

ROGER WOODWARD

**The Complete Chopin Nocturnes
Celestial Harmonies 14260-2**

Review from Classic FM Magazine – November 2006

If you view the Nocturnes as essentially dreamy miniatures, the pristine clarity of their textures cushioned by warm night air, then you'd better think again.

Roger Woodward is never less than acutely sensitive to Chopin's matchless keyboard prose, yet the relatively close microphone placing and Woodward's pointillistic, micro-fine pedalling reveal far more details than we are accustomed to hearing in these pieces.

Whereas the Nocturnes are normally played well within Chopin's comfort zone, here each one emerges with a unique emotional blueprint, placing the collecting as a whole almost on a par with the quick-fire changeability of the Preludes.

Thought-provoking and compelling.

Julian Haylock (4 stars)