# GLORIXE DEI cantores

#### Mandorla:

Choral Masterworks of Frank Martin, Edvard Grieg, Howard Hanson

SACD with full color booklet with program notes, texts and translations

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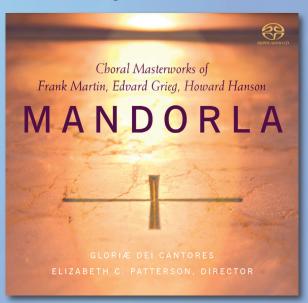
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## "...a complete winner."

-FANFARE MAGAZINE

Evoking the transparency and tension of that "thin place" where heaven and earth meet, *Mandorla* features three 20th century masterpieces: the majestic *Mass for Double Choir* by Frank Martin, the heartfelt, folksong-inspired *Fire Salmer* by Edvard Grieg, and the stunning *Cherubic Hymn* by Howard Hanson. Alex Ross, the music critic and writer, said Martin was "one of the great religious composers of the last two hundred years, with Messiaen his only contemporary rival." Martin withheld his *Mass for Double Choir*, written in 1922, for forty years, on the grounds that it was unworthy of the Lord. But in the past few decades, his Mass has gone around the world, entrancing audiences with the majesty of its language. This a capella Mass is a luminous work of intensely personal expression.

For most music-lovers, just hearing the name of Edvard Grieg conjures up phrases from his splendid *Piano Concerto*, inspired by the folksongs of his native Scandinavia. In this same vein, Grieg composed the beautiful *Fire Salmer* (Four Psalms) in the year before his death. As *Audiophile Audition* wrote, "The Hanson, *Cherubic Hymn*...is most affecting...great sound, performances, music, colorful and informative notes...Why wait?"