

8.573286



Playing Time:
60:47

Companion Titles – Guitar Duos



Maurice RAVEL (1875–1937)
Claude DEBUSSY (1862–1918)
Music for Two Guitars

ChromaDuo –
Tracy Anne Smith & Rob MacDonald, Guitars

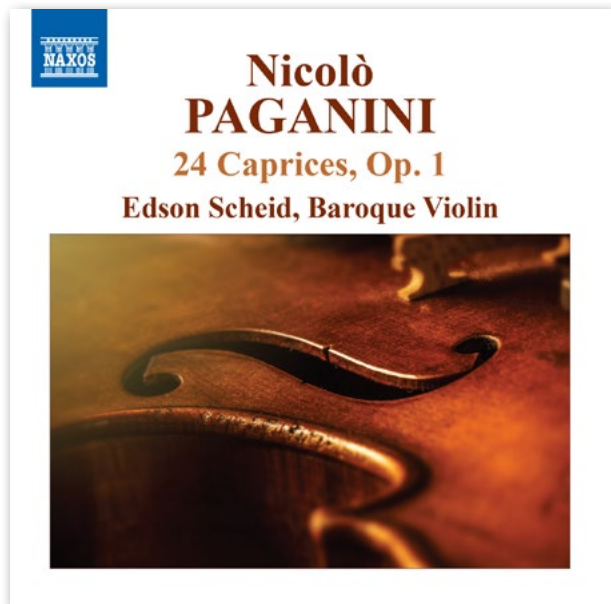
This album is the first to present an entire programme of works by Debussy and Ravel, the greatest exponents of Impressionism in music, transcribed for two guitars. The arrangements bring new life to the rich canvas of sonorities and complex harmonies in these popular works. The reflective atmosphere in Debussy's famous *Clair de lune* and special upper-harmonic effects in *La plus que lente* contrast with the 'merry romp' of the *Golliwog's Cakewalk* and Ravel's nod to Schubert in the *Valses nobles et sentimentales*.

Key Features

- While this first recording has proven a hit in the guitar world, including a recommendation in Enrique Robichaud's book *The Guitar's TOP 100*, this new program of popular Impressionist works will introduce the ChromaDuo to even wider audiences. As far as we know this is the first album to present an entire program of music by Debussy and Ravel on guitars.
- The ChromaDuo's debut recording for Naxos, *Hidden Waters* (8.572757) was an adventurous program of original works by contemporary composers. This was acclaimed by *Fidelity* (Germany) as "extremely subtle and sophisticated, the communication nothing less than perfect. Sound lovers will also appreciate the well-balanced reverberation of the recording location", the same church acoustic used for this new program of French music. The *American Record Guide* further remarked "The Chroma Duo... is simply exquisite. Their sounds are perfectly balanced, yet individual, and each has a ravishing tone with lots of range. Ensemble is perfection, even in the freest passages; and their interpretations of these pieces are convincing, even compelling. This is some of the most purely beautiful playing I've heard in a while."



DIGITAL EXCLUSIVE



9.70264



Playing Time:
1:20:02

Companion Titles – 19th-Century Violinist Composers



Nicolò PAGANINI (1782–1840)
24 Caprices, Op. 1

Edson Scheid, Baroque Violin

Paganini reserved his compositions for his own personal use as the world's greatest and most hypnotic violin virtuoso and therefore published relatively little. He made an exception for his Op. 1, the *Twenty Four Caprices* for solo violin, published in Milan in 1820 but probably written around 1805. They are an astounding compendium of his technique as a performer and continue to challenge soloists and exhilarate audiences with myriad techniques including novel bowing variations, double stops, instrumental imitations, extended use of octaves, and flamboyant alternation of bowed notes and pizzicato. On this disc Edson Scheid performs the set on a period violin with all-gut strings and a classical bow.

Key Features

- Performed on gut strings – one of the very few recordings to do this – on a period violin with classical bow (a 1739 Testore fiddle, with no chinrest, no shoulder rest, baroque bridge and tailpiece). This performance explores historical period practice in relation to works almost always played on a modern set-up instrument.
- Brazilian violinist **Edson Scheid**, two-time winner of the Historical Performance Concerto Competition at the Juilliard School, has been praised for his "polished playing" by leading violin journal *The Strad*.
- He has performed the complete set or selections from the *Caprices* worldwide to acclaim – in London, New York, Weimar, Salzburg and many other cities.

