

**DDD**

8.572491

Playing Time  
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NAXOS

BEETHOVEN • SCHUMANN: **Valentina Lisitsa**

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Described by critics as a ‘bona fide angel playing’ and an ‘electrifying pianist’, the young Ukrainian-born, North Carolina-based Valentina Lisitsa has been receiving rave reviews ever since her début in Avery Fisher Hall for the Mostly Mozart Festival. It would be hard to conceive of a more thoroughly Romantic or demanding programme than she presents here: Beethoven’s radical *‘Appassionata’ Sonata*, via Schumann’s musical expression of an adult’s memories of childhood and Thalberg’s fantastic transformation of themes from Rossini’s most popular opera to Liszt’s pianistic *danse macabre*, inspired by a fresco by the medieval Italian artist Francesco Traini.

**BEETHOVEN • SCHUMANN • THALBERG • LISZT**

- |             |   |              |
|-------------|---|--------------|
| <b>1-3</b>  | <b>Ludwig van BEETHOVEN:</b><br>(1770–1827):<br><b>Sonata No. 23 in F minor,<br/>Op. 57, ‘Appassionata’</b>                       | <b>23:12</b> |
| <b>4-16</b> | <b>Robert SCHUMANN:</b><br>(1810–1856):<br><b>Kinderszenen<br/>(Scenes of Childhood), Op. 15</b>                                  | <b>19:39</b> |
| <b>17</b>   | <b>Sigismond THALBERG:</b><br>(1812–1871):<br><b>Grande fantasia sur des motifs<br/>de <i>Il barbiere di Siviglia</i>, Op. 63</b> | <b>9:38</b>  |
| <b>18</b>   | <b>Franz LISZT: (1811–1886):</b><br><b>Totentanz, S525/R188</b>   | <b>14:51</b> |

**Valentina Lisitsa, Piano**

Recorded in the Beethovensaal, Hannover, Germany from 3rd to 4th May, 2008  
Producer and Editor: Michael Fine • Engineer: Wolf-Dieter Karwatky  
Please see page 2 of the booklet for a detailed track list  
Booklet Notes: Keith Anderson • Piano by Steinway (Technician: Gerd Finkenstein)  
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