

Daphnis and Chloe, a Ravelian masterpiece, is painted on a vast canvas, the colours kaleidoscopic, the mood mesmerising. Longus' Greek pastoral revolves around the two lovers becoming separated, with Chloe being abducted by pirates and eventually freed by the God Pan.

The orchestral prowess required was breathtaking with many taxing solos almost on the lines of a concerto for orchestra with chorus. And the Bournemouth Symphony Chorus unquestionably gave their orchestral colleagues everything to play for; with a huge dynamic range the sense of power was overwhelming. Karabits brought every artistic device to full flowering in a performance that will be spoken of with awe for a long time.

Hear it on BBC Radio 3 on 13th May.

Mike Marsh - Bournemouth Daily Echo