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ADD

Josef Hofmann (1876-1957)

Acoustic recordings (1916-1923)

Playing Time
75:05

CHOPIN:

1 Waltz in A flat major, Op. 34, No. 1 (Recorded 13th February, 1918)
 2 Waltz in C sharp minor, Op. 64, No. 2 (Recorded 18th April, 1923)
 3 Nocturne in F sharp major, Op. 15, No. 2 (Recorded 19th April, 1923)
 4 Fantaisie-Impromptu in C sharp minor, Op. 66 (Recorded 6th March, 1918)
 5 Berceuse in D flat major, Op. 57 (Recorded 26th March, 1918)
 6 Polonaise in A major, Op. 40, No. 1, 'Military' (Recorded 10th April, 1923)
 CHOPIN arr. LISZT: Chants polonais (after Chopin Op. 74), S.840
 7 No. 5 Meine Freuden (My Joys) (Recorded 27th April, 1923)
 8 No. 1 Mädchens Wunsch (The Maiden's Wish) (Recorded 6th March, 1918)

LISZT:

9 Concert Etude No. 1, 'Waldesrauchen' (Recorded 13th March, 1923)
 10 Venezia e Napoli: Tarantella (Recorded 2nd November, 1916)
 11 Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2 (Recorded in December, 1922)

SCHUBERT arr. LISZT:

12 Erlkönig, D.328 (Recorded 13th October, 1916)

MENDELSSOHN:

13 Spinning Song, Op. 67, No. 4 (Recorded 13th October, 1916)
 14 Ronde capriccioso, Op. 14 (Recorded 13th February, 1918)
 15 Hunting Song, Op. 19, No. 3 (Recorded 14th February, 1918)

MOSZKOWSKI:

16 La Jongleuse, Op. 52, No. 4 (Recorded 14th February, 1918)
 17 Caprice espagnole, Op. 37 (Recorded 16th October, 1916)

PA'DEREWSKI:

18 Minuet in G major, Op. 14, No. 1 (Recorded 2nd November, 1916)
 RACHMANINOV:
 19 Prelude in G minor, Op. 23, No. 5 (Recorded 20th April, 1923)
 20 Prelude in C sharp minor, Op. 3, No. 2 (Recorded 20th April, 1923)

3:50
3:17
4:06
4:13
3:17
3:12
3:55
3:16

3:24
4:41
8:32
4:34
1:50
3:46
2:10
1:39
4:35
3:40
3:35
3:32

Josef Hofmann was one of the greatest pianists of any age. His unique abilities incorporated a technique second to none, and a clarity and pureness of tone that has probably never been heard since his death. Always in total command of everything he played, Hofmann presented each work with an impression of complete facility of execution. The acoustic recordings on this disc include stunning performances of Liszt's *Tarantella* from *Venezia e Napoli* and Moszkowski's *Caprice espagnole*, both notable for supremely accurate repeated notes. In the extraordinary performance of Chopin's *Nocturne in F sharp, Op. 15, No. 2*, Hofmann's wonderful singing *legato* tone is coupled with his understanding of passages of filigree decoration that are played as an integral part of the melodic line, the descending chromatic passages sounding like vocal slides.

All tracks recorded in New York City

MADE IN
GERMANY



A detailed track list can be found in the booklet.
 Producer and Audio Restoration Engineer: Mark Obert-Thorn



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Cover Photograph: Josef Hofmann [Private Collection]



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