



In the last three decades the staggeringly original piano music of Charles-Valentin Alkan (1813–88) has emerged from the darkness that surrounded it over the previous century and today features regularly in recital programmes. But Alkan's music for organ – much of it initially conceived for the now obsolete pedal-piano – is no less powerful and imaginative, although little of it had been recorded before Kevin Bowyer began this survey. His first recording of this repertoire drew ecstatic reviews from the critics; this second instalment (of three) offers music and playing of equal quality.

NOTES EN FRANÇAIS ~ MIT DEUTSCHEM KOMMENTAR

ALKAN Organ Works, Volume 2

1	<i>Pro Organo*</i>	2:20
2	<i>12 Études pour les pieds seulement, Nos. 7–12*</i>	21:20
8	<i>11 Pièces dans le Style Religieux, et 1 Transcription, du Messie de Handel, Op. 72**</i>	50:00
		TT: 73:40

Kevin Bowyer, organ of Blackburn Cathedral

*FIRST RECORDINGS;
**FIRST COMPLETE RECORDING

Press reaction to Volume One

'this glorious disc [...] scores top marks in every department. [...] Blackburn Cathedral's magnificent Walker/Wood organ (superbly captured by sound engineer Lance Andrews) combined with Bowyer's effortless artistry and Malcolm MacDonald's masterful notes make this a must-have recommendation.'

Gramophone

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