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MADE IN GERMANY



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ADD

# THE EARLY RECORDINGS • 3

1939-1949

Arturo Benedetti Michelangeli (1920-1995)

Playing  
Time  
77:58

- |                                                                       |                                                      |              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Robert SCHUMANN (1810-1856): Piano Concerto in A minor, Op. 54</b> |                                                      | <b>31:38</b> |
| 1                                                                     | I Allegro affettuoso                                 | 15:34        |
| 2                                                                     | II Intermezzo                                        | 5:20         |
| 3                                                                     | III Allegro vivace                                   | 10:44        |
| Orchestra del Teatro alla Scala • Antonio Pedrotti                    |                                                      |              |
| Recorded in Milan, 4th September 1942                                 |                                                      |              |
| <b>Edvard GRIEG (1843-1907): Piano Concerto in A minor, Op. 16</b>    |                                                      | <b>31:04</b> |
| 4                                                                     | I Allegro molto moderato                             | 13:09        |
| 5                                                                     | II Adagio                                            | 7:16         |
| 6                                                                     | III Allegro moderato molto e marcato                 | 10:39        |
| Orchestra del Teatro alla Scala • Alceo Galliera                      |                                                      |              |
| Recorded in Milan, 2nd September 1942                                 |                                                      |              |
| 7                                                                     | <b>Lyrice Pieces, Op. 43:</b>                        |              |
|                                                                       | No. 5: Erotik (Erotic)                               | <b>3:25</b>  |
| Recorded in Milan, 6th September 1942                                 |                                                      |              |
|                                                                       | <b>Lyrice Pieces, Op. 47:</b>                        |              |
| 8                                                                     | No. 5: Melankoli (Melancholy)                        | <b>3:41</b>  |
| Recorded in Milan, December 1939-January 1940                         |                                                      |              |
|                                                                       | <b>Lyrice Pieces, Op. 68:</b>                        |              |
| 9                                                                     | No. 5: Bådnått (At the Cradle)                       | <b>3:15</b>  |
| Recorded in Milan, December 1939-January 1940                         |                                                      |              |
| <b>Claude DEBUSSY (1862-1918): Images, Book I</b>                     |                                                      |              |
| 10                                                                    | No. 1: Reflets dans l'eau (Reflections in the water) | <b>4:56</b>  |
| Recorded at Abbey Road Studios, London, 27th October 1948             |                                                      |              |

Michelangeli was a peerless aristocrat of the piano. He had made his recording début for HMV in Milan in 1939, and in 1942 went into studios in the same city to record two major concertos for German Telefunken. Schumann's *Piano Concerto* is played with a dazzling, almost improvisatory freedom, whereas the Grieg *Piano Concerto* is a forthright, poetic and virtuosic performance, albeit one of great warmth. The smaller pieces reveal his outstanding gradations of tone. Remarkably, Michelangeli never re-recorded either concerto again in the studio.

Producer and Audio Restoration Engineer: Ward Marston  
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Cover Photograph: Arturo Benedetti Michelangeli [Private Collection]

