

Written over a period of 18 years, Rachmaninov's sets of *Préludes* are a mirror and a record of his compositional development. With so rich a variety of character, colour, texture and mood, no two *préludes* are fully alike, and differentiation of tempo and register ensures that each *prélude*'s character is clearly defined. The first eleven pieces were conceived by Rachmaninov as a single cycle, and their full-hearted Romanticism contrasts with the significantly more angular, modernistic *Op. 32*. Whether evoking ballad or bell toll, the exotic or folk influences, the *Préludes* stand in the great tradition of works by Bach and Chopin written in all 24 major and minor keys.

Sergey  
**RACHMANINOV**  
 (1873–1943)

1 Prélude in C sharp minor, Op. 3, No. 2 (1892) 4:12

2–11 10 Préludes, Op. 23 (1901/03) 34:39

12–24 13 Préludes, Op. 32 (1910) 40:53

**Boris Giltburg, Piano**

A detailed track list can be found inside the booklet.

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**NAXOS**

8.574025

**DDD**

Playing Time  
 79:55



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