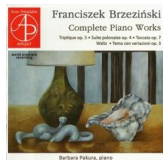


## Franciszek Brzeziński – Complete Piano Works (Barbara Pakura) [2013]

Written by bluesever  
Monday, 13 July 2015 16:04 -

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### Franciszek Brzeziński – Complete Piano Works (Barbara Pakura) [2013]



01. *Triptique op.5 - La Doute - Praeludium* [0:04:25.49] 02. *Triptique op.5 - La Doute - Fuga* [0:02:39.45] 03. *Triptique op.5 - Noel en Pologne - Praeludium* [0:04:14.51] 04. *Triptique op.5 - Noel en Pologne - Fuga* [0:02:24.30] 05. *Triptique op.5 - Devant le Sphinx - Praeludium* [0:04:25.12] 06. *Triptique op.5 - Devant le Sphinx - Fuga* [0:03:26.22] 07. *Suite polonaise op.4 - I. Introduktion* [0:03:38.57] 08. *Suite polonaise op.4 - I. Fuga* [0:04:16.29] 09. *Suite polonaise op.4 - II. Oberek: Scherzo* [0:03:00.23] 10. *Suite polonaise op.4 - III. Intermezzo (Quasi Sarabande): Moderato* [0:03:06.47] 11. *Suite polonaise op.4 - IV. Krakowiak (Rondo): Allegro* [0:05:58.42] 12. *Toccata (Allegro vivace) op.7* [0:02:56.67] 13. *Waltz* [0:06:47.47] 14. *Tema con variazioni op.3 - I. Tema* [0:01:11.43] 15. *Tema con variazioni op.3 - II. Var.I Vivace* [0:00:33.11] 16. *Tema con variazioni op.3 - III. Var.II Allegro* [0:00:42.53] 17. *Tema con variazioni op.3 - IV. Var.III Andante tranquillo* [0:01:30.18] 18. *Tema con variazioni op.3 - V. Var.IV Presto* [0:00:39.66] 19. *Tema con variazioni op.3 - VI. Var.V Andante* [0:01:07.01] 20. *Tema con variazioni op.3 - VII. Var.VI Maestoso* [0:01:40.58] 21. *Tema con variazioni op.3 - VIII. Var.VII In tempo di mazurka* [0:00:47.35] 22. *Tema con variazioni op.3 - IX. Var.VIII Sostenuto* [0:01:31.17] 23. *Tema con variazioni op.3 - X. Var.IX e Coda Tempo di krakowiak* [0:03:24.65] Barbara Pakura – piano

Though Brzezinski was in one sense an 'amateur', he was not untrained or self-taught, having studied composition with Max Reger and piano with Jan Kleczynski (1837-95) - the latter not to be confused with composer-violinist Jan Baptista Kleczynski, an exact contemporary of Mozart, and the subject of another recent and decent double release by Acte Préalable (AP0264, AP0265). By way of curious footnote, Acte Préalable owner Jan Jarnicki comments in his foreword to AP0267 that "bad luck would have it that the recording time exceeded the limit of one disc by several minutes, while the possibility of making two forty-minute-long CDs was out of the question." This led to the happy inclusion of Józef Szulc's sonata, yet the two Kleczynski discs mentioned above have exactly the same running time as the present pair would have done without the Szulc.

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Brzezinski's straightforward, sub-three-minute Toccata does not really merit its own opus number, and the Waltz, though prettily retrospective, is salon music. The remaining piano works, however, are more substantial and deserving of recognition. The Triptique is a progressive trio of preludes and fugues, each with their own distinctive character, in which Brzezinski pays homage to Johann Sebastian Bach. With the Tema con Variazioni and Suite Polonaise Brzezinski confirms the appeal to him of conservative forms, but that is not to say he lacks imagination, even when, as in the Variations, his purpose seems as pedagogic as expressive. Admirers of the slightly younger Sergei Bortkiewicz will recognise a kindred spirit: Brzezinski has a similar feel for lyrical nostalgia, lightly peppered with native rhythms and colours. For those unfamiliar with Bortkiewicz, crossing Chopin with Rachmaninov will give a similar idea, especially as far as the very attractive Polish Suite is concerned. --- Byzantion, musicweb-international.com

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