



Hans Gál Concertos and Sonatas

Violin Concerto, Violin Concertino & Triptych for Orchestra.

Annette-Barbara Vogel,
Northern Sinfonia / Kenneth Woods

Avie CD AV2146 (World Premiere Recordings, 2009 at The Sage, Gateshead)

A labour of love by [Annette-Barbara Vogel](#) for this near-centenarian composer (1890-1987), the revival of his violin music a long cherished project completed with co-operation in its production from members of his family.

[Hans Gál](#)'s career was derailed by Nazism, but he eventually settled as an academic in Edinburgh, continuing to compose and amass a formidable catalogue of well crafted music which catches the ear and holds concentration.

The two concertante works for violin from the '30s, excellently played and recorded, are delightful, provided you accept that Gál was one of his generation not caught up in the European modernist trends. They both merit consideration by up-coming violinists seeking out repertoire.

Like a Franz Schmidt, Gál was content to compose within the tradition of late romanticism, and it served him well for a large catalogue of music which merits thorough investigation and live performance.

The Op 100 orchestral work is substantial and could well have been put out as a Symphony. A splendid CD which should give pleasure and satisfaction to collectors and which deserves to feature on radio programmes everywhere.

Peter Grahame Woolf