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FINANCIAL TIMES

25 FÉVRIER 2017

Classical Richard Fairman



Méhul: Uthal

Les Talens Lyriques

Ediciones Singulares

★★★★☆

The mission of Ediciones Singulares is to create well-annotated recordings of mostly rare French operas. In Méhul's *Uthal* they have certainly found a rarity. First performed in 1806, the one-act *Uthal* is an *opéra comique* that tapped into the vogue for the make-believe Scotland of Ossian. Méhul conjures that misty land of legend with romantic horns, Celtic harp and an orchestra free from violins, his subtly coloured score well realised in this live performance by Christophe Rousset and Les Talens Lyriques. The packaging is lavish, the cast first-rate, the opera an intriguing trifle.