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Eduard Franck & Richard Franck:
Works for Violoncello and Piano

aud 20.031

EAN: 4022143200310

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American Record Guide (David W. Moore - 2001.05.01)

Recently I bought a disc containing Eduard Franck\'s Cello Sonata, Opus 6 and Richard Franck\'s Sonata 2, Opus 36 (Fermate 20021). At first I thought this must be the same thing, but this one turns out to be Eduard\'s Opus 42 and Richard\'s Opus 22 plus Richard\'s Serenade, Opus 24, a short and pleasant piece. In fact, pleasant describes all of this music, lovely and decidedly upbeat in nature. Blees and Gediga play it with warmth and musicality. Eduard (1817-93) is Richard\'s (1858-1938) father and both have a positive, romantic attitude that is refreshing and makes a very pleasant record. They were German composers who never quite made it to the big time, but both are full of beautiful ideas well carried out.

Blees has been recording at least as long as I have been reviewing, and it is nice to see him active again, still on the prowl for new old music. I first heard him playing a concerto by Leonardo Leo, if memory serves, on an old Vox LP. He still has the same warmth and directness I enjoyed then.

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