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# DOHNÁNYI

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#### Producer's Note

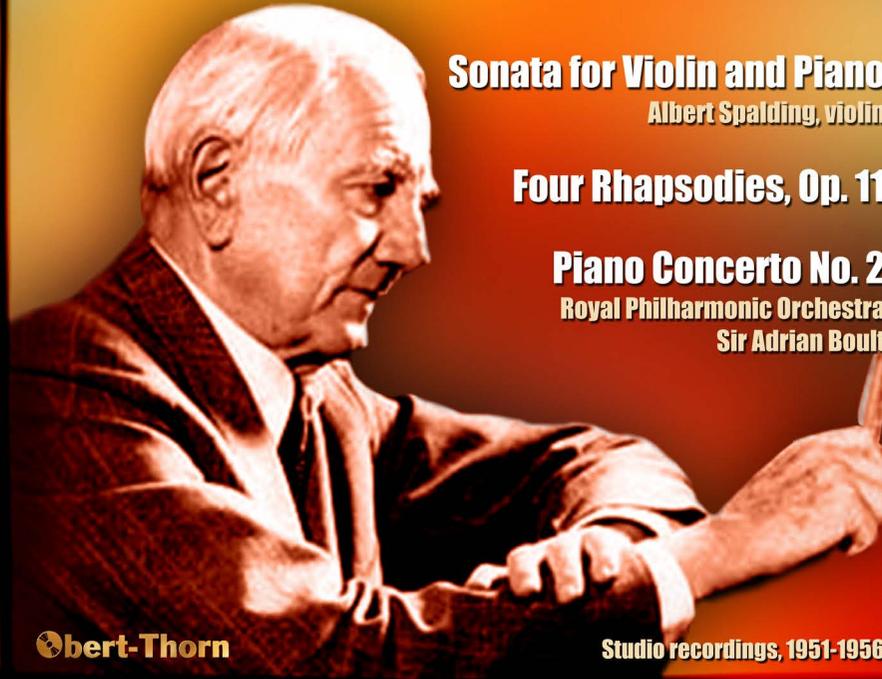
The present release brings together three recordings from Dohnányi's later years which have seen scant, if any, availability in recent decades. The Violin Sonata was recorded with the composer's friend and frequent recital partner, American violinist Albert Spalding, in 1952, but was not issued at the time, perhaps due to the lack of a discmate. It first came out on LP in 1978, but has never appeared on CD.

The four Rhapsodies have some engineering problems on the original LPs. The first has instances of volume fluctuation which I have attempted to counteract. The third has a brief dropout toward the beginning on the master, and also appears to have a tape tracking problem in the middle which introduces a wobble to the sound. This track also has a section at the end that seems to have been spliced in from a crackly disc source, perhaps a backup acetate. These selections have been unavailable commercially since the demise of the Remington label in the 1950s.

The final work, Dohnányi's Second Piano Concerto, was apparently only issued in stereo in America on an Angel LP. EMI released its original coupling, the composer's *Variations on a Nursery Tune*, for the first time in stereo in the UK on a 1987 LP, but significantly did not pair it with the concerto, nor did it do so on a subsequent CD reissue. It is reasonable to assume that the stereo master is lost or otherwise unusable. The recording did receive one previous CD release on an independent label which some critics characterized as having come from a noisy mono LP source. There is some low frequency popping on the original master tape during quiet passages unrelated to the disc source used here.

Mark Obert-Thorn

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**Sonata for Violin and Piano**  
Albert Spalding, violin

**Four Rhapsodies, Op. 11**

**Piano Concerto No. 2**  
Royal Philharmonic Orchestra  
Sir Adrian Boult

Obert-Thorn

Studio recordings, 1951-1956

Producer & Audio Restoration Engineer:  
**Mark Obert-Thorn**

Cover artwork based on a photograph of  
**Ernö Dohnányi**

**Violin Sonata**

Recorded in 1952 in New York City for Remington  
First issued on Varèse Sarabande VC 81048

**Four Rhapsodies**

Recorded in 1951 in New York City  
First issued on Remington RLP-199-43  
Additional pitch stabilisation and surface noise  
alleviation by Andrew Rose

**Piano Concerto No. 2**

Recorded September, 1956 in EMI Abbey Road  
Studio No. 1, London  
First issued on Angel S-35538 [STEREO]

Special thanks to Nathan Brown, Richard  
Kaplan, Donald Manildi and the International  
Piano Archives at the University of Maryland  
(IPAM), and Charles Niss

Total duration: **69:57**

Presented in Ambient Stereo (tracks 1-7)  
and full stereo (tracks 8-10)

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**Dohnányi plays Dohnányi****Sonata for Violin and Piano, Op. 21**

- 1 1st Mvt. - Allegro appassionato (7:00)
- 2 2nd Mvt. - Allegro ma con tenerezza (4:25)
- 3 3rd Mvt. - Vivace assai (7:03)

Albert Spalding (violin)

**Four Rhapsodies, Op. 11**

- 4 No. 1 in G minor (7:21)
- 5 No. 2 in F-sharp minor (6:05)
- 6 No. 3 in C major (4:18)
- 7 No. 4 in E-flat minor ("Dies Irae") (6:28)

**Piano Concerto No. 2 in B minor, Op. 42**

- 8 1st Mvt. - Allegro (12:30)
- 9 2nd Mvt. - Adagio, poco rubato (7:21)
- 10 3rd Mvt. - Allegro vivace (7:26)

Sir Adrian Boult · Royal Philharmonic Orchestra

**Ernö Dohnányi** piano