

Beethoven - The Violin Sonatas (Perlman, Ashkenazy) [2002]

Written by bluesever

Friday, 02 July 2010 21:43 - Last Updated Thursday, 22 August 2013 15:07

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CD1

1. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.1 in D, Op.12 No.1 - 1. Allegro con brio* 9:19
2. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.1 in D, Op.12 No.1 - 2. Tema con variazioni (Andante con moto)* 8:29
3. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.1 in D, Op.12 No.1 - 3. Rondo (Allegro)* 4:5
4. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.2 in A, Op.12 No.2 - 1. Allegro vivace* 6:29
5. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.2 in A, Op.12 No.2 - 2. Andante più tosto allegretto* 5:37
6. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.2 in A, Op.12 No.2 - 3. Allegro piacevole* 4:51
7. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.3 in E flat, Op.12 No.3 - 1. Allegro con spirito* 8:12
8. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.3 in E flat, Op.12 No.3 - 2. Adagio con molt' espressione* 6:41
9. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.3 in E flat, Op.12 No.3 - 3. Rondo (Allegro molto)* 4:21

CD2

1. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.4 in A minor, Op.23 - 1. Presto* 7:49
2. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.4 in A minor, Op.23 - 2. Andante scherzoso, più allegretto* 6:44
3. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.4 in A minor, Op.23 - 3. Allegro molto* 5:36
4. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.6 in A, Op.30 No.1 - 1. Allegro* 7:57
5. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.6 in A, Op.30 No.1 - 2. Adagio* 8:24
6. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.6 in A, Op.30 No.1 - 3. Allegretto con variazioni* 8:00
7. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.8 in G, Op.30 No.3 - 1. Allegro assai* 6:42
8. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.8 in G, Op.30 No.3 - 2. Tempo di minuetto, ma molto moderato e grazioso* 7:58
9. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.8 in G, Op.30 No.3 - 3. Allegro vivace* 3:27

CD3

1. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.9 in A, Op.47 - "Kreutzer" - 1. Adagio sostenuto - Presto* 11:50
2. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.9 in A, Op.47 - "Kreutzer" - 2. Andante con variazioni* 16:30
3. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.9 in A, Op.47 - "Kreutzer" - 3. Finale (Presto)* 8:54
4. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.5 in F, Op.24 - "Spring" - 1. Allegro* 9:56
5. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.5 in F, Op.24 - "Spring" - 2. Adagio molto espressivo* 6:31

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6. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.5 in F, Op.24 - "Spring" - 3. Scherzo (Allegro molto) 1:15*
7. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.5 in F, Op.24 - "Spring" - 4. Rondo (Allegro ma non troppo) 6:51*

CD4

1. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.7 in C minor, Op.30 No.2 - 1. Allegro con brio 8:02*
2. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.7 in C minor, Op.30 No.2 - 2. Adagio cantabile 10:34*
3. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.7 in C minor, Op.30 No.2 - 3. Scherzo (Allegro) 3:24*
4. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.7 in C minor, Op.30 No.2 - 4. Finale (Allegro) 5:31*
5. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.10 in G, Op.96 - 1. Allegro moderato 10:39*
6. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.10 in G, Op.96 - 2. Adagio espressivo 6:44*
7. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.10 in G, Op.96 - 3. Scherzo (Allegro) 1:55*
8. *Sonata for Violin and Piano No.10 in G, Op.96 - 4. Poco allegretto 8:52*

Itzhak Perlman, violin

Vladimir Ashkenazy, piano

There are two really famous Beethoven violin sonatas, the Kreutzer and the Spring. The Kreutzer Sonata inspired the story by Leo Tolstoy, which in turn became the subject of Janáček's First String Quartet, so if you're into comparative studies in the arts, there's a thesis topic for you! The Spring Sonata was featured in Woody Allen's *Love and Death*, among other places. And perhaps most intriguingly of all, the scherzo of the late sonata, Op. 96, turns up quite clearly in the third movement of Mahler's Second Symphony. So you may already know more about this splendid music than you think. Why not take the plunge with these superb performances and get to know the sonatas at first hand? Just as there are two truly famous Mozart sonatas, there are also two sides to Itzhak Perlman's musical career--the flashy virtuoso and the considerate partner. Chamber-music recordings such as this feature Perlman in this second role, one that gets less attention than his other, more sensational, persona, but which for many listeners is even more musically rewarding. Ashkenazy, no mere accompanist, is very much involved in the proceedings, and the two musicians combine to produce one of the finest sets of Beethoven violin sonatas available as well as one of Perlman's very greatest recordings in any genre. --David Hurwitz, amazon.com

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