

# Idil Biret

**Schwetzingen Festival**  
**14/15 May 1999**

**Frédéric Chopin**

*“The pianist you will hear tonight, Idil Biret, is a very special, exceptional musician. She recorded on 15 CDs the complete piano works of Frédéric Chopin. She is also a great artist who is able to give a concert in the evening without knowing that she would do so the same morning; playing as well the very same program originally scheduled for that concert by another artist, as she did last night.”*

**Pre-concert talk 15 May Joachim Kaiser**

**SWR»  
KULTUR**



**4 CD**



IDIL BIRET

Schwetzingen Festival

8.571432-35

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### Frédéric Chopin

"Our collector's series published in the Chopin Year - all 15 lavishly illustrated albums together with 30 CD's which contain the complete works by our genius composer in the sensational interpretation by Idil Biret. These recordings were distinguished at the International Record Competition in 1995 with a Grand Prix du Disque Frederic Chopin in Warsaw. In recognition of the artistry of Idil Biret, the president of Poland Lech Kacznsky decorated her with the Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland in 2007."

#### RZECZPOSPOLITA 2010 (Poland)

"The brilliant pianist Idil Biret has recorded the complete works of Chopin. She interprets the mazurkas thoughtfully, profoundly, with a warm, heartfelt sound. Biret discovers many a bitter mystery (such as the A-flat major Mazurka, Op. 17, No. 3, which takes over six minutes under her hands), emphasizing the archaisms and church modes that Chopin hid in his mazurkas. Idil Biret's masterful interpretation of Chopin's Rondo a la Mazur, Op. 5, where the 17-year-old Chopin casually anticipates the main theme of Liszt's Piano Concerto in A major, also demonstrates her brilliant piano playing."

#### Joachim Kaiser 100 MEISTERWERKE DER MUSIK 2001 (Germany)

"You have marvelously succeeded to enchant us into penetrating profoundly the depths of your own universe ... and from there on it is a new adventure we have with Chopin ... the entirety of your interpretations has given us confidence in the authenticity of your progress through the breadth of Chopin's work. It is the privilege of great interpreters to be able to captivate us while taking us through works which we know very well ourselves. And thereby we verify how inexhaustible these are."

#### Jacques Lonchamp LE MONDE Letter to Idil Biret 21.4.1993 (France)

"A Chopin evening with Idil Biret must be a blessing. The four Impromptus sounded compact, austere, well thought-out, neither sobered up to nimble finger-playing nor softened into elegies. Small details of the declamation revealed an understanding of Chopin that is based on the achievements of the French school: melancholy had grace, over the Jeu perlé lay a broken brilliance."

#### Karl Schumann SÜDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG 6.11.1984 (Germany)

#### FRÉDÉRIC CHOPIN (1810-1849)

- CD 1 [1] 4 Mazurkas Op. 17 [2] 4 Mazurkas Op. 30 [3] 4 Mazurkas Op. 33 [4] Polonaise Fantasie Op. 61
- CD 2 [1] Sonata Op. 58 [2] Nocturne Op. 55 No. 2 [3] Etude Op. 25 No. 11 [4] Mazurka Op. 63 No. 3
- CD 3 [1] Rondo a la Mazur Op. 5 [2] Polonaise Op. 71 No. 2 [3] Andante Spianato et Grande Polonaise Op. 22 [4] Waltzes Op. 64 No. 2, Op. 18 [5] Tarantella Op. 43
- CD 4 [1] 4 Mazurkas Op. 53 No. 3, Op. 59 Nos. 1-3 [2] 3 Ecossaises Op. 72 [3] Prelude Op. 45 [4] Scherzo Op. 54 [5] Etude Op. 25 No. 12 [6] Kreisler-Rachmaninov *Liebesleid* [7] Alkan *Chemin de fer*

Bonus Track\* [8] 4 Impromptus Opp. 29, 36, 51, 66

\*From recital at Herkulesaal, Munich 5 November 1984

#### PRODUCTION CREDITS IN THE BOOKLET

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IBA 020/B

DDD

8.571432-35

Playing time

3:44:38



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Booklet notes in English  
Manufactured in England  
[www.idilbiret.eu](http://www.idilbiret.eu)  
Distributed by Naxos /  
A.K. Müzik (Türkiye)



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