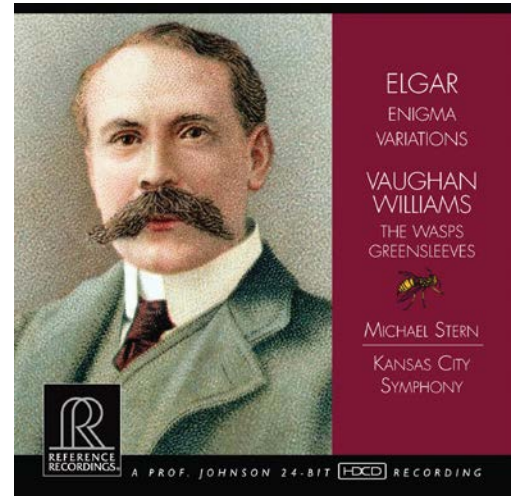


A MAGNIFICENT NEW SYMPHONIC RECORDING

*Kansas City Symphony releases new CD:
Edward Elgar's Enigma Variations and
Ralph Vaughan Williams' Suite for "The Wasps."*



January 8, 2013 | KANSAS CITY, MO – A new symphonic tour-de-force from the Kansas City Symphony! The KCS released today a new CD of colorful, beloved English music that has been captured in brilliant HDCD sound by GRAMMY®-winning engineer Keith O. Johnson.

Music director Michael Stern and the orchestra made the recording in May 2011 at the Community of Christ Auditorium in Independence. A new CD is planned for summer release of all 20th-century music by Paul Hindemith, Sergei Prokofiev and Béla Bartók, which will be recorded in their new performance home, the acoustically rich Helzberg Hall.

The Kansas City Symphony garnered tremendous critical acclaim for its first project on Reference Recordings, incidental music for *The Tempest* by Sullivan and Sibelius (*Shakespeare's Tempest*, RR-115). The second release on RR, *Britten's Orchestra*, received a GRAMMY for Best Surround Sound for both the engineer and producer, as well as rave reviews everywhere! (*Britten's Orchestra*, RR-120 is now unfortunately out of print).

"We are thrilled to work again with Conductor Michael Stern, the son of famed violinist Isaac Stern. The Kansas City Symphony has been much praised for its remarkable artistic growth and development since his tenure began. Producer David Frost has won Grammy awards in 2005, 2009 and 2011 for Classical Producer of the Year. He has produced a large roster of stars and Grammy-winning titles. We are most honored to work with him again on this project," Reference Recordings noted in a press release.

Kansas City Symphony Executive Director Frank Byrne commented, "We have great respect for the professionalism and commitment of the Reference Recordings team, and we both share a commitment to the highest standards of excellence. It is a marvelous partnership and we are delighted to release another fine recording on the Reference Recordings label."

Reference Recordings are distributed in the USA by Allegro Media Group, and internationally through a network of independent distributors listed at WWW.REFERENCERECORDINGS.COM

TRACK LISTING:

RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

THE WASPS – ARISTOPHANIC SUITE 25:18

1 Overture 8:53 2 Entr'acte, molto moderato 2:46

3 March Past of the Kitchen Utensils 3:03

4 Entr'acte, andante 4:10

5 Ballet and Final Tableau 6:24

6 FANTASIA ON "GREENSLEEVES" 4:34

(pub. Oxford University Press, U.K.)

SIR EDWARD ELGAR

7–20 VARIATIONS ON AN ORIGINAL THEME

"ENIGMA," OP. 36 31:16

Single HDCD® disc – MSRP \$16.98

This album will be released, at a later date, in the following formats: 200-gram half-speed mastered LP, HRx high-resolution DVD Data Disc containing 176.4 kHz/24 bit WAV files, and surround-sound hybrid SACD. Downloads will not be available.

About the Kansas City Symphony

The Kansas City Symphony is the region's only full-time professional symphony orchestra, setting the standard for musical excellence. Led by Music Director Michael Stern since 2005, the Symphony has experienced impressive artistic growth, garnering national and international acclaim. The orchestra's 80 full-time musicians are area residents, and each season touch the hearts of more than a million people through our Classical, Pops and Family concerts; special holiday events; chamber concerts; major civic gatherings such as Bank of America Celebration at the Station, which draws over 55,000 people, and the Symphony In the Flint Hills annual concert. During its 42-week season, the orchestra also presents educational programs, community outreach performances, and serves as the orchestra for the Lyric Opera and the Kansas City Ballet. Classical performances are broadcast weekly on KCUR 89.3 FM during the Kansas City Symphony Hour, Thursdays at 9 pm. Visit the Kansas City Symphony online at kcsymphony.org.

For more information, contact: Megan Felling | mfelling@kcsymphony.org | 816.218.2621