

Multi-faceted works by famous pianists
who also composed for their instrument

This collection spotlights six legendary pianist composers from the 19th and 20th centuries. Adolf von Henselt's ferocious technical studies and Romantic salon pieces led Schumann to dub him 'the Chopin of the North'. Polish virtuoso Ignaz Friedman's works offer delightful melodic beauty and harmonic inventiveness set alongside works by his countryman, Józef Hofmann, renowned as a poet of the keyboard. The French master musician Alfred Cortot is represented here with a selection of stylish arrangements of chamber works for solo piano. As one of Finland's most respected musicians during the early 20th century, Selim Palmgren displays a wide variety of technical and stylistic challenges with music that is both traditional and visionary; while music by the exiled Russian composer Nikolay Medtner is highly Romantic and spiritually charged. These six towering superstars represent the summit of the piano's Romantic golden age, heard here in critically acclaimed performances by award-winning pianists.

CD 1 ADOLF VON HENSELT (1814–1889)

PIANO WORKS

Sergio Gallo

CD 2 IGNAZ FRIEDMAN (1882–1948)

ORIGINAL PIANO COMPOSITIONS

Joseph Banowetz

CD 3 JÓZEF KAZIMIERZ HOFMANN (1876–1957)

PIANO WORKS

Artem Yasynskyy

CD 4 ALFRED CORTOT (1877–1962)

PIANO ARRANGEMENTS

Yue He

CD 5 SELIM PALMGREN (1878 – 1951)

COMPLETE PIANO WORKS • 2

Jouni Somero

CD 6 NIKOLAY MEDTNER (1880–1951)

COMPLETE PIANO SONATAS • 1

Paul Stewart

'[Sergio Gallo's] playing is lively and attractive, and he planned this program intelligently to present the listener with variety and contrast as well as the flavor of this composer's lovely music.' – *American Record Guide* (GP661)

'...Paul Stewart adds a voice of exceptional distinction, finely presented and recorded.' – *Gramophone* (GP617)

'Yasynskyy, with exemplary articulation, phrases beautifully.' – *Gramophone* (GP675)

