



DDD

8.571367

 Playing Time
76:11

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John McCabe was a composer-pianist who excelled internationally in both fields. For his own instrument he wrote a distinguished series of works in which variation form is a recurrent feature. Seventeen years separate the *Variations, Op. 22*, described by John Ogdon as standing "closer to Rachmaninov's use of variation technique than to Brahms's", and the masterly, unorthodox and original *Haydn Variations*, McCabe's longest solo piano work. The evocative *Bagatelles* and *Studies* are notable for their unceasing exploration of pianistic and compositional techniques.



John McCABE

(1939-2015)

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| ① | Variations, Op. 22 (1963) | 9:43 |
| | Lento – Più mosso; 1. Più mosso; 2. Doppio movimento; 3. Tempo I – Più mosso; 4-7. Doppio movimento; 8. Lento maestoso – Lento (con rubato); 10. Adagio; 11. Pochissimo più mosso; 12. Poco meno mosso; 13-16. Più mosso; 17. Grandioso; Cadenza: rubato; 18. Maestoso | |
| ② | Aubade (Study No. 4) (1970) | 6:00 |
| ③ | Gaudí (Study No. 3) (1970) | 14:42 |
| | Five Bagatelles (1964) | 4:47 |
| ④ | I. Capriccio | 0:36 |
| ⑤ | II. Aria | 1:05 |
| ⑥ | III. Elegia | 1:09 |
| ⑦ | IV. Toccata | 0:40 |
| ⑧ | V. Notturmo | 1:17 |
| ⑨ | Mosaic (Study No. 6) (1980)* | 13:42 |
| ⑩ | Haydn Variations (1983)* | 27:17 |
| | Vivo, con bravura; Deciso – Pochissimo meno mosso (Lirico) – Presto possibile – Deciso – Allegro; Vigoroso; Accel. al Presto possibile (Tempo 1) – Lento, senza misura (Tempo 2) – Tempo 1, ma un poco meno mosso (Tempo 3) – [simile Tempo 4 – Tempo 11]; Lento – Grazioso – Lento e solenne – (TEMA) – Andante – Adagio – Lento con moto; Andante (misterioso, mormurando) – Deliberato – Deciso; Andante | |

*WORLD PREMIÈRE RECORDINGS

John McCabe, Piano

Previously released on BMS

Recorded at Bishopsgate Hall, London, on 21st and 28th March, 1998

Producer: John Talbot • Engineer: Mike Skeet • Steinway piano courtesy of the City Music Society

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