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Anthology

The Voice of the Viola

Antoine Tamestit, Cédric Tiberghien

1h05 1 CD HMM902277 February 2017

Here the diva is the viola!

How did the viola move from the status of 'dramatic contralto among instrumental voices (to quote the critic Henri Blanchard) to 'a character of nobility and languor', according to Georg Kastner's treatise on instrumentation (1837)? Going well beyond mere historical interest, this album answers the question by unveiling the charms of a repertory that delighted Parisian concert halls and salons throughout the 19th century. It tells the story of an instrument that at last emerged from the violin's shadow thanks to immense virtuosos; and now the talent of two great musicians of our time brings back to life these pieces which offer much more than the exquisite languors of bel canto. The diva is the viola; its servant is named **Antoine Tamestit**, here making his **first solo recording for harmonia mundi**.



Artists

- Antoine Tamestit
Viola
- Cédric Tiberghien
Piano

Composers

- Henri Vieuxtemps
- Gaetano Donizetti
- Jacques-Féréol Mazas
- Casimir-Ney
- Vincenzo Bellini

Contents

HENRI VIEUXTEMPS

Viola Sonata in B-flat Major, Op.36

- I. Maestoso - Allegro (11'37)
- II. Barcarolla. Andante con moto (6'30)
- III. Finale scherzando. Allegretto (4'05)

GAETANO DONIZETTI [1797-1848]

· La Fille du Régiment

Air de Marie: Il faut partir (5'54)

HENRI VIEUXTEMPS

· Elegie in F Minor, Op.30 (6'47)

GAETANO DONIZETTI [1797-1848]

· La Favorita

Air de Léonore: Ô mon Fernand (3'40)

JACQUES-FÉRÉOL MAZAS

· **Le Songe, Op.92**

Elégie sur un thème de La Favorite (11'58)

CASIMIR-NEY

· **Prelude No. 15 for Solo Viola** (4'58)

VINCENZO BELLINI [1801-1835]

· **Norma**

Air de Norma: Casta Diva (6'15)

HENRI VIEUXTEMPS

· **Capriccio for Solo Viola, Op.55** (3'25)