In-Store Release Information  September 22, 2017

BEETHOVEN SYMPHONIES 1 – 9

TAFELMUSIK BAROQUE ORCHESTRA
Jeanne Lamon, Music Director
Bruno Weil, Conductor

TAFELMUSIK CHAMBER CHOIR
Ivars Taurins, Director

Sigrid Plundrich, soprano
Mary-Ellen Nesi, mezzo-soprano
Colin Balzer, tenor
Simon Tischler, bass-baritone

6 CD package:  $40 CAD

Total Time:
CD1.  57:55
CD2.  48:31
CD3.  63:22
CD4.  42:33
CD5.  63:58
CD6.  66:09

Sound Format:  24-bit high definition sound

In-Store:  September 22, 2017
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Tafelmusik Media label:  tafelmusik.org/Recordings
Distributed by:  naxos.com
“Weil and his [Tafelmusik] players convince us that Beethoven can sound as radical in the 21st century as he must have done in the 19th”
— Gramophone Magazine

Tafelmusik is thrilled to present its recordings of the complete Beethoven symphonies, six CDs packaged in a striking box set. Recorded under the direction of conductor Bruno Weil over a twelve-year period, Tafelmusik’s cycle marks the first time a North American orchestra has recorded all nine Beethoven symphonies on period instruments.

Recorded in Toronto at Koerner Hall and George Weston Recital Hall between 2004 and 2016, these performances chart Tafelmusik’s evolution as it expanded its repertoire to explore the music of classical and early romantic composers.

The set contains recordings originally made for the Analekta label, including the JUNO Award-winning Symphonies nos. 5 & 6, and the JUNO Award-nominated Symphonies nos. 7 & 8. Symphonies nos. 1 - 4, and the JUNO Award-nominated Symphony no. 9 were recorded live in concert on the Tafelmusik Media label.

Under the direction of Bruno Weil, Tafelmusik first performed a Beethoven symphony (no. 2) in Toronto in 1993. Maestro Weil also directed the orchestra in international performances of Beethoven symphonies at the Klang und Raum Festival in Irsee, Germany, during its 19-year tenure there as orchestra-in-residence.

Much admired by the international music press, Tafelmusik’s Beethoven interpretations have been praised for their “transparency of articulation and balance ... remarkable precision, vitality and tonal focus. Beethoven benefits mightily from the silken strings, woodsy winds, clarion brasses and pinpoint timpani” (Gramophone Magazine).

“We approach the Beethoven concerts and recording as if they were the very first performances, as though the music had been composed yesterday. There’s no sense of routine with Tafelmusik musicians and everybody’s playing with a full heart and a full soul and spirit. That is the secret to a great performance,” — Bruno Weil

“Although the Beethoven symphonies are familiar to many music lovers, few have had the privilege to experience them as Tafelmusik and Bruno Weil have over the past many years. Our journey with Bruno exploring these great works has been a profound and intensely personal one.”
— Jeanne Lamon, Music Director Emerita
CD 1

Symphony no. 1 in C Major, op. 21 (1800)
[1] Adagio – Allegro con brio 8:56
[2] Andante cantabile con moto 7:11

Symphony no. 2 in D Major, op. 36 (1802)
[6] Larghetto 10:06

Total time 57:55

CD 2

Symphony no. 3 in E-flat Major, op. 55 “Eroica” (1803)
[1] Allegro con brio 17:05

Total time 48:31

CD 3

Symphony no. 4 in B-flat Major, op. 60 (1806)

Symphony no. 5 in C Minor, op. 67 (1808)
[6] Andante con moto 8:50

Total time 63:22
CD 4

Symphony no. 6 in F Major “Pastoral,” op. 68 (1808)
[1] Allegro ma non troppo 11:30
Erwachen heiterer Empfindungen bei der Ankunft auf dem Lande
(Awakening of joyous feelings upon arrival in the countryside • Éveil d’impressions joyeuses en arrivant à la campagne)

Szene am Bach
(Scene by the brook • Scène au bord du ruisseau)

Lustiges Zusammensein der Landleute
(Merry gathering of country folk • Réunion joyeuse de paysans)

Gewitter. Sturm
(Storm. Tempest • Orage. Tempête)

Hitengesang. Frohe und dankbare Gefühle nach dem Sturm
(Shepherd’s song. Happy and thankful feelings after the storm • Chant des pâtres : sentiments de contemplation et de reconnaissances après l’orage)

Total time 42:33

CD 5

Symphony no. 7 in A Major, op. 92 (1812)
[1] Poco sostenuto – Vivace 14:05
[2] Allegretto 8:34
[3] Presto – Assai meno presto 8:23
[4] Allegro con brio 8:14

39:16

Symphony no. 8 in F Major, op. 93 (1812)
[1] Allegro vivace e con brio 9:01
[2] Scherzando: Allegretto 4:02

24:42

Total time 63:58
CD 6

Symphony no. 9 in D Minor, op. 125 (1824)
[1] Allegro ma non troppo e un poco maestoso 15:01

Total time: 66:09

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