

At a time when there were limited opportunities to attend the opera house, and before the existence of recordings, the operatic fantasy proved a popular and ingenious way to spread great melodies to a wider audience. Some classics of the genre are heard in this second volume – not least Wilhelmj's arrangement of Handel and Kreisler's beautifully tranquil arrangement of Gluck – but there are also memorable examples from Verdi and from Hubay's piquant opera *Le Luthier de Crémone*, as well as two vivid contemporary examples that continue the genre into the twenty-first century.

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8.573403

Playing Time

61:50



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Booklet notes in English
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OPERA FANTASIES FOR VIOLIN • 2

1 Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901), arr. Benjamin Loeb: Preludio (from <i>I Lombardi</i> , Act 3) (1843/2014)	4:01	6 Jenő Hubay (1858-1937): <i>Le Luthier de Crémone</i> (1895)	3:16
2 Pyotr Il'yich Tchaikovsky (1840-93), arr. Leopold Auer: Lensky's Aria (from <i>Eugene Onegin</i>) (1878/1921)	5:32	7 Bohuslav Martinů (1890-1959), arr. Benjamin Loeb: Variations on a Theme of Rossini (1942/2014)*	8:04
3 Daron Aric Hagen (b. 1961): Valse Blanche – How Love Comes, Tangiers, October 1958 (2014)*	6:14	8 George Frideric Handel (1685-1759), arr. August Wilhelmj: Largo (from <i>Xerxes</i>) (1738/1905)	5:01
4 Pablo de Sarasate (1844-1908): Nouvelle Fantaisie sur des Thèmes de Faust (Gounod) (1900)	11:43	9 Jonathan Berger (b. 1954): Fantasy on themes from <i>The War Reporter</i> (2014)*	11:35
5 Christoph Willibald Gluck (1714-87), arr. Fritz Kreisler: Mélodie (from <i>Orfeo ed Euridice</i>) (1774/1913)	2:30	10 Giuseppe Verdi, arr. Benjamin Loeb: Solemne in quest'ora (from <i>La forza del destino</i> , Act 3) (1861/2014)†*	3:54

* WORLD PREMIÈRE RECORDING

Livia Sohn, Violin

Benjamin Loeb, Piano • Geoff Nuttall, Viola†

Recorded in Campbell Recital Hall, Stanford University, California, USA, from 19th to 21st December, 2014

Produced, engineered, edited and mixed by David v.R. Bowles (Swineshead Productions, LLC)
Piano technician and tuner: Peter Sumner • Publishers: Benjamin Loeb Publishing (tracks 1 and 10);
Universal Edition (tracks 2, 6 and 8); Burning Sled Music (track 3); Public Domain (tracks 4 and 5);
Boosey & Hawkes Music Publishers, Inc. (track 7); Noga Music Publications (track 9)
Booklet notes: Tully Potter, Daron Hagen and Jonathan Berger • Cover photo: Lisa-Marie Mazzucco