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DIGITAL AUDIO
PASC 279

PETER KATIN

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Peter Roy Katin (born 14 November 1930, London) is a British pianist.

He attended Whitgift School in South Croydon and was admitted to the Royal Academy of Music at the age of 12, four years younger than the official entry age, where he studied under Harold Craxton. Katin made his debut at the Wigmore Hall on 13 December 1948 where the programme included works by Scarlatti, Mozart, Beethoven, Rachmaninoff, Scriabin and Chopin. He went on to give concerts in England, Europe, Africa, the USA, and Japan.

In 1952, Katin debuted at The Proms and in 1953 was acclaimed for his performance there of Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 3 in D minor. In 1958, Katin became the first British pianist to make a post-war solo tour of the Soviet Union. In 1961, the composer Bryan Kelly wrote Tango especially for Katin.

Katin specialises in Romantic music, particularly Frédéric Chopin, and Impressionist music. He is acclaimed for his technical command of the piano. He also directed concertos by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Ludwig van Beethoven from the keyboard.

Katin has written many articles on piano technique and interpretation. He lectured at the Royal Academy of Music 1956–1959, University of Western Ontario 1978–1984, and in 1992 was appointed to the Royal College of Music. He has also lectured at Thames Valley University.

He lives in Bexhill-on-Sea.

Biographical notes from original http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter_Katin

Restoration notes

This is the third and final release in Pristine Audio's short series of stereo orchestral recordings made by the pianist Peter Katin for Decca and its subsidiaries in the mid-to-late 1950s, and features recordings from both his first and final stereo sessions at this time - there were no Decca recordings at all by Katin during the 1960s, and it was not until 1970 that he returned to the studio with Decca's engineers to make an LP of music by William Walton, with the composer conducting, for Lyrita.

In both of the present recordings I have adopted a very minimal approach to the remastering - to put it plainly, these Decca recordings were so good to begin with that I felt there was little that full XR remastering could manage to in any way improve them beyond lifting a slight veil at the top end. I also used an undetectable second or two of convolution reverb to "assist" a rather clunky edit at the very end of the Grieg. Other than this my main duties were to eliminate any clicks from two superb pressings, reduce tape hiss levels slightly, and eliminate occasional very low frequency environmental rumble quite possibly caused by distant passing Underground trains being picked up by Decca's microphones during the recording sessions. **AR**

FULL PROGRAMME NOTES CAN BE FOUND ONLINE AT WWW.PRISTINECLASSICAL.COM

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STEREO

PETER KATIN

MENDELSSOHN
PIANO CONCERTO
No. 1 IN G MINOR, Op. 25

PIANO CONCERTO
No. 2 IN D MINOR, Op. 40
LSO CONDUCTED BY
ANTHONY COLLINS

GRIEG
PIANO CONCERTO
IN A MINOR, Op. 16
LPO CONDUCTED BY
COLIN DAVIS

STEREO STUDIO RECORDINGS,
1956 & 1959

Katin plays Mendelssohn and Grieg

MENDELSSOHN Piano Concerto No. 1 in G minor OP. 25

- 1 1st mvt. - *Molto allegro con fuoco* (7:45)
- 2 2nd mvt. - *Andante* (6:15)
- 3 3rd mvt. - *Presto - Molto allegro e vivace* (7:08)

MENDELSSOHN Piano Concerto No. 2 in D minor OP. 40

- 4 1st mvt. - *Allegro appassionato* (10:23)
- 5 2nd mvt. - *Adagio (molto sostenuto)* (7:27)
- 6 3rd mvt. - *Presto scherzando* (6:41)

London Symphony Orchestra
conducted by **Anthony Collins**

GRIEG Piano Concerto in A minor OP. 16

- 7 1st mvt. - *Allegro molto moderato* (13:08)
- 8 2nd mvt. - *Adagio* (6:22)
- 9 3rd mvt. - *Allegro moderato molto e marcato* (10:26)

London Philharmonic Orchestra
conducted by **Colin Davis**

Peter Katin piano



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XR remastering by **Andrew Rose**

Transfers from Decca LPs ECS627 and SPA170. Cover artwork based on a photograph of **Peter Aktin**

Mendelssohn:

Recording producer: **James Walker**
Recording engineer: **James Brown**
Recorded 9-10 February, 1956
Kingsway Hall, London

Grieg:

Recording producer: **Erik Smith**
Recording engineers:
Kenneth Wilkinson & Alan Reeve
Recorded 2nd October, 1959
Kingsway Hall, London

Total duration: **75:35**

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