

The sheer attractiveness of Saint-Saëns's music has ensured its immortality in the canon of French romantic composers. Spanning almost four decades, his five piano concertos vary widely in character but offer some of his most exciting if unorthodox creations, and represent an important evolutionary phase in the French piano concerto. The *Piano Concerto No. 1 in D major*, widely considered the first by a major French composer, is a youthful and exuberant piece, and the virtuosic *Piano Concerto No. 2 in G minor* is one of Saint-Saëns's most popular and frequently performed works in any genre.

Camille
SAINT-SAËNS
(1835-1921)

Piano Concerto No. 1 in D major, Op. 17 (1858) 27:03

- ① I. Andante – Allegro assai 11:56
- ② II. Andante sostenuto, quasi adagio 8:02
- ③ III. Allegro con fuoco 7:05

Piano Concerto No. 2 in G minor, Op. 22 (1868) 24:34

- ④ I. Andante sostenuto 11:34
- ⑤ II. Allegro scherzando 5:58
- ⑥ III. Presto 7:02

⑦ **Allegro appassionato in C sharp minor, Op. 70**
(version for piano and orchestra) (1884) 6:45

Romain Descharmes, Piano
Malmö Symphony Orchestra • Marc Soustrot

Recorded: 8–9 June 2015 at Malmö Live Concert Hall, Malmö, Sweden

Produced, engineered and edited by Sean Lewis

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DDD

Playing Time
58:22



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