



TOCC 0582

Harpist to Queen Victoria, the Welsh composer John Thomas (1826–1913) also wrote prolifically for his own instrument, both for solo harp and for duos of two harps or harp and piano – a combination where the different sounds of the two instruments enhance the clarity of the texture. Thomas' original works use the elegant Romantic style of his own day, but he often drew on Welsh folksong for his inspiration and also left a generous legacy of transcriptions, especially of operatic favourites. Although some of his music was intended for the Victorian drawing room, other pieces require a virtuoso technique – and all of it has a thoroughly engaging melodic appeal.

JOHN THOMAS Complete Duos for Harp and Piano, Volume Four

LUIGI ARDITI arr. JOHN THOMAS

1 *Il Bacio. Valse* (1861) 3:46

GIACOMO MEYERBEER arr. JOHN THOMAS

Meyerbeer's favorite Opera 'Dinorah' (1860) 22:22

2 No. 1 Shadow Air 5:24

3 No. 2 Cradle Song 5:48

4 No. 3 Fanciulle che il core 4:45

5 No. 4 Santa Maria 6:25

VINCENZO BELLINI arr. JOHN THOMAS

6 *Duet on Themes from 'Norma'* (arr. 1884) 11:41

GIOACHINO ROSSINI arr. JOHN THOMAS

7 *La Carità* 6:26

LUIGI ARDITI arr. JOHN THOMAS

8 *The Ilma Valse* (arr. 1866) 3:05

9 *L'Estasi. Valse* (arr. 1867) 4:17

JOHN THOMAS

Harp Concerto No. 1 (1847)

10 *Andantino* (arr. 1854/1868) 6:57

11 *March of the Welsh Fusiliers* (1896) 3:42

TT 62:17

Duo Praxedis

Praxedis Hug-Rütli, harp

Praxedis Geneviève Hug, piano

FIRST RECORDINGS

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