

Bach - Piano Transcriptions Vol. 2 - Ferruccio Busoni (Demidenko)

Written by bluesever

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1 *Fantasia* (Movement 1 of *Fantasia in C minor, BWV906*) [3'32] 2 *Adagio in G major BWV968* [4'19] 3 *Fugue* (Movement 2 of *Fantasia in C minor, BWV906*) [4'08] 4 *Komm, Gott Schöpfer, Heiliger Geist BWV667* [1'59] 5 *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme BWV645* [3'07] Little Prelude and Fugue in E minor BWV533 6 *Movement 1: Prelude* [2'59] 7 *Movement 2: Fugue* [3'10] Prelude and Fugue in D major BWV532 8 *Movement 1: Prelude* [6'52] 9 *Movement 2: Fugue* [5'47] 10 *Herr Gott, nun schleuss den Himmel auf BWV617* [2'24] 11 *Durch Adams Fall ist ganz verderbt BWV637/705* [7'11] 12 *In dir ist Freude BWV615* [2'31] 13 *Jesus Christus, unser Heiland BWV665* [5'00] 14 *Ciaccona* (Movement 5 of *Partita No 2 in D minor, BWV1004*) [16'56]

Nikolai Demidenko – piano

Following the success of Nikolai Demidenko's first disc of Busoni's transcriptions of Bach (CDA66566), here he completes the project. Busoni developed an individual approach to re-casting Bach's organ works for the piano, and utilizes a full range of sonorities to recreate the sound and effects of the organ. These transcriptions were so popular during Busoni's lifetime that his wife was once introduced by a society patron as Mrs Bach-Busoni!

This disc includes several lesser-known chorale preludes, the imposing Chaconne (originally for solo violin, although Busoni views it very much as another organ transcription), the D major Prelude and Fugue BWV532, and two rarities—the E minor Prelude and Fugue (BWV533) that Busoni used to illustrate his transcription techniques in the appendix to his edition of Bach's *Das wohltemperirte Clavier*, and the *Fantasia, Adagio and Fugue*, which is a hybrid work conjoining two Bach keyboard works (two thirds of the fugue is entirely by Busoni, as Bach left it unfinished).

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Nikolai Demidenko conjures a magnificent sound from his Fazioli piano, and draws on his unique palette of instrumental colour. Anyone who has heard his first Bach-Busoni disc will want this follow-up. This disc is also part of a new Hyperion series exploring the wealth and diversity of piano transcriptions of Bach. --- Charles Hopkins, hyperion-records.co.uk

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