



BEST OF IDIL BIRET

Selections from
The Complete Studio Recordings • 130CD Box Set

The Turkish pianist Idil Biret celebrated her 75th birthday in November 2016. To approach and honor this milestone, her own label (IBA), distributed by the now-venerable Naxos, has been releasing a series of comprehensive box sets traversing her entire career. The word “comprehensive” is not used lightly; in this set alone, the ninth in the series, we hear performances from her earliest radio broadcasts in 1949 to July of 2016, allowing Biret’s changing approaches to these composers’ works full documentation and exploration; it’s quite a journey, and I have heard no other pianist that has made the complex but still intuitively simple interpretive decisions Biret has made... With these enduring compositions as multisided sculptures to be reexamined, the set constitutes a voyage through the developing art of a child prodigy. It goes a long way toward answering questions about where the preternaturally gifted interpreter goes when convention and career opportunity become subservient to artistic pursuit. May it be an example to those embarking on a similar journey. **Prof. Marc Medwin (USA)**

CD 1 **Solo Music I** (79:35)

CD 2 **Solo Music II** (78:07)

CD 3 **Solo Music III - Transcriptions** (79:48)

CD 4 **Chamber Music** (74.11)

CD 5 **Concertos I** (76.46)

CD 6 **Concertos II** (76.44)

Recording dates and places: 1949, 1953, 1958, 1961, 1972, 1976-1980, 1984-1998, 2001, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2011, 2012, 2014-2017 in Paris, New York, London, Brussels, Heidelberg, Stuttgart, Leipzig, Katowice, Kosice, Lausanne, Suffolk, Ankara, New Haven, Namur • Producers: Claude Samuel, İlhan Mimaroglu, Michel Devos, Heinz Jansen, Tony Faulkner, Günter Appenheimer, Martin Sauer, Engin Aksan, Laure Renaud-Gou, Mateusz Zechowski, Rachel Smith • Pianos: Steinway, Bösendorfer • Cover photo: Idil Biret at the Woolsey Hall of Yale University by Harold Shapiro • Manufactured in Germany



IBA 015/B

8.506035

Playing time
7:45:11



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