

The Moravian Heinrich Wilhelm Ernst is a dazzling example of the nineteenth-century violinist-composer, of whom the greatest was Ernst's sometime rival, Paganini. Indeed it was the Italian who persuaded Ernst to follow the life of a touring virtuoso, in which rôle he was to perform with the greatest musicians in Europe, earning the admiration of men such as Chopin and Mendelssohn. The *Élégie sur la mort d'un objet chéri*, mentioned by Tolstoy in *The Kreutzer Sonata*, was one of the best-known violin works of the century, and the *Polyphonic Studies* offer a compendium of violin technique on a par with the works of Paganini himself.

Heinrich Wilhelm ERNST (1812–1865)

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| 1 Erlkönig – Grand Caprice,
Op. 26 (after Schubert,
arr. for solo violin) 4:07 | 9 Feuillet d'album (after
<i>L'art de phraser</i> , Op. 16, No. 14
by Stephen Heller; arr. for
violin and piano) 2:28 |
| 2 Variations brillantes sur un
Thème de Rossini, Op. 4 14:47 | 10 Élégie sur la mort d'un objet
chéri (with Introduction by
Louis Spohr) 6:45 |
| Etudes pour le violon à
plusieurs reprises
(Polyphonic Studies) 28:44 | 11 Trio pour un violon 0:54 |
| 3 I. Rondino scherzo 4:40 | 12 Le Carnaval de Venise –
Variations burlesques sur la
canzonetta <i>Cara mia mamma</i> ,
Op. 18 15:49 |
| 4 II. Allegretto 2:09 | |
| 5 III. Terzetto 6:35 | |
| 6 IV. Allegro risoluto 3:12 | |
| 7 V. Air de ballet 3:07 | |
| 8 VI. Moderato, "Die letzte Rose"
(The Last Rose of Summer) 8:53 | |

Josef Špaček, Violin • Gordon Back, Piano 2, 9, 10, 12

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