

If the piano works of Nikolay Medtner are finally achieving the recognition they merit, the same cannot yet be said for his compositions for violin and piano. This first of two discs of Medtner's five violin and piano works opens with his last and greatest work for these instruments, *Sonata No. 3, 'Epica'*, completed in 1938. Unashamedly Romantic and distinctly Russian with its frequent allusions to folk-dances and Orthodox liturgical chants, the *Sonata* reflects both Medtner's recent conversion to the Orthodox faith and his bitter acceptance of permanent exile from his homeland. This bleak and mournful work includes an *Andante* of heartbreakingly beauty. The sombre yet impassioned *Three Nocturnes* were inspired by Goethe, one of the composer's favourite poets.

Nikolay
MEDTNER
(1880–1951)

Complete Works for Violin and Piano • 1

Violin Sonata No. 3 in E minor, Op. 57, 'Epica' 46:34

1	Introduzione: Andante meditamente –	3:01
2	Allegro	13:48
3	Scherzo: Allegro molto vivace e leggiero	7:06
4	Andante con moto	9:24
5	Finale: Allegro molto – Allegro eroico	13:08

Three Nocturnes, Op. 16 13:50

6	Nocturne No. 1 in D minor: Andante con moto, sempre leggiero	4:50
7	Nocturne No. 2 in G minor: Largamente	4:46
8	Nocturne No. 3 in C minor: Moderato	4:13

9	Fairy Tale, Op. 20, No. 1, in B flat minor (arr. Jascha Heifetz)	3:14
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Laurence Kayaleh, Violin • Paul Stewart, Piano

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Playing Time
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