

Mertz established himself as a composer and performer in Vienna around 1840 and, although popular enthusiasm for the guitar was declining, he forged a new repertoire which differed significantly from the classical and *bel canto* styles of the composers that preceded him instead making use of harmonic and melodic devices characteristic of the piano music of the era. The title of this collection of virtuosic solo pieces, *Bardenklänge*, is a reference to the controversial but beloved poetry of Ossian (supposedly a third century Gaelic bard, but in fact the creation of a Scottish antiquarian) whose works enjoyed great popular currency in Europe during the Romantic period.

Johann Kaspar
MERTZ
 (1806–1856)

Bardenklänge, Op. 13
 ('Bardic Sounds')

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Unruhe ('Restlessness') | 1:46 | 11 Variations mignonnes | 6:39 |
| 2 Lied ohne Worte | 3:16 | 12 Sehnsucht ('Longing') | 2:25 |
| | | 13 Kindermärchen | 5:15 |
| | | | ('Children's Story') |
| 3 Fingals Höhle | 2:45 | 14 Gebeth ('Prayer') | 3:19 |
| | | 15 Liebeslied ('Love Song') | 3:42 |
| 4 Abendlied ('Evening Song') | 3:04 | 16 Scherzo | 2:45 |
| 5 Etude | 1:57 | 17 Romanze: Moderato | 2:45 |
| 6 Romanze: Andante | 3:53 | 18 An die Entfernte | 3:45 |
| 7 Elfenreigen | 1:52 | | ('To my Distant One') |
| | | 19 Tarantelle | 4:00 |
| 8 An Malvina ('To Malvina') | 3:21 | | |
| 9 Capriccio | 1:49 | | |
| 10 Gondoliera | 4:18 | | |

Adam Holzman, Guitar

Recorded: 17–21 November 1999 at St John Chrysostom Church, Newmarket, Ontario, Canada
 Producers: Norbert Kraft and Bonnie Silver • Editor: Bonnie Silver
 Series coordinator: Norbert Kraft • Guitar by I. Fleta e hijos • Booklet notes: Richard Long
 Cover painting: *The Bard*, 1809 by Benjamin West (1738–1820) (Bridgeman Art Library)



DDD

8.554556

Playing Time
 62:41



www.naxos.com

© 2002 & © 2022 Naxos Rights US, Inc.
 Booklet notes in English • Kommentar auf
 Deutsch • Notice en français
 Made in Germany