

Born in Warsaw but forced to flee to Minsk and then Tashkent before finally settling in Moscow, Mieczysław Weinberg was, as Shostakovich remarked, 'one of the most outstanding composers of the present day' and a close friend of the older composer. His *Cello Sonatas*, the second of which was composed for Rostropovich, make masterful use of the cello's expressive capabilities, while his sonatas for solo cello have been likened in importance to the suites of J.S. Bach. The first and third of these in particular, dedicated to Rostropovich, are significant contributions to the instrument's repertoire.

Mieczysław  
**WEINBERG**  
(1919-1996)  
**Cello Sonatas**

**Cello Sonata No. 1,  
Op. 21 (1945)**

- 1 **Lento ma non troppo** 7:21  
2 **Un poco moderato** 9:46

**Cello Sonata No. 2,  
Op. 63 (1959)**

- 3 **Moderato** 6:19  
4 **Andante** 6:49  
5 **Allegro** 6:46

**Solo Cello Sonata  
No. 1, Op. 72 (1960)**

- 6 **Adagio** 5:47  
7 **Allegretto** 2:34  
8 **Allegro** 3:46

**Solo Cello Sonata  
No. 3, Op. 106 (1971)**

- 9 **Allegro** 9:02  
10 **Allegretto** 3:05  
11 **Lento** 6:06  
12 **Presto** 4:41

**Dmitry Yablonsky, Cello • Hsin-Ni Liu, Piano**

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