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ADD

THE EARLY RECORDINGS • 1

1939-1948

Arturo Benedetti Michelangeli (1920-1995)

Playing Time
79:44

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| 1 | 3 | BACH: Italian Concerto, BWV 971 Recorded in Milan, 22nd January 1943 | 11:53 |
| | | BACH, arr. BUSONI: Violin Partita no. 2 in D minor, BWV 1004 Chaconne | 13:40 |
| 4 | | Recorded in London, 27th October 1948 | |
| 5 | | TOMEONI: Allegro in G Recorded in Milan, 22nd January 1943 | 2:45 |
| 6 | | GALUPPI: Presto in B flat Recorded in London, 27th October 1948 | 4:13 |
| 7 | 10 | SCARLATTI: Sonatas: Kk.96, Kk.27, Kk.11 and Kk.9 Recorded in Milan, 1941-1943 | 14:22 |
| 11 | 36 | BRAHMS: Variations on a theme by Paganini, Op. 35 Recorded in London, 26th October 1948 | 16:33 |
| 37 | | GRANADOS: Danzas españolas, Op. 37 No. 5: Andaluza Recorded in Milan, c. November-December 1939 | 5:02 |
| 38 | | MARESCOTTI: Fantasque Recorded in Milan, c. November-December 1939 | 4:21 |
| 39 | | ALBÉNIZ: Rumores de la caleta, Op. 71 No. 8: Malagueña Recorded in Milan, c. December 1941-February 1942 | 3:53 |
| 40 | | MOMPOU: Canción y danza No. 1 Recorded in Milan, c. December 1941-February 1942 | 3:00 |

Michelangeli's first recordings were made for HMV in Milan in 1939, following his win at the Geneva International Piano Competition. In Granados's *Andaluza* Michelangeli uses a soulful singing tone to great advantage, while his phenomenal virtuoso technique can be heard in Marescotti's *Fantasque*, one of the test pieces for the Geneva Competition. These and the 1948 recordings of Bach, Galuppi and Brahms demonstrate that as a young man Michelangeli was already a consummate artist. As a critic wrote about the recording of the Brahms *Paganini Variations*: 'What a pianist! Technically, the playing is astonishing: interpretatively, here is a very great musician.... altogether this is the most exciting piano performance and recording I have heard for many a long day.'

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GERMANY



Producer and Audio Restoration Engineer: Ward Marston
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Cover Photograph: Arturo Benedetti Michelangeli [Private Collection]

