



8.574340

DDD

Playing Time
60:48

Made in Germany
www.naxos.com

© & © 2021 Naxos Rights (Europe) Ltd
Booklet notes in English

Béla Bartók's formative years as a composer in Budapest were stimulated by fashionable musical salons hosted by the wealthy Emma Gruber (later Zoltán Kodály's wife). His landmark *Rhapsody, Op. 1* is dedicated to Gruber, while the earlier *Variations* are a romantic homage to his talented colleague Felicie Fábíán, composer of the theme. The virtuosic *Études* focus on hand flexibility for pianists – the pieces *For Children* are based on Hungarian and Slovak peasant songs partly collected by Bartók. These revelatory sounds caused Bartók to change his approach to composing. He likened the arranging of a peasant melody to 'the mounting of a jewel', producing extremely effective miniature masterpieces of graceful perfection.

Béla
BARTÓK
(1881–1945)

Piano Music • 8

- | | | | | | |
|-----|---|-------|-------|--|-------|
| 1–3 | Études, Op. 18, BB 81,
<i>Sz. 72</i> (1918) | 7:26 | 8–9 | Volume 2 – Nos. 26 & 34 | 1:50 |
| 4 | Rhapsody, Op. 1, BB 36a,
<i>Sz. 26</i> (1904) | 18:10 | 10–11 | Volume 1 (version transcr. from
composer's radio concert, 1945)
– Nos. 21 & 26 | 1:33 |
| | <i>from For Children, BB 53,</i>
<i>Sz. 42</i> (1908–10) (original versions
except where indicated) | 13:31 | | Based on Slovakian folk tunes: | |
| | Based on Hungarian folk tunes: | | 12–13 | Volume 4 – Nos. 23 & 27 | 2:31 |
| 5–6 | Volume 2 – Nos. 25 & 29 | 1:33 | 14–15 | Volume 3 – Nos. 5 & 11 | 3:08 |
| 7 | Volume 1 – No. 17 | 1:11 | 16–17 | Volume 4 – Nos. 36 & 37 | 1:37 |
| | | | 18 | Variations, BB 22
(1900–01) | 21:18 |

A detailed track list can be found inside the booklet

Fülöp Ránki, Piano

Recorded: 6–7 January 2020 1–4, 4–5 November 2020 5–18 at Phoenix Studio, Diósd, Hungary
 Producer: Ibolya Tóth • Engineer: János Bohus • Editor: Adám Boros • Booklet notes: Anthony Short
 Publishers: © 1920 by Universal Edition 1–3, © 1955 by Editio Musica Budapest 4, © 2020 Editio
 Musica Budapest 5–13 16 17, G. Henle Verlag 14 15, © 1965 Editio Musica Budapest 18
 Cover photo: Sunset, Lake Balaton, Hungary © Botond / Dreamstime.com