

ADD

Playing
Time
62:29

CHOPIN

Alfred Cortot (1877-1962)

78 rpm recordings • Vol. 5

8.111245



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1	Ballade No. 1 in G minor, Op. 23 Recorded 7th June, 1929, London	8:48
2	Ballade No. 2 in F major, Op. 38	6:53
3	Ballade No. 3 in A flat major, Op. 47	6:43
4	Ballade No. 4 in F minor, Op. 52 Recorded 11th March, 1929, London	9:45
5	Nocturne No. 2 in E flat major, Op. 9 No. 2 Recorded 19th March, 1929, London	4:20
6	Nocturne No. 2 in E flat major, Op. 9 No. 2 Recorded 4th November, 1949, London	4:16
7	Nocturne No. 4 in F major, Op. 15 No. 1 Recorded 17th October, 1951, London	4:33
8	Nocturne No. 5 in F sharp major, Op. 15 No. 2 Recorded 20th April, 1948, London	3:22
9	Nocturne No. 7 in C sharp minor, Op. 27 No. 1 Recorded 17th October, 1951, London	4:40
10	Nocturne No. 15 in F minor, Op. 55 No. 1 Recorded 9th October, 1947, London	4:33
11	Nocturne No. 16 in E flat major, Op. 55 No. 2 Recorded 15th October, 1947, London	4:35

As with previous discs, this fifth and final release in the Naxos series of Cortot's 78 rpm era Chopin recordings includes versions of recordings which have not been reissued often, if at all. The 1929 set of *Ballades*, which emerge from Cortot's hands with all the passion and emotion, poetry and tenderness that were the hallmark of his playing, has been chosen over the more familiar 1933 remake. The 1949 re-recording of the *Nocturne Op. 9, No. 2* has not previously been available on CD outside of Japan. Cortot's phrasing, colourful tonal palette and singing tone in the *F major* and *C sharp minor Nocturnes* are without equal, while the dramatic middle sections of these works explode in anguish or ecstasy.

Producer and Audio Restoration Engineer: Mark Obert-Thorn

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A complete track list can be found in the booklet
Cover Image: Alfred Cortot (Private Collection)

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