



Nelson Freire plays Saint-Saëns, Grieg and Liszt

aud 95.742

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I am especially fond of the second Saint-Saens concerto, and I have heard it a number of times in concert. I have five or six recordings of it, and I have to say that this one is as good as any. The pianist is one of the best, and the conductor and orchestra are with him all the way.

But the concerto is 23 minutes. The rest of the time here is a recital by the pianist. Yes, he plays it all quite beautifully, as one expects of him. But you need at least a full CD of Grieg Lyric Pieces, not just these five (10 minutes). And you need a set of Hungarian Rhapsodies, not just these two—not two of my favorites, either!

So if you already have the concerto, you would buy this only for the pianist. The sound is excellent. The recordings are from 1986 (concerto) and 1966.

SAINT-SAËNS: Piano Concerto 2; GRIEG: 5 Lyric Pieces; LISZT: Hungarian Rhapsodies 5+10; Polonaise 2
Nelson Freire; Berlin Radio/Adam Fischer
Audite 95742—55 minutes

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