

Carl Maria von Weber  
 Felix Mendelssohn • Hector Berlioz  
 Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra  
 Wilhelm Furtwängler (1886-1954)

 Playing  
 Time  
**65:26**

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1	WEBER: <i>Der Freischütz</i>	
2	Overture	9:51
3	Entr'acte	3:21
	Recorded in June, 1935	
4	WEBER (orch. BERLIOZ): <i>Invitation to the Dance</i> , Op. 65	8:33
	Recorded in December, 1932	
5	MENDELSSOHN: <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream – Overture</i> , Op. 21	12:46
	Recorded on 13th June, 1929	
6	MENDELSSOHN: <i>The Hebrides 'Fingal's Cave' – Overture</i> , Op. 26	9:48
	Recorded in 1930	
7	BERLIOZ: <i>The Damnation of Faust</i> , Op. 24	4:15
8	Hungarian March ('Rakoczy March')	
9	Recorded in 1930	
	<b>Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra • Wilhelm Furtwängler</b>	
	MENDELSSOHN: <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream – Incidental Music</i> , Op. 61	
7	Scherzo	4:51
8	Nocturne	7:17
9	Wedding March	4:43
	Recorded in 1929	
	<b>Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra • Erich Kleiber</b>	

Volume 3 of *The Early Recordings* is a welcome reminder that Furtwängler's musical sympathies went beyond Beethoven, Brahms, Bruckner and Wagner, the composers with whom he is most closely associated. The remake of the overture to Weber's *Der Freischütz* (Furtwängler's 1926 recording is available on Naxos 8.111003) smoulders with anticipation, a real theatrical prelude. *Invitation to the Dance* is lovingly turned at the opening and close, with plenty of heady excitement in between. Berlioz's Hungarian (Rakoczy) March is nimble and athletic, remarkably 'straight' but thrilling in its own right. The account of the *Overture to Mendelssohn's A Midsummer Night's Dream* is notable for its translucent delicacy.

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 (Private collection)
