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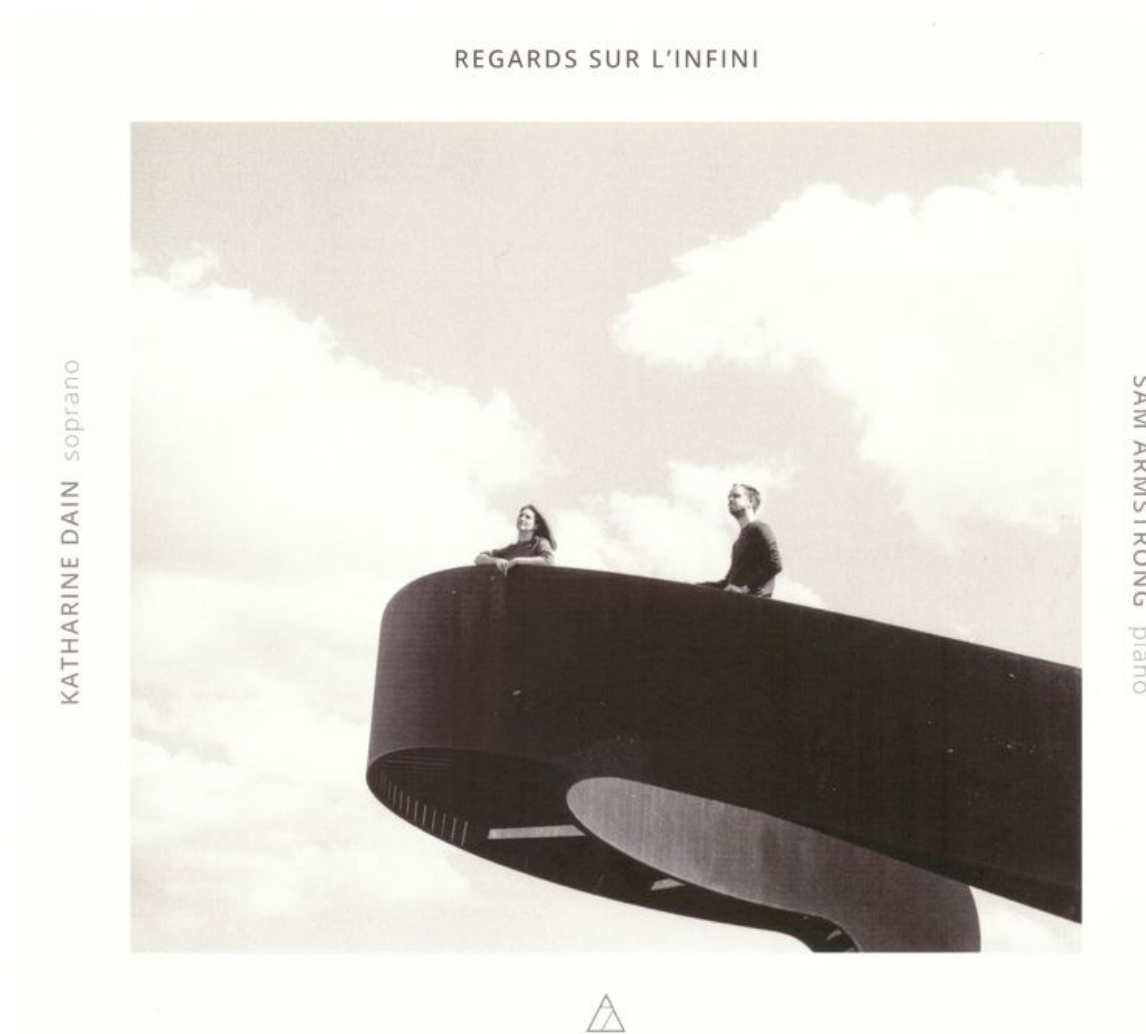
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ALBUM REVIEW REGARDS SUR L'INFINI

Katharine Dain and Sam Armstrong sublime in song cycle Messiaen ★★★★★ ☆

Guido van Oorschot 3 December 2020 , 2:29 PM



Then come to Rotterdam, the American-Dutch soprano Katharine Dain said in mid-March to the English pianist Sam Armstrong, an old college friend. In corona time they could at least immerse themselves in *Poèmes pour Mi*, the beautiful song cycle from 1936-

1937 by the French composer Olivier Messiaen. The duo studied and rehearsed, built a gourmet program around it and went to concert hall De Vereeniging in Nijmegen in August for the [CD recording](#).

The first thing that strikes you: Dain's magnificent voice. She shares the clear accuracy with her specialist sister Barbara Hannigan, she only sounds a few degrees warmer. The second is the symbiosis of singer and pianist. In the low register, Dain may even settle too velvety in Armstrong's tones.

But what about it. It is not often that Messiaen, Debussy, Dutilleux and the French-Finnish composer Kajia Saariaho are so sublime defended. The song *Dors*, sleep well, by Messiaen's first wife, Claire Delbos, is moving. She composed it on a text that Messiaen's mother wrote for her unborn child.



Katharine Dain & Sam Armstrong

Regards sur l'infini

Classic

★★★★★ ☆

7 Mountain Records

Just this ...

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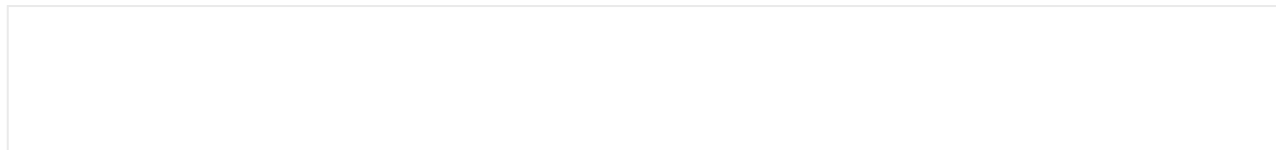
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van helikoptervlucht op Mars, gezien vanaf het Marsoppervlak



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