

# MARC-ANDRÉ HAMELIN

## PIANO

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*The New York Times*

### Haydn Recordings: A Legacy Reconsidered

Published: September 10, 2009

“Half a century ago the classical music world ranked Franz Joseph Haydn more or less on a par with Mozart. Then the Mostly Mozart and “Amadeus” industries uncovered a sex appeal in Mozart that Papa Haydn could never rival. Still, his achievement remains stunning in its vastness, inspiration and artistry, and he has continued to be well served by recordings. To commemorate the bicentennial of Haydn’s death, the classical music critics of The New York Times look back over those recordings and suggest their favorites. **JAMES R. OESTREICH**”

**ALLAN KOZINN**

**PIANO SONATAS, VOLUME 2** Marc-André Hamelin, pianist (Hyperion CDA67710; two CDs).

“Haydn’s piano sonatas, though not as dazzling as Mozart’s or as titanic as Beethoven’s, are worth knowing for their consummate gracefulness and invention. **The latest installment of Marc-André Hamelin’s survey in progress, including 11 works, benefits from crisp, focused playing and the kind of linear transparency that gets to the core of Haydn’s resourcefulness and originality** in, for example, the expansive variations of the Sonata in F minor, misleadingly titled “Un Piccolo Divertimento.”

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