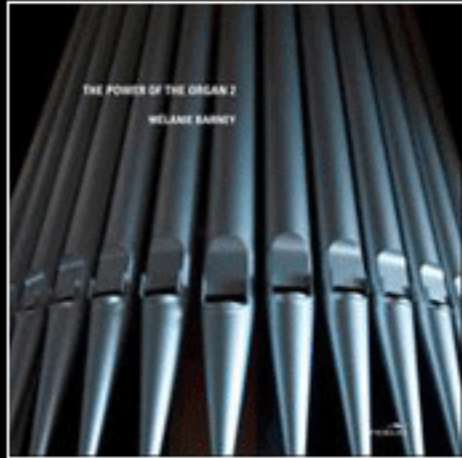


# Classical Music Sentinel

*Always on the Lookout for the Best Recordings*

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## **THE POWER OF THE ORGAN 2 - Mélanie Barney (Organ) - 0771028236947 - Released: September 2012 - Fidelio Musique FACD-037**

- 1} Die Walkure: Ride of the Valkyries
- 2} Tristan und Isolde: Prelude
- 3} Danse macabre, Op. 40
- 4} Symphony No. 3 in C minor, Op. 78, "Organ": I. Adagio
- 5} Carillon de Westminster
- 6} Pieces de fantaisie, Op. 53 (Suite No. 2): V. Clair de lune
- 7} Organ Symphony No. 1 in D minor, Op. 14: VI. Final
- 8} Variations on an Original Theme, Op. 36, "Enigma": Variation 9: Nimrod
- 9} Organ Symphony No. 5 in F minor, Op. 42, No. 1: V. Toccata

This disc is special.

Think of it as an after dinner liqueur. Well thought out, perfectly balanced. Any more is too much, any less is just not quite enough.

**Mélanie Barney** is a very accomplished organist in terms of technical ability, but what I appreciate the most is her timing and sense of registration.

The organ chosen for this disc is a mighty old **Casavant** in Québec. Very much in the soundscape of Cavallé-Coll. Mélanie uses the resources of this instrument to recreate a number of transcriptions of large symphonic works and good old organ music.

We get a ride with Richard Wagner and a dance with Camille St-Saëns. A little clock music from Louis Vierne and some Pomp and little circumstance from a knightly Mr. Elgar. The finishing touch is a massive "to touch" from Charles-Marie Widor.

Puns intended, these are well known pieces that even with these scant descriptions are probably well known. But please do not write this CD off as a "been there and done that" type of recording. This will get your ears perked up to listen to new insights on these brilliant pieces of music. This CD deserves a place on the shelves of music lovers as a tribute to what can be accomplished with the art of music.

Whole heartedly recommended.

*"A breathtaking collection of works as spectacular as Saint-Saëns' Danse Macabre and Wagner's Walkyries adapted for organ along with other great classics of organ music. Melanie Barney presents a thoroughly modern rendition. With the innovative recording technique in 24/192, this is one of Fidelio Musique's true audiophile gems." {Naxos}*

**Mark Kravchenko**