

Bartók's music is a highly individual blend of elements distilled from the music of the composers whom he admired the most. They included Liszt, Richard Strauss, Debussy, and Stravinsky. A major influence throughout his creative life was the folk-music of his native country Hungary. This provided the material for many of his compositions, especially works written for the piano. For instance his *Fifteen Hungarian Peasant Songs* and *Three Hungarian Folksongs from Csík*, both included here, derive directly from his experiences of recording folk-music in the field with an Edison phonograph. Bartók's melodic fertility and rhythmic vitality, which partly derive from this experience, have ensured universal popularity for his music in general, and especially that for piano.

**NAXOS**

**DDD**

8.554717

Playing Time  
57:59

Béla  
**BARTÓK**  
(1881-1945)

1-3	Sonata, Sz. 80	12:11
4-7	Suite, Sz. 62, Op. 14	8:38
8	Andante for Piano	2:32
9-15	Seven Sketches, Sz. 44, Op. 9b	10:51
16-30	Fifteen Hungarian Peasant Songs, Sz. 71	12:25
31-33	Three Hungarian Folk Songs from Csík, Sz. 35a	3:23
34-36	Three Rondos on Folk Tunes, Sz. 84	7:58

**Jenő Jandó**

Recorded at the Phoenix Studio, Budapest in August (Tracks 1-3 and 16-36) and November 1998

Producer: Ibolya Tóth • Sound Engineer: János Bohus

Cover Painting: *Staccato* by Jodi Phillips, 2001 (by kind permission of the artist)

*A complete track list can be found on the last page of the booklet*



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