'50"

## B

### OTTO OLSSON

Fantasi och fuga, op. 29  
We praise thee great Lord  
NORLINGS FÖRLAG

16'35"

### JOHANNES BRAHMS

Preludium/fuga G minor  
EDITION BREITKOPF

7'00"



#### THE RECORDED

took place in Bollmoradalen's church the 15th and 22nd of January 1962. Recording engineer was Bertil Alving/SOUND WORKSHOP who used AKG C 422 and Brüel & Kjær microphones, 416 mixer SATT SAMÉZ and a modified Revlex A77HS tape recorder.

Registrar: Lars-Gunnar Andersson  
Mixing: The Cutting Room, Solna  
Printing: Grönrooslas, Spånga  
Layout: Olof de Kiki Berlin  
Frontispiece: "Nebulosa" — a gossamer by Gumborg Jolin  
Photo: Jan Bengfeldt  
English translation: Toby Ebbeson  
Photo of the organ: Peter Myler  
Printing: SIDA-type, Nureberg  
Production: Jacob Borrislas  
© 1962, © 1980, Proprius Musik AB, Stockholm, Sweden  
This record was created on the initiative of the "Lyris" Society for organ studies.

MADE IN SWEDEN

The organ in Bollmoradalen's church was built by Walter Thür Orgelbyggen AB, Torsåalla. The organ was inaugurated or the 11th of April 1976.