

NAXOS Historical MENUHIN: BEETHOVEN • FRANCK : Violin Sonatas 8.110989



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ADD

BEETHOVEN • FRANCK • LEKEU

Violin Sonatas

Yehudi Menuhin (1916-1999)

Playing
Time
79:30**Ludwig van BEETHOVEN (1770-1827): Sonata No. 3
in E flat for violin and piano, Op. 12, No. 3 18:36**

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|------|
| 1 | I Allegro con spirito | 6:27 |
| 2 | II Adagio con molt' espressione | 7:52 |
| 3 | III Rondo – Allegro molto | 4:16 |

Recorded by HMV in Sydney, Australia, 1940;
mats. 2AA 39/43; cat. DB 5802/5804**César FRANCK (1822-1890):
Sonata in A major for violin and piano 28:54**

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------|------|
| 4 | I Allegretto ben moderato | 6:53 |
| 5 | II Allegro | 7:42 |
| 6 | III Recitativo – Fantasia | 8:11 |
| 7 | IV Allegretto poco mosso | 6:08 |

Recorded by HMV in Paris, 6th and 7th January, 1936;
mats. 2LA 805/812; cat. DB 2742/2745**Guillaume LEKEU (1870-1894):
Sonata in G major for violin and piano 32:01**

- | | | |
|----|----------------------------------|-------|
| 8 | I Très modéré – Vif et passionné | 11:21 |
| 9 | II Très lent | 11:49 |
| 10 | III Très animé | 8:50 |

Recorded by HMV in London, 29th March, 1938;
mats. 2EA 6164/6171; cat. DB 3492/3495

Yehudi and Hephzibah Menuhin were the first to record the large-scale *Sonata in G major* by the tragic Belgian composer Guillaume Lekeu (1870-94), who died a day after his 24th birthday. Yehudi first learnt the masterly *Sonata in A major* by Lekeu's teacher, César Franck, in 1927 at the French country house of the great Romanian composer, conductor and violinist, George Enescu. The *Sonata* 'became so imbued with the place that I only have to play it to see again... Enescu at the upright piano, and beyond the open window, the smiling French countryside'. This recording of Beethoven's *Violin Sonata No. 3* was the fruit of Yehudi's second visit to Australia. The joy of that 1940 summer, enhanced by the birth in Melbourne of Yehudi and Nola Menuhin's second child, can be heard in the relaxed performance that brother and sister gave in the Sydney studio.

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