



in the news

Stravinsky
Octet, L'Histoire du Soldat
Eastman Wind Ensemble
Eastman Virtuosi
Mark Scatterday, conductor
Jan Opalach, narrator
AV 2277

The Sunday Times
17 March 2013

STRAVINSKY
Octet, L'Histoire du soldat
Eastman Wind Ensemble, Eastman
Virtuosi, cond Mark Scatterday
Avie AV2277



These works display the anti-Romantic tendency Stravinsky cultivated after his three great early ballet scores. The 1923 Octet, here in its 1952 revision, is condensed, witty, neoclassical; The Soldier's Tale (1918) is decidedly pithy, with music punctuating spoken text. Avie has recorded them in an intimate, dryish space at the Eastman School of Music in New York, recalling the atmosphere on the old Robert Craft Stravinsky discs, but the playing is more sharply focused than one recalls from that era. **SP**