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BEETHOVEN • WEBER
 (1941-1947 Recordings)
 Claudio Arrau (1903-1991)

Playing Time
72:37

NAXOS Historical

ARRAU: Beethoven · Weber

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Ludwig van BEETHOVEN:	
	Piano Concerto No. 3 in C minor, Op. 37
1	Allegro con brio
2	Largo
3	Rondo: Allegro
	Philadelphia Orchestra • Eugene Ormandy
	Recorded 24th December, 1947
	in the Academy of Music, Philadelphia
Carl Maria von WEBER:	
	Konzertstück in F minor, Op. 79
4	Larghetto affettuoso
5	Allegro passionato
6	Adagio; Tempo di marcia
	Chicago Symphony Orchestra • Désiré Defauw
	Recorded 13th April, 1946
	in Orchestra Hall, Chicago
Carl Maria von WEBER:	
	Piano Sonata No. 1 in C Major, Op. 24
7	Allegro
8	Adagio
9	Minuetto: Allegro
10	Rondo: Presto ("Perpetuum Mobile")
	Recorded 20th February, 1941
	in Victor Studio 2, New York City.

One of the great pianists of the 20th century, Claudio Arrau arguably achieved his greatest postwar renown for the textual fidelity, spirituality and elegance of his Beethoven interpretations. This recording of the *Piano Concerto No. 3*, characterized by strong and forthright playing in the outer movements, is the first of three he set down in the studio. Arrau played Weber's *Konzertstück* throughout his career. This 1946 recording is notable for its lightness and fleetness of execution. When reviewing the recital performance of Weber's *Piano Sonata No. 1*, prior to the recording, Olin Downes wrote in *The New York Times* of Arrau's "courtliness, wit, scintillation [and] chivalric flourish".

Producer and Audio Restoration Engineer: Mark Obert-Thorn

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Cover Photograph: Claudio Arrau, ca. 1950 [Private Collection]

