

The Oboe 1903-53

Double CD of historic oboe recordings

This is a unique record of the development of oboe playing, from its earliest recorded appearances to performances recognisably 'modern', and including players and styles from the UK, Europe and the USA.

There are some fascinating comparisons, as with Léon Goossens' mentor Henri de Busscher demonstrating the Brahms violin concerto solo in a 1940s educational disc, and Goossens' own 1936 version.

There are many surprises: gorgeous phrasing from Bruno Labate in J C Bach's Sinfonia; and Louis Bleuzet sounding very up-to-date in a Sonata by Mihalovici.



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The 24-page CD booklet has a 6,000 word programme note in English by the compiler Geoffrey Burgess with a description of each performer, each track, and many unusual photographs. The download version has an introduction to the project without the track or performer information. More details can be found at www.oboeclassics.com/Oboe1903.htm



"It should be in the collection of everyone who loves the oboe, whether professional or amateur. Oboe Classics deserves our gratitude for bringing back to life these great ghosts of the past." *Neil Black, Double Reed News (UK)*

"Generally speaking, the larger the sampling, the more meaningful the effort. One is thus very glad to have no less than 140 minutes of recorded oboe playing from eight different countries over a full half-century recorded here." *Michael Finkelman, The Double Reed (USA)*

"My first salvo is a word of praise to the 'backroom boys' [Lani Spahr, for the transfers] - like translators they should be honoured. My second is to Geoffrey Burgess whose notes are fulsome and full of the kind of specialist detail that enhances a historical project such as this. Biographical detail fuses with technical, tonal and expressive analysis in a compact and articulate way." *Jonathan Woolf, Classical Music Web*

[photo courtesy James Brown: 'Les Petits Vents', Paris c1903 from the collection of O Mans, 1856-1919]

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