

NAXOS

EL-KHOURY: Piano Concerto • Méditation poétique

8.557692

The Franco-Lebanese composer and poet Bechara El-Khoury is a master of orchestration, and defines his artistic credo as that of 'setting to music human nature and its passions'. This third Naxos disc of his orchestral works features the Piano Concerto, which evolves rhapsodically in a succession of contrasting sections, the lyrical *Méditation poétique* and two Poems for piano and orchestra, each inspired by the music of the Maronite, Catholic and Byzantine churches in the Lebanon, heard during the composer's youth. It also includes two smaller-scale Serenades, which reveal the more contemplative and intimate side to El-Khoury's music.

Bechara
EL-KHOURY
(b.1957)

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| 1 | Méditation poétique pour violon et orchestre, Op. 41 (1986) ¹⁴⁵ | 7:43 |
| | Concerto pour piano et orchestre, Op. 36 (1984) ²⁴⁵ | 25:07 |
| 2 | Drammatico | 11:16 |
| 3 | Poétique | 5:40 |
| 4 | Solennellement | 8:11 |
| 5 | Poème No. 1 pour piano et orchestre, Op. 11 (1980) ³⁴⁵ | 12:07 |
| 6 | Poème No. 2 pour piano et orchestre, Op. 22 (1981) ³⁴⁵ | 11:19 |
| 7 | Sérénade No. 1 pour orchestre à cordes, Op. 10,
'Feuilles d'Automne' (Serenade for string orchestra,
'Autumn Leaves') (1980) ⁴⁵ | 3:13 |
| 8 | Sérénade No. 2 pour orchestre à cordes, Op. 20
(Serenade for String Orchestra) (1981) ⁴⁵ | 6:31 |

Gérard Poulet, Violin¹
Abdel Rahman El Bacha² and David Lively, Piano³
Orchestre Colonne⁴ • Pierre Dervaux⁵

Recorded live at the Salle Pleyel, Paris, France, on 29th February, 1988 (track 1) and on 17th March, 1986 (tracks 2-4), and at the Eglise Notre-Dame du Liban, Paris, France, during September and October, 1983 (tracks 5-8) • Producer: Michel Garcin • Engineer: Pierre Lavoix • Editor: Ysabelle Van Wersch-Cot
Booklet Notes: Gérard Hugon • Publisher: Editions Max Eschig • Previously released on Forlane
Cover Painting: *The Lowerzer See* by J. M. W. Turner (1775-1851) (Agnews, London/Bridgeman Art Library)



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Playing Time
66:00



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Booklet Notes in English
Kommentar auf Deutsch • Notice en français
Made in the EU
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