

## Pianistic legacy: Andrea Lucchesini plays Schubert's Piano Sonata in B-flat major, D. 960



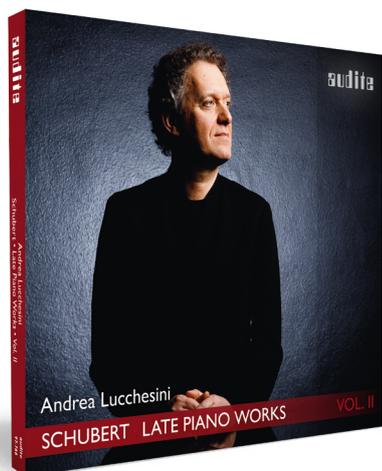
Vol. II

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Following his highly acclaimed first album of late piano works by Franz Schubert, the Florentine pianist Andrea Lucchesini now delves into Schubert's monumental B-flat major Piano Sonata – the pianistic legacy of the short-lived Viennese composer.



*"[...] this Italian pianist manages to make it all seem as though created on the spur of the moment [...]."* (BBC Music Magazine)

*"Where others press ahead, Lucchesini lovingly lingers."* (Gramophone)

*"[...] a recording of exemplary clarity and perfection – also in relation to the sound."* (Fono Forum)

Following the first instalment of his three-part Schubert series, the Florentine pianist Andrea Lucchesini now approaches the sanctum of Schubert's keyboard music: the Piano Sonata in B-flat major D. 960, composed a few weeks before the composer's untimely death in November 1828.

Over the last two decades, the 54-year-old pianist, who studied with Maria Tipo for many years, has increasingly devoted himself to chamber music and has also recorded the complete Beethoven sonatas. Both experiences influence his recording of Schubert's late work for the piano. Here, too, Lucchesini reveals a cosmos of colours and he revisits the tempi, emphasising contrasts and dramatic curves. Chamber music has inspired him to develop a "conversational" style – often there is a sense of dialogue, announcement or even lively communication.

Amongst the last three piano sonatas, the Sonata in B-flat major adopts a lyrical tone. But above all, Schubert takes time to develop his musical themes – Robert Schumann was astounded by what he called the "heavenly lengths" (and he intended to emphasise the "heavenly" aspect). But there are also abysses that were probably as inexplicable for contemporary listeners as they are for us today: sudden stops, trills in the lowest registers, the funeral music of the second movement – and then again a carefree scherzo and a serene finale.

On this album the monumental Sonata in B-flat major is combined with the three piano pieces D. 946. Volume 3 is due to be released in autumn 2020.

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## Marketing / Promotion

- continuation of the successful Schubert series with Andrea Lucchesini
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