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ADD

Complete Beethoven Sonata Society Recordings Vol. 8

Artur Schnabel (1882-1951)

**Playing
Time**
72:49

- | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1-2 | Sonata No. 27 in E minor, Op. 90 | 12:24 |
| Recorded on 21st January and 3rd February, 1932 in EMI Abbey Road Studio No. 3, London
First issued as HMV DB 1654 and 1655 in Society Volume 1 | | |
| 3-6 | Sonata No. 28 in A major, Op. 101 | 19:17 |
| Recorded on 24th April, 1934 in EMI Abbey Road Studio No. 3, London
First issued as HMV DB 2467 through 2469 in Society Volume 7 | | |
| 7-10 | Sonata No. 29 in B flat major, Op. 106, 'Hammerklavier' | 40:48 |
| Recorded on 3rd and 4th November, 1935 in EMI Abbey Road Studio No. 3, London
First issued as HMV DB 2955 through 2960 in Society Volume 10 | | |

At first reluctant to make recordings, by the 1930s the great pianist Artur Schnabel fully accepted the new technology. His recordings of Beethoven's piano music include all the numbered sonatas, originally issued on subscription by the Beethoven Sonata Society. Given his status as the leading Beethoven specialist of his time (or perhaps ever), each disc became the subject of intense scrutiny. The recordings on the present disc were no exception, including *Sonata No. 28*, Schnabel's recital performances of which were legendary, and the longest and most demanding of Beethoven's Sonatas, the '*Hammerklavier*' Sonata. In his insistence on recording all thirty-two Sonatas, Schnabel left a statement that influenced how we understand and appreciate many of Beethoven's works.

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Producer and Audio Restoration Engineer: Mark Obert-Thorn

A complete tracklist can be found on the last page of the booklet

Cover Photograph: Artur Schnabel (Private Collection)


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