

PASC 307

## **Efrem Zimbalist**

Sibelius Violin Concertos

violinists, as well as a composer, teacher, conductor and a long-time director of the Curtis Institute of Music. At age Efrem Zimbalist, Sr. (21 April 1889 or 1890 – February 22, 1985) was one of the world's most prominent concert Petersburg Conservatory in 1907 after winning a gold medal and the Rubinstein Prize, and by age 21 was considered 12 he entered the Saint Petersburg Conservatory and studied under Leopold Auer. He graduated from the St.

one of the world's greatest violinists.

with the Boston Symphony Orchestra. He then settled in the U.S. He did much to popularize the performance of early music. In 1917, he was elected as an honorary member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, the national fraternity for men began teaching at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia. He was director of the school from 1941 to 1968. His in music, by the fraternity's Alpha Chapter at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston. In 1928, Zimbalist Shmuel Ashkenasi, and Hidetaro Suzuki. After graduation he debuted in Berlin (playing the Brahms concerto) and London in 1907 and in the U.S. in 1911 pupils included such distinguished musicians as Aaron Rosand, Harold Wippler, Oscar Shumsky, Felix Slatkin,

Tchaikovsky Competition in 1962 and 1966. Carlo Menotti, which is dedicated to him. He retired again in 1955. He served as a juror of the International He retired as a violinist in 1949, but returned in 1952 to give the first performance of the Violin Concerto by Gian

From Wikipedia biogrraphy of Zimbalist - reproduced in full on our website

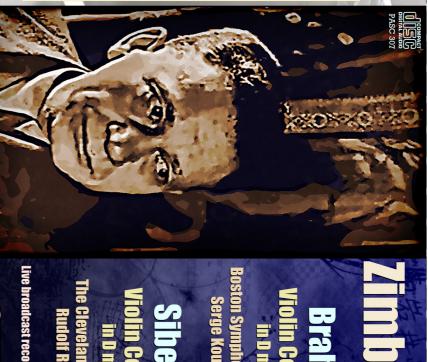
## Producer's Note

first time in a commercial release. acoustic Bach Double with Kreisler, backed by a string quartet. We are particularly fortunate, then, that these two Music, it is remarkable that Efrem Zimbalist left only a single commercial recording of any violin concerto – an For all his importance in the musical world as a violinist, composer and head of Philadelphia's Curus Institute of broadcast recordings exist. While the Brahms has been issued before on LP and CD, the Sibelius appears here for the

era. There is a wealth of audible detail, including Koussevitzky's spoken "Bravo" at the end of Zimbalist's sublime performance of the second movement. are some intermittent problems, the basic sound quality is notably above average for broadcast transcriptions of that The source for the Brahms was a CD-R copied from a tape transfer of the original broadcast acetates. Although there

Most of the Sibelius was taken from an open-reel tape containing rough, unjoined transfers of eight 78 rpm acetate sides. Due to a defect in this source, however, the first side (up to 4:07 on Track 5) came from a CD-R copy of a tape attempted to correct the severe pitch fluctuations which plagued both sets of originals. Mark Obert-Thorn transfer of another set of acetates. I have tried to match the sound on the two sources the best I could, and have also

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Concerto

**Boston Symphony Orchestra** Serge Koussevitzky

Concerto

The Cleveland Orchestra

Live broadcast recordings 1944 & 1946



