



TOCN 0007

Playing four-hands piano was both vital in the dissemination of music in the nineteenth century and also a popular domestic activity. The French composers recorded here span the Romantic century, from the salon charm of Chaminade and Massenet and the virtuosity of Alkan's wild dance to the innocence of the family music-room in pieces by Chausson, Godard and Ropartz. The original 1853 Parisian Erard piano on which this recording was made combines warmth with bell-like clarity due to its straight stringing, allowing it to produce a surprising variety of appealing, expressive textures.

## FOUR HANDS FOR FRANCE Music for Piano Duet

ERNEST CHAUSSON

*Sonatines pour quatre mains*, Op. 2 (1879)\*

1 *Sonatine No. 1 in G major* (1878)

4 *Sonatine No. 2 in D minor* (1879)

GUY ROPARTZ

7 *Petites Pièces* (1903)\*

JULES MASSENET

17 *Pièces pour le Piano à 4 Mains*:

1re Suite, Op. 11 (1867)\*

CHARLES-VALENTIN ALKAN

24 *Saltarelle*, Op. 47 (1856)

20:53

6:24

14:29

25:30

8:14

7:03

CÉCILE CHAMINADE

*Pièces romantiques*, Op. 55 (1890)

21 No. 1 Primavera

22 No. 3 Idylle arabe

23 No. 4 Sérénade d'automne

BENJAMIN GODARD

24 *Deux morceaux*, Op. 137 (1893)\*

2:41

2:43

2:59

2:45

TT 72:51

Stephanie McCallum (primo) and Erin Helyard (secondo)  
Piano Erard 1853

\*FIRST RECORDINGS

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MADE IN GERMANY