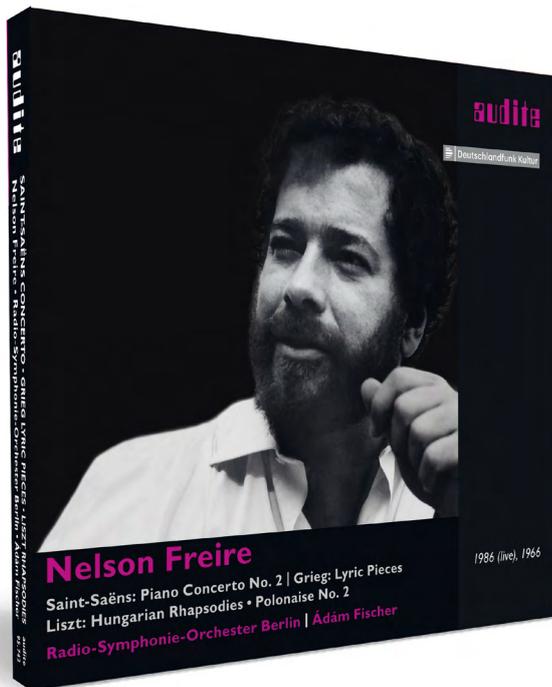


Nelson Freire in previously unreleased recordings: Saint-Saëns' Second Piano Concerto & soloworks by Grieg and Liszt



Nelson Freire, piano
Radio-Symphonie-Orchester Berlin
Ádám Fischer, conductor

Saint-Saëns: Piano Concerto No. 2 in G minor, Op. 22*
Grieg: Lyric Pieces (excerpts)
Liszt: Hungarian Rhapsodies Nos. 5 & 10 | Polonaise No. 2 in E major

recordings: Berlin, 1986* (live) • Berlin, 1966
Previously unreleased recordings

Nelson Freire – technical mastery with a calm twinkle in his eye: Saint-Saëns' Second Piano Concerto and his German radio debut with Grieg and Liszt in previously unreleased recordings.

Saint-Saëns' Second Piano Concerto with Nelson Freire under the baton of **Ádám Fischer** – not many pianists are able to accomplish the stylistic and technical challenges of this concerto, demanding complete precision in fingering and leaps, as well as perfect command of the “*jeu perlé*”: Nelson Freire masters this work with great aplomb, quiet assurance and, at times, a twinkle in his eye. He is completely committed and happy to take risks, triggering veritable “*Sturm und Drang*”, and always congenially accompanied by **Ádám Fischer**.

Twenty years previously, the Brazilian pianist (then aged 22) had made his German radio debut with a recital programme which he recorded at the RIAS's Lankwitz studio in Berlin. In Grieg's *Lyrical Pieces* and the *Hungarian Rhapsodies Nos 5 and 10* by Liszt, as well as his *Polonaise in E major*, Freire not only demonstrated his stupendous manual prowess, but also what was already at that stage his extraordinary touch and stylistic confidence. These early solo recordings anticipate his brilliant later style, completing the picture of the exceptional pianist.

All recordings on this album are released for the first time.

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