

Artur Schnabel Beethoven Piano Sonatas, Vol. 3

"...The Sonata in D major, Op. 10, No. 3, was composed two years later than the C minor Sonata. It is in every way a superior work, and in my opinion Beethoven never wrote a more perfect movement than the *Largo e mesto* movement of this Sonata. In the present Volume this is most beautifully played, and the realism of tone is also remarkable. There is a very short minuet and a finale that is full of the characteristic humour of the composer. Eric Blom remarks that 'charm and abruptness contend with each other in giving us the impression of a wilful and quick-tempered but warm-hearted personality.' The reader who hears these records will endorse this view..."

From the review by D. W. of The Beethoven Sonata Society, Volume 12 in The Gramophone, March 1938

Recording and restoration notes

Artur Schnabel's 1936 Beethoven Sonata recordings are not a remastering project to be undertaken lightly. There are of course many other transfers already available, and I have held off beginning this series for a number of years, until I could be confident not just of repeating the previous efforts of my colleagues, but of achieving something dramatically new and substantial to the recordings through Pristine's 32-bit XR remastering process.

This is a project which has been started and abandoned several times before in my efforts to produce the very finest, most authentic piano tone, with as clean and quiet a background as possible. This I believe I have finally achieved here, and it is only in the occasional side or short section that one is reminded that these recordings were made nearly 80 years ago. My hope is that the much increased clarity, fidelity and realism of these Pristine releases will allow the listener a far greater appreciation of Schnabel's genius than ever before - and that you will forget the vintage of the recording and matters of sound quality and enjoy these legendary recordings as if hearing them for the very first time.

This release marks the commercial debut globally for a remarkable new technology from German company Celemony which aims to reduce or eliminate wow and flutter from analogue recordings. Certainly here it's had a great effect on Schnabel's piano tone, creating a much better sense than ever before of a very real instrument being played, one that was crafted very solidly out of heavy wood and metal! Pitch aside, the sonic results achieved in this third volume offer some indication of the variable nature of both pressings and recording quality in a series which spanned some 3 years of recording and 5 years of releases in the 1930s, and it will probably be clear to the listener that some sides were more troublesome than others. At all times my priority has been the tone of Schnabel's piano, and in places this has resulted in a degree of background 'shash' remaining audible, despite my best efforts. **AR**

FULL PROGRAMME NOTES CAN BE FOUND ONLINE AT WWW.PRISTINECLASSICAL.COM
SARL Pristine Audio, le Bourg, 24610 St. Meard de Guyon, France - Tel. (00) 33 553 821857
www.pristineclassical.com



BEETHOVEN

PIANO SONATAS VOLUME 3

No. 7 in D MAJOR, Op. 10 No. 3
No. 8 in C MINOR, Op. 13
"PATHEIQUE"
No. 9 in E MAJOR, Op. 14 No. 1
No. 10 in G MAJOR, Op. 14 No. 2

ARTUR SCHNABEL

RECORDED 1932 - 1935

PRISTINE
AUDIO

PAKM 039

BEETHOVEN PIANO SONATAS VOLUME 3 - Nos. 7-10
ARTUR SCHNABEL

COMPACT
disc
DIGITAL AUDIO

PAKM 039

BEETHOVEN PIANO SONATAS VOLUME 3 - Nos. 7-10
ARTUR SCHNABEL

PRISTINE
AUDIO

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BEETHOVEN PIANO SONATAS VOLUME 3 - Nos. 7-10
ARTUR SCHNABEL

Beethoven Piano Sonatas Volume Three

BEETHOVEN Piano Sonata No. 7 in D major, Op. 10, No. 3

1st mvt. - Presto (6:28)

2nd mvt. - Largo e mesto (11:29)

3rd mvt. - Menuetto - Allegro (2:27)

4th mvt. - Rondo - Allegro (4:06)

Recorded 12 November 1935, issued as HMV DB 3345-47
Matrix Numbers 2EA.2521-26. All 1st takes except side 2: take 2

BEETHOVEN Piano Sonata No. 8 in C minor, Op. 13, "Pathétique"

1st mvt. - Grave - Allegro di molto e con brio (8:30)

2nd mvt. - Adagio cantabile (5:57)

3rd mvt. - Rondo - Allegro (4:14)

Recorded 2 October 1933 & 3 April 1934, issued as HMV DB 2356-58
Matrix Numbers 2B.5362-66. Takes 3, 1, 1, 2, 2

BEETHOVEN Piano Sonata No. 9 in E major, Op. 14, No. 1

1st mvt. - Allegro (6:42)

2nd mvt. - Allegretto (4:03)

3rd mvt. - Rondo - Allegro comodo (3:13)

Recorded 25 March 1932, issued as HMV DB 1818-19
Matrix Numbers 2B.3259-62. All 2nd takes

BEETHOVEN Piano Sonata No. 10 in G major, Op. 14, No. 2

1st mvt. - Allegro (5:48)

2nd mvt. - Andante (7:07)

3rd mvt. - Scherzo - Allegro assai (3:30)

Recorded 23 April 1934, issued as HMV DB 2465-66
Matrix Numbers 2B.6144, 6145, 6148, 6146. All 1st takes except side 2: take 2

Artur Schnabel piano

XR remastering by **Andrew Rose**

Additional pitch correction by
Mathis Nitschke at Celemony
GmbH, Germany

Cover artwork based on a
photograph of **Artur Schnabel**

Total duration: **73:34**

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