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Playing Time
77:32

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Unlike his two Cello Concertos, performed by Maria Kliegel on Naxos 8.553039, Saint-Saëns' Cello Sonatas are underrated works. The turbulent *Cello Sonata No. 1*, which makes full use of the lower registers of both cello and piano, reflects the composer's sadness at the loss of a great-aunt and at the state of France following Napoleon III's crushing defeat by Prussia at Sedan in 1870. Written more than 30 years later, the *Cello Sonata No. 2* is a more ambitious and original work. 'The Adagio will bring tears to your eyes,' Saint-Saëns wrote to his publisher, Durand, while the last movement, propelled forward in the manner of a toccata, '...will wake anyone who's slept through the rest of the piece'.

Camille
SAINT-SAËNS
(1835-1921)

Music for Cello and Piano

	Sonata No. 1 in C minor for Cello and Piano, Op. 32	21:49
1	Allegro	9:05
2	Andante tranquillo sostenuto	6:18
3	Allegro moderato	6:26
	Suite for Cello and Piano, Op. 16	23:15
4	Prélude: Moderato assai	2:38
5	Sérénade: Andantino	3:16
6	Scherzo: Allegro grazioso	4:40
7	Romance: Adagio	7:00
8	Finale: Allegro con brio	5:40
	Sonata No. 2 in F major for Cello and Piano, Op. 123	32:29
9	Maestoso, largamente – Tranquillo	10:14
10	Scherzo con variazioni: Allegro animato	8:28
11	Romanza: Poco adagio	7:13
12	Allegro non troppo grazioso	6:33

Maria Kliegel, Cello • François-Joël Thiollier, Piano

Deutschlandfunk

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(Private Collection/Bridgeman Art Library, London)