Dietrich Buxtehude - Sonatas Op.1 (2008)

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01. Sonata I in fa maggiore BuxWV 252 - Vivace - Lento 02:18 02. Sonata I in fa maggiore BuxWV 252 - Allegro - Adagio 02:52 03. Sonata I in fa maggiore BuxWV 252 - Andante - Grave 02:40 04. Sonata I in fa maggiore BuxWV 252 - Presto 01:37 05. Sonata II in sol maggiore BuxWV 253 - Lento - Vivace 03:02 06. Sonata II in sol maggiore BuxWV 253 - Adagio - Allegro 01:41 07. Sonata II in sol maggiore BuxWV 253 - Arioso 02:59 08. Sonata III in la minore BuxWV 254 - Adagio 01:47 09. Sonata III in la minore BuxWV 254 - Allegro 01:43 <u>play</u> 10. Sonata III in la minore BuxWV 254 - Lento - Vivace - Largo 04:29 11. Sonata III in la minore BuxWV 254 - Presto - Adagio 02:13 12. Sonata IV in si bem. magg. BuxWV 255 - Vivace 04:30 13. Sonata IV in si bem. magg. BuxWV 255 - Lento - Allegro 03:16 14. Sonata V in do maggiore BuxWV 256 - Vivace 01:31 15. Sonata V in do maggiore BuxWV 256 - [...] 02:07 16. Sonata V in do maggiore BuxWV 256 - Largo - Allegro 02:34 17. Sonata V in do maggiore BuxWV 256 - Adagio 02:42 18. Sonata VI in re minore BuxWV 257 - Grave - Allegro 02:13

<u>play</u>

19. Sonata VI in re minore BuxWV 257 - Con discretione - Adagio 03:12 20. Sonata VI in re minore BuxWV 257 - Vivace - Adagio 01:20 21. Sonata VI in re minore BuxWV 257 - Poco Presto - Poco Adagio - Presto - Lento 02:28 22. Sonata VII in mi minore BuxWV 258 - Allegro - Largo 02:26 23. Sonata VII in mi minore BuxWV 258 - Presto - Vivace - Adagio 02:26 24. Sonata VII in mi minore BuxWV 258 - Poco presto - Lento - Prestissimo 02:17 L'Estravagante Stefano Montanari: violin Rodney Prada: viola da gamba Maurizio Salerno: clavinet

Just about everyone knows the Bach story about how he walked a great distance to hear the famous keyboardist-composer Dietrict Buxtehude. Some folks tuck the story away. Then there are the curious folks who wonder what it was that inspired Bach to make this journey in the first place. Surely there must be something Buxtehude had that attracted the interest of music's greatest composers. Bach had to get permission to go and he far overstayed the leave he was granted giving the curious even more reason to wonder!

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My exposure to Buxtehude started with some organ pieces I got from a bargain website. (translation; bargain bin) At first the music was off putting to me. Real thick sounding organ music is a little too much for my ears and after awhile it starts to moosh together. After a few attempts at listening, the CD ended up on the shelf collecting dust. Years later I was rummaging through my Penguin Guide when I came across a blurb about this recording. It was a very good review with the highest rating. So I took another chance and this time hit gold.

This music is alive. It doesn't sound old or tired. It is very vital and full of fresh turns and interesting harmonic ideas. The expressiveness is immediate and the sound is excellent. The playing is light and the tone of the instruments is sweet, not sour like "authentic" instrument performances can sometimes sound. The music is free spirited and full of creative energy.

Now I have an idea what attracted Bach to take his historic journey to hear this master in person. If anyone else out there is curious about this, I think there is a very good chance this will satisfy you too. Or if you just enjoy hearing Baroque trio sonatas that are highly inventive, played with verve and style, and sound perfect, this would be a good purchase for you also. --- David J. Friedlander "Play it with heart" (US), amazon.com

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