

Friedrich Gernsheim (1839–1916), born in Worms, on the Rhine, became one of the most formidable musicians of his age: composer, pianist, conductor and teacher. Even as a teenager, Gernsheim was attracting attention as a virtuoso composer, earning comparisons with Mozart. These two early piano sonatas – restored by Jens Barnieck from Gernsheim's manuscripts – combine youthful freshness with preternatural assuredness, showing awareness of Schumann and anticipating Brahms. By the time of the Six Preludes, written a decade later, Chopin has become the dominant star in Gernsheim's firmament.



TOCC 0206

## FRIEDRICH GERNSEIM Piano Music, Volume One

### Piano Sonata No. 2 in E flat major (1853)

- [1] I *Allegro di molto*
- [2] II *Adagio*
- [3] III *Allegro molto*
- [4] IV *Allegro vivace assai*

16:28

4:48  
4:29  
2:26  
4:45

### Piano Sonata No. 3 in D minor (1854)

- [5] I *Adagio molto – Allegro appassionata*
- [6] II *Agitato assai*
- [7] III *Adagio*
- [8] IV *Poco andante – Allegro agitato*

27:06

9:31  
4:56  
5:39  
7:00

### Six Preludes, Op. 2 (publ. 1864)

- [9] No. 1 *Un poco lento e sostenuto*
- [10] No. 2 *Andante espressivo*
- [11] No. 3 *Allegro energico*
- [12] No. 4 *Andantino*
- [13] No. 5 *Allegretto vivace e leggiero*
- [14] No. 6 *Allegro molto agitato*

17:10

2:51  
2:57  
2:35  
4:14  
1:59  
2:34

TT 60:45

Jens Barnieck, piano

FIRST RECORDINGS



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