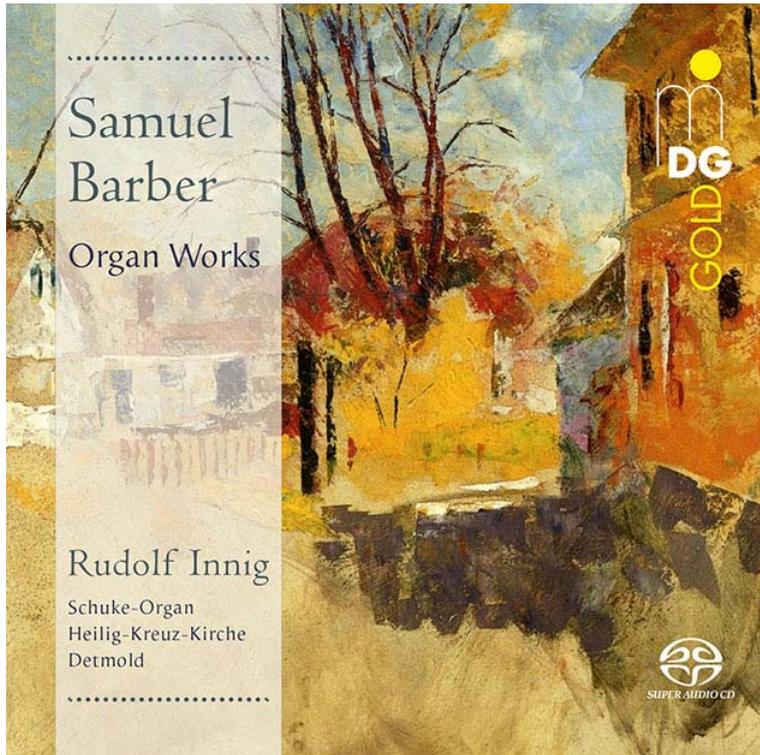


NEW • NOUVEAUTE • NEUHEIT

MDG  
GOLD



05/17-(5)

**Samuel Barber** (1910-1981)  
Organ Works

**Rudolf Innig**, Schuke Organ  
Heilig Kreuz Kirche Detmold

1 Hybrid-SACD

MDG 917 2010-6

UPC-Code:



7 60623 20106 1

222<sup>®</sup>  
RECORDING

LC06768

### Child Prodigy

Samuel Barber began his compositional career as a genuine child prodigy. At the age of nine he knew that he wanted to be a musician, and a year later he wrote his first opera – or at least the first act, after which the cook, his librettist, ran out of ideas! He initially worked as an organist, and even though he later focused on other areas, organ compositions are found throughout his oeuvre. Rudolf Innig's complete recording of these works offers enthralling insights into the development of Barber's full and rich life as a composer.

### Command Performance

The famous Adagio for Strings is of course a must. This heartrending piece was performed at the state funerals of Presidents Roosevelt and Kennedy and at the memorial services for Grace Kelly and Albert Einstein. Puff Daddy and Herbert Grönemeyer have arranged it, and it has even been featured at the Olympic Games. Barber himself arranged the version for organ. As things turned out, he did not exactly welcome its overwhelming success because it meant that other works in his extensive oeuvre did not receive their fair share of the spotlight.

### Christmas Perennial

Barber generally displayed a predilection for fine emotionality. His last organ work is a chorale prelude to "Silent Night, Holy Night," a carol also very popular in the United States. However, whether the floating 7/8 time and bitonal harmony really get us into the Christmas spirit – now that is another matter!

### Compositional Philosophy

Barber also exhibits great compositional refinement in the "Wondrous Love" variations, and the Suite from 1934, originally intended for a carillon, a melodious set of bells suspended in a church tower, shows that he pursued unusual compositional paths. Rudolf Innig is our guide on this fascinating journey through a composer's life at the mighty Schuke organ in Detmold's Holy Cross Parish Church. This grand concert instrument is the ideal medium for the brilliant realization of Barber's philosophy of sound.

### Variations on America

Organ Works by Rossini, Buck, Parker, Ives, Wagner/Rogers and Gershwin  
Rudolf Innig, Walcker/Aeolian-Skinner Organ  
Methuen (USA)

MDG 917 1809-6 (Hybrid-SACD)

**G. F. Händel**: Organ Concertos op. 4  
(arr. by Samuel de Lange)

Rudolf Innig, Furtwängler & Hammer Organ  
St. Nicolai Lüneburg

MDG 317 1929-2 (2 CDs)

### Felix Nowowiejski

Complete Solo Concertos for organ op. 56  
Pièces pour Orgue op. 2, 7, 8, 9 & 31  
Rudolf Innig, Sauer Organ Bremen Cathedral  
MDG 317 1997-2 (2 CDs)