

On the recording of Menotti's *The Medium* for Chicago Opera Theater:

"... but it is the tightness of the ensemble that makes this performance so rivetingly theatrical, and much of the praise should go to Lawrence Rapchak for his powerfully atmospheric direction."

Opera, The Rough Guide, London

"Lawrence Rapchak conducts this compact drama perfectly, thus assuring its success."

Le Monde de la Musique, France

"Lawrence Rapchak conducts a splendid performance"

Michael Kennedy, The Sunday Telegraph, London

For Chicago Opera Theater:

"Lawrence Rapchak always brings fresh insights to familiar works."

Opera, London

"Rapchak conducted with a composer's ear for structure and balance and made his musicians an active force in shaping and propelling the drama."

John von Rhein, Chicago Tribune

For Light Opera Works

"(Candide) ... is a first-rate display of the powers of conductor Lawrence Rapchak..."

Chicago Sun Times

On the opera *The Lifework of Juan Diaz*

"A work of startling originality ... an amazing accomplishment."

Dennis Polkow, The Chicago Reader

"There are hints of Menotti ... but this music is far more original and every bit as effective."

James North, Fanfare Record Magazine

On *Saetas* (Chicago Symphony commission)

"... the most welcome kind of new work ... When the musical fragments finally coalesced into a stirring, hymn-like tune, we were as excited to hear it as the musicians were to present it."

Chicago Sun Times

"Not a minute of the 18-minute work failed to hold your attention."

Highland Park Herald

"Rapchak's tone poem was easy to follow and drenched with color."

The Cincinnati Post