

Gail Archer: Franz Liszt, A Hungarian Rhapsody CD Release 8/23

In Celebration of the 200th Anniversary of the Birth of Liszt



Release Date: 08/23/2011

Label: Meyer Media

Tracks: Ad nos ad salutarem undam; Prelude and Fugue on B-A-C-H; Weinen, Klagen, Sorgen, Zagen; Am Grabe Richard Wagners; and Pilgerchor aus "Tannhäuser"

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"Gail Archer has become one of the world's few star organists." - Toronto Star

NEW YORK (For Release 08/09/11) — Gail Archer, one of the nation's premier female organists, commemorates the 200th birthday of one of the most prominent 19th century piano composers, Franz Liszt (1811-1886). Slated for an August 23rd release, Archer's latest album *Franz Liszt, A Hungarian Rhapsody* (Meyer Media) features a priceless treasure of Liszt's organ music dating from 1849 to the end of his life. Augmented by Archer's upcoming 2011-12 worldwide concert tour (see schedule below), the album includes: three extended works - *Ad nos ad salutarem undam*, *Prelude and Fugue on B-A-C-H*, and *Weinen, Klagen, Sorgen, Zagen*; arguably, the most poignant and brief of Liszt's organ works, *Am Grabe Richard Wagners*; and Liszt's arrangement of an excerpt from Wagner's opera, the "Pilgrim's Chorus" from *Tannhäuser*.

This marks Archer's third consecutive composer-centric album release. In 2010, she paid homage to J.S. Bach's 325th birthday in *Bach the Transcendent Genius*. Cited as one of the *"Best Classical Moments of 2008"* (Time Out New York), she wowed audiences and listeners alike with her 2008-2009 worldwide tour of the *Olivier Messiaen A Mystic in the Making* album.

Described as playing *"with an unflagging power and aggressiveness...and a sense of vulnerability and awe"* (New York Times), Archer is thrilled to be sharing the magnetism and imagination of Liszt - one of the towering geniuses of the Romantic age. *"Liszt's music evoked an unprecedented visceral impact well beyond its 19th century artistic milieu. His genius continues to extend far beyond the sheet music by expanding the dimensions of organ music,"* explains Archer. Regarded by most as the greatest pianist of all time, Liszt has emerged as one of the most awe-inspiring figures in all of music history. His piano compositions stand as pinnacles of the genre - inspiring, bewildering, and formidable.

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About Gail Archer

Gail Archer holds a DMA in organ performance from the Manhattan School of Music and earned an artist diploma from the Boston Conservatory. An active recitalist in both the United States and Europe; she was recently featured at the Dresden Musicfestspiel. Her latest album *Bach the Transcendent Genius* was released in February 2010 (recorded on a Fritts organ at Vassar College). She lives in New York City and is College Organist at Vassar College and Director of the Music Program at Barnard College, Columbia University, where she directs the university choirs.

***Gail Archer: Franz Liszt, A Hungarian Rhapsody* is available for purchase at all major online retailers. For more info about the CD and Gail Archer, visit www.gailarcher.com.**

Gail Archer's 2011 Liszt Concert Schedule: 9/20 Davidson, NC; 9/29 Cuneo, Italy; 10/1 Alba, Italy; 10/9 Kalispell, MT; 10/15 South Windsor, CT; 10/23 St. Louis, MO; 10/30 Poughkeepsie, NY; 11/6 Atlanta, GA; 11/13 Chicago, IL; 11/17 Cambridge, MA; 11/20 Oakland, CA; 11/27 Ontario, Canada; 12/4 Poughkeepsie, NY; 12/10 New York City, NY; and many more in 2012...

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