

DDD

**Playing
Time:
78:01**

Charles-Valentin ALKAN

(1813–1888)

8.555495

STEREO



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Booklet notes in English • Deutscher Text • Notice en français



From 12 Etudes (dans tous les tons mineurs), Op. 39

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|---|-----------------------------------|------|
| 1 | Le festin d'Esopé, Op. 39, No. 12 | 9:55 |
| 2 | Scherzo diabolico, Op. 39, No. 3 | 4:38 |

12 Etudes (dans tous les tons majeurs), Op. 35

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| 3 | I. Etude in A major | 1:21 |
| 4 | II. Etude in D major | 2:35 |
| 5 | III. Etude in G major | 4:20 |
| 6 | IV. Etude in C major | 5:03 |
| 7 | V. Etude in F major (Allegro barbaro) | 3:17 |
| 8 | VI. Etude in B flat major | 2:03 |
| 9 | VII. Etude in E flat major
(L'incendie au village voisin) | 11:06 |
| 10 | VIII. Etude in A flat major | 5:04 |
| 11 | IX. Etude in C sharp major (Contrapunctus) | 5:39 |
| 12 | X. Etude in G flat major
(Chant d'amour – Chant de mort) | 12:20 |
| 13 | XI. Etude in B major | 5:30 |
| 14 | XII. Etude in E major | 5:07 |

Bernard Ringeissen, Piano

Alkan cultivated an advanced and immensely difficult technique, which even today can sound remarkably modern in style. The *Twelve Studies*, Op. 35, date from the earlier part of Alkan's life, and were published in 1847. The individual pieces mix purely technical exercises, but still of great musicality, with more descriptive items, such as the *Seventh Study* which describes a village fire in flamboyant musical terms. Alkan's *Twelve Studies*, Op. 39, appeared in 1857 and are considerably more ambitious in scope. The set includes a four-movement symphony and a three-movement concerto for piano. The *Scherzo diabolico* is comparable with Liszt's own piano works inspired by the mythic character of Mephistopheles. *Le festin d'Esopé* concludes the set in spectacular form, and consists of 25 variations of great brilliance.

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Booklet notes: Keith Anderson, Peter Noelke, Elisa Simonot-Kahan

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by Alfred Sisley (1839–1899) (Bridgeman Art Library, UK)

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