

FRANZ XAVER MOZART (1791–1844)

PIANO SONATA IN G MAJOR • VARIATIONS RUSSIAN FANTASY AND A KRAKOWIAK

Franz Xaver Mozart, who studied with Salieri and Hummel, was a composer-pianist like his father, Wolfgang Amadeus, but inevitably laboured under the weight of huge expectation. This album contains his largest work for solo piano, the *Piano Sonata in G major* – an assured, distinctive piece that balances dance with drive. His most virtuosic work is the exuberant *Fantasy on a Russian Song and a Krakowiak*, while his mischievous *Variations on a Russian Theme* and the variations on his father's *Don Giovanni* illustrate Franz Xaver's great gifts for elaboration and playfulness. Robert Markham, who has conducted research into the life and music of Franz Xaver Mozart, has been hailed as a performer of 'astonishing lucidity and coherence' by *Musical Opinion*.



ROBERT MARKHAM

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| 1–4 | PIANO SONATA IN G MAJOR, OP. 10 (1807) | 28:40 |
| 5 | FANTASY ON THE RUSSIAN SONG 'T'CHEM TEBYA YA OGORTSHILA' AND A KRAKOWIAK, FXWM VII:30 (1815) | 15:03 |
| 6 | VARIATIONS ON A MINUET FROM THE FIRST FINALE OF W.A. MOZART'S <i>DON GIOVANNI</i> IN F MAJOR, OP. 2 (pub. 1805) | 09:36 |
| 7 | VARIATIONS ON A RUSSIAN THEME IN G MINOR, OP. 20 (pub. 1809) | 07:58 |

TOTAL PLAYING TIME: 61:29



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