

Ronald Center (1913–73) is sometimes described as ‘the Scottish Bartók’, and his music does indeed capture some of the wild energy of the Scottish landscape in a style of Bartókian asperity. It also shows affinities with the music of Busoni, Debussy, Prokofiev, Shostakovich and Vaughan Williams, absorbed into an individual style that is audibly Scots. Center was essentially a miniaturist, his meticulous craftsmanship allowing him to encompass a range of emotions – heart-felt sorrow, grim humour, relaxed lyricism, dark despair – in a crisp and succinct manner, animated by sharp wit and irony. Many of the works recorded here also show off his skill as a contrapuntist and one, surprisingly, is a rumba.



TOCC 0723

RONALD CENTER Instrumental and Chamber Music, Volume Three

1	Sonata for Violin and Piano	13:03
4	<i>Little Canon*</i>	0:54
5	<i>Duet*</i>	2:24
6	<i>Giglot and Toccata</i> (pub. 1988)*	3:28
8	<i>From Childhood</i> (pub. 1988)*	2:58
12	<i>Burlesca*</i>	3:37
13	Suite for Piano	13:25
16	<i>Phantasy</i> (1940)*	7:18
17	<i>Melodie</i> (1942)*	2:25
18	<i>Seven Preludes*</i>	9:56
25	Prelude and Fugue in E	4:59
27	Prelude and Fugue in G sharp*	2:12
29	Prelude and Fugue in A*	3:18
31	<i>Prelude, Aria and Finale*</i>	7:59

TT 77:54

Tamás Fejes, violin 1–5
 Balázs Renczés, cello 4–5
 Christopher Guild, piano 1–3 6–33

*FIRST RECORDINGS

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