



BENJAMIN BRITTEN • LES ILLUMINATIONS

ACD2 2601

Les Illuminations, Op. 18 | *Prelude & fugue for 18 strings*, Op. 29
Variations on a theme by Frank Bridge, Op. 10 | *Now sleeps the crimson petal*

Les Violons du Roy | **Jean-Marie Zeitouni** CONDUCTOR

Karina Gauvin SOPRANO

- Following their recordings devoted to Piazzolla and to Bartók, **Jean-Marie Zeitouni** and the **Violons du Roy** now turn their attention to one of the dominant musical figures of 20th-century England, Benjamin Britten.
- Britten was living in Amityville, Long Island, when he finished the song cycle *Les Illuminations*, based on poems and prose by Arthur Rimbaud. For this new recording of one of Britten's most effective works, soprano Karina Gauvin employs the full range of her expressive palette and great virtuosity. Ms. Gauvin also sings 'Now sleeps the crimson petal,' a poem by Alfred Tennyson set to horn accompaniment.
- Also on this CD are two works for string orchestra: *Prelude and Fugue*, Op. 29, which Britten composed when he was 30, and the *Variations on a Theme of Frank Bridge*, Op. 10, which he wrote in homage to one of the English composers he most admired.

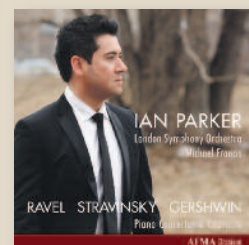
RAVEL | STRAVINSKY | GERSHWIN • PIANO CONCERTOS & CAPRICCIO

ACD2 2656

Ian Parker PIANO

London Symphony Orchestra | **Michael Francis** CONDUCTOR

- ATMA is proud to present **Ian Parker's** new recording with the London Symphony Orchestra, featuring major works for piano and orchestra by Ravel, Stravinsky, and Gershwin.
- Magnetic, easy-going and delightfully articulate, Canadian pianist Ian Parker captivates audiences wherever he goes. An enthusiastic recitalist, Mr. Parker has performed across the United States, Western Europe, Israel, and throughout Canada on tours with Debut Atlantic and Jeunesses Musicales du Canada.
- The **London Symphony Orchestra** is widely regarded to be one of the world's leading orchestras. Resident at the Barbican in London, the LSO presents over 70 concerts there each year. **Michael Francis** came to prominence as a conductor in January 2007 when he stepped out of the double bass section to replace an indisposed Valery Gergiev for a concert with the London Symphony Orchestra.



SUMMER MUSIC • LUSSIER | PLANTE | BARBER | VILLA-LOBOS | D'RIVERA

ACD2 2547

Pentaèdre WIND QUINTET • **Danièle Bourget** FLUTE | **Normand Forget** OBOE & ENGLISH HORN
Martin Carpentier CLARINET | **Louis-Philippe Marsolais** HORN | **Mathieu Lussier** BASSOON

- **Pentaèdre** plays great works by 20th century and living composers on this new recording that evokes summertime. The music chosen for this new CD sounds playful, joyful, and dance-like. The wind quintet is a form particularly well-suited for music that entertains while cleverly drawing from popular sources.
- *Dos Tropicós*, by Canadian **Mathieu Lussier**, makes heartfelt allusion to the habañera, the Cuban dance that has never ceased to charm since it first appeared in a serious work (Bizet's opera *Carmen*). Better known today as a bandeonist, Canadian **Denis Plante** has also played oboe for many years. It is not surprising, then, that his composition for winds should recall South American music.
- *Summer Music* by **Samuel Barber** belongs squarely in the tradition of the nocturne. We can hear a little of Ravel's influence—not to mention that of Bartók—but the rhythm remains truly American. **Heitor Villa-Lobos' Quintette en forme de choros was inspired by the musical idioms of Africa and Brazil. The Aspen Woodwind Quintet commissioned to **Paquito D'Rivera** the suite *Aires Tropicales*, which they premiered in 1996.**



DENIS PLANTE • TANGO BORÉAL

Original music for Bandoneón, Guitar, and Double Bass

ACD2 2661

Denis Plante BANDONEÓN & COMPOSER | **David Jacques** GUITAR | **Ian Simpson** DOUBLE BASS

- Bandoneonist and composer **Denis Plante** has selected the pieces on this recording from a body of work that he has accumulated over a period of 12 years. He composed his first impressionistic tangos in 1998 during the celebrated Quebec Ice Storm. He took refuge in his parents' basement with some staff paper and an ambitious project in mind: to write music for a new ensemble devoted to *tango nuevo*.
- Denis Plante plays one of the famous *doble A* series bandoneóns. His unusual career as a performer and composer makes him *the* bandoneón artist in Canada, and an exceptional figure in contemporary tango on the world scene. A spiritual son of Astor Piazzolla, he has enriched the bandoneón repertoire with dozens of works capturing the essential pulse of the tango.

