

Written in Vienna in 1864, and perhaps an early tribute to the city he had made his home, Brahms's *Waltzes*, Op. 39 were originally conceived as piano duets (available on Naxos 8.553139) and arranged for solo piano in 1867. These exquisite miniatures are characterised by a joyful abandon not usually associated with this composer. With their quasi-orchestral texture, the two *Rhapsodies*, Op. 79 alternate passages of passionate urgency and tender lyricism. Dedicated to 'a beloved friend' Clara Schumann, the *Variations and Fugue on a Theme by Handel* are a remarkable series of 25 variations varying in mood and texture, followed by a final fugue showing consummate mastery of the form.

Johannes
BRAHMS
(1833–1897)

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| [1-2] Two Rhapsodies, Op. 79 | 14:51 |
| [3-18] Waltzes, Op. 39 | 18:03 |
| [19-21] Three Intermezzi, Op. 117 | 14:02 |
| 22 Variations and Fugue on a Theme by Handel, Op. 24 | 25:43 |

Jenő Jandó, Piano

Recorded at the Phoenix Studio, Diósd, Hungary from 14th to 18th May, 2005

Producer: Ibolya Tóth • Engineer: János Bohus • Editor: Veronika Vincze

Booklet Notes: Keith Anderson • Please see the booklet for a detailed track list

Cover Picture: *Springtime*, 1888 by Charles Edward Conder (1868–1909)

(National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne / Bridgeman Art Library)



8.570290

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Playing Time
72:39



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BRAHMS: Waltzes, Op. 39

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