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BEETHOVEN
PIANO CONCERTO NO. 4
IN G MAJOR, OP. 58
NOEL MEWTON-WOOD, PIANO
UTRECHT PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA,
CONDUCTED BY WALTER GOEHR

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MEWTON-WOOD

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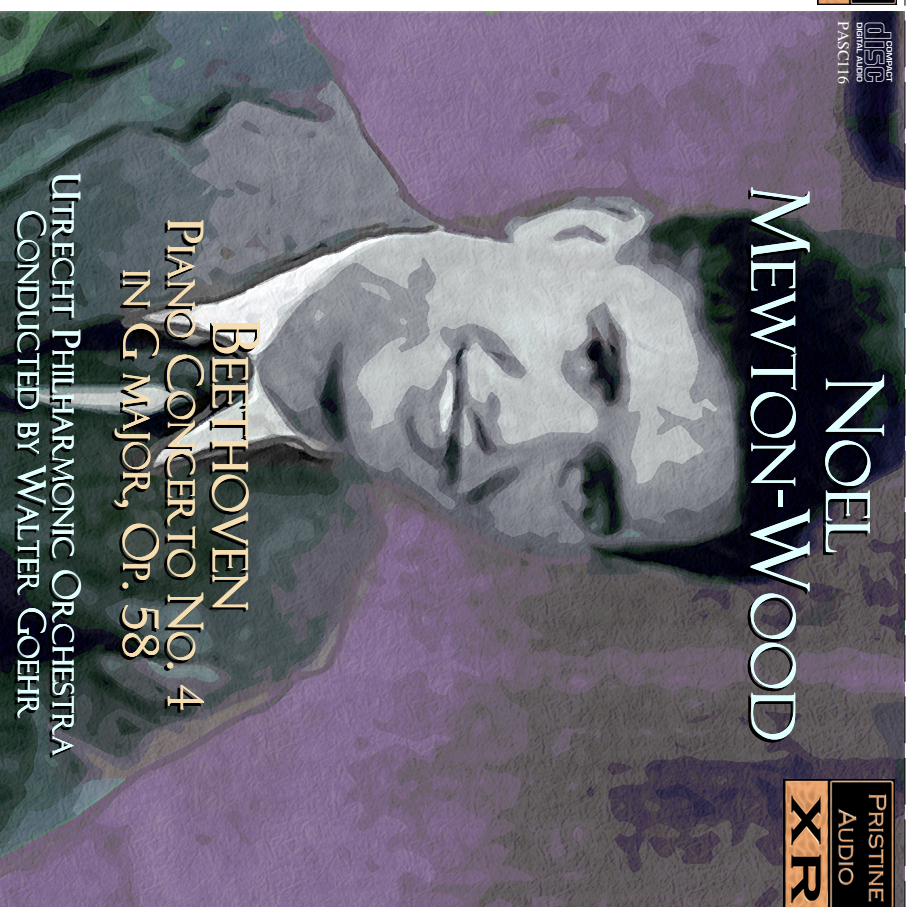
- 1 1st mvt. - Allegro moderato
- 2 2nd mvt. - Andante con moto
- 3 3rd mvt. - Rondo (Vivace)

17:43
5:21
9:39

Recorded in 1952, transferred from Guide Internationale du Disque LP MMS 24
Transfer and XR remastering by Andrew Rose at Pristine Audio, July 2008
Cover artwork based on a photograph of Noel Mewton-Wood

Total duration: 32:43 ©2008 Pristine Audio.

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BEETHOVEN: PIANO CONCERTO No. 4 IN G MAJOR, Op. 58

NOEL MEWTON-WOOD,
UTRECHT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, GOEHR



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Ludwig van Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 4 in G major, op. 58, was composed in 1805–1806, although no autograph copy survives.

The work is scored for solo piano and an orchestra consisting of a flute, two oboes, two clarinets, two bassoons, two horns, two trumpets, timpani, and strings. As is standard for concertos, it is in three movements:

- I. Allegro moderato (G major)
- II. Andante con moto (E minor)
- III. Rondo (Vivace) (G major)

The Fourth Concerto was premiered by Beethoven himself at a private concert given in March, 1807 at the palace of his patron, Prince Lobkowitz. However, the public premiere was not until 22 December 1808 in Vienna at the Theater an der Wien. Beethoven again took the stage as soloist. This was part of a marathon concert which saw Beethoven's last appearance as a soloist with orchestra, as well as the premieres of the Choral Fantasy and the Fifth and Sixth symphonies. Beethoven dedicated the concerto to his friend, student, and patron, the Archduke Rudolph.

A review in the May 1809 edition of Allgemeine Musikalische Zeitung states that "[this concerto] is the most admirable, singular, artistic and complex Beethoven concerto ever." However, after its first performance, the piece was neglected until 1836, when it was revived by Felix Mendelssohn. Today, the work is widely performed and recorded, considered one of the central works of the piano concerto literature.

Noel Mewton-Wood (November 20, 1922 – December 5, 1953) was an Australian-born concert pianist who achieved some fame during his short life.

Born in Melbourne, he studied at the Melbourne Conservatorium until the age of fourteen. After further studies at London's Royal Academy of Music, Mewton-Wood spent time with Artur Schnabel in Italy.

In March 1940 he returned to London for his debut performance at Queen's Hall, performing Beethoven's third piano concerto with the London Philharmonic Orchestra under Sir Thomas Beecham. He later performed in France, Germany, South Africa, Poland, Turkey, and Australia.

Notes from Wikipedia

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