



FAZIL SAY

Complete Violin Works



Friedemann Eichhorn, Violin • Fazil Say, Piano
Deutsche Radio Philharmonie
Christoph Eschenbach



Fazıl
SAY
(b. 1970)

Complete Violin Works

Sonata for Violin and Piano No. 2 'Mount Ida' (Kaz Dağları), Op. 82 (2019)	22:09
1 I. Decimation of Nature	9:07
2 II. Wounded Bird	6:40
3 III. Rite of Hope	6:12
4 Cleopatra for Violin, Op. 34 (2010)	5:37
Sonata for Violin and Piano No. 1, Op. 7 (1997)	14:28
5 I. Melancholy ... : Andante Misterioso	3:10
6 II. Grotesque ... : Moderato Scherzando	2:07
7 III. Perpetuum mobile ... : Presto	1:47
8 IV. Anonym ... : Andante	3:04
9 V. Melancholy ... (da capo): Andante Misterioso	4:06
Violin Concerto '1001 Nights in the Harem', Op. 25 (2007)	27:47
10 I. Allegro	6:43
11 II. Allegro assai	6:31
12 III. Andantino	7:57
13 IV. Allegro – Andantino	6:36

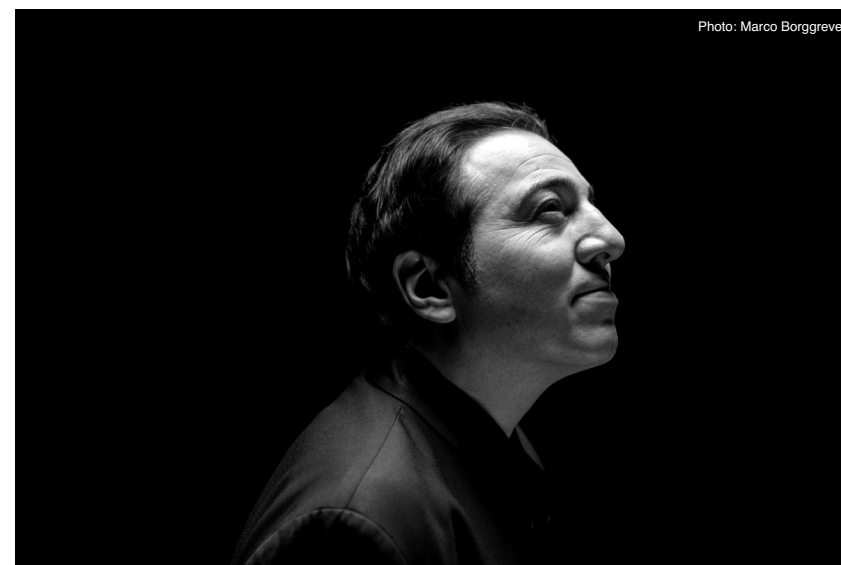
Fazıl Say (b. 1970)

Complete Violin Works

With his extraordinary pianistic talents, Fazıl Say has connected with audiences and critics alike for more than 25 years, in a way that has become rare in the increasingly materialistic and elaborately organised classical music world. Concerts featuring this artist are something different to the norm – they are more direct, more open, more exciting. In short, they go straight to the heart. He has been commissioned to write music for, among others, the Salzburger Festspiele, the WDR Symphony Orchestra,

Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival, Festspiele Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Wiener Konzerthaus, Dresdner Philharmonie, Fondation Louis Vuitton, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and the BBC. Say has composed 88 works and recorded 50 albums to date, and his *oeuvre* comprises four symphonies, two oratorios, various concertos and numerous works for piano and chamber music, including *Istanbul Symphony (No. 1)*, *Mesopotamia Symphony (No. 2)*, *Black Earth*, *Nazım Oratorio* and the *Mount Ida* series.

Photo: Marco Borggreve



Guest appearances have taken Say to countless countries on all five continents, and French newspaper *Le Figaro* called him 'a genius'. Fazil Say appears courtesy of Warner Classics.

The performers

The album you are going to listen to features all my violin works to date. The performer of these works is the extraordinary violinist Friedemann Eichhorn. He is a true artist. He devoted himself to this repertoire, and through his artistic abilities has created a wonderful album. Legendary conductor Christoph Eschenbach conducts the *Violin Concerto* with great passion, and the Deutsche Radio Philharmonie Saarbrücken Kaiserslautern – one of the greatest orchestras in Germany – performs the work with fervour and serious attention to detail. In both the *Sonatas for Violin and Piano*, I also perform with Friedemann. We wanted to create a reference recording for my complete works for violin, and for violin and piano. Special thanks to Naxos for making this possible and Friedemann Eichhorn for his artistic soul.

Sonata for Violin and Piano No. 1, Op. 7 (1997) • Sonata for Violin and Piano No. 2 'Mount Ida' (Kaz Dağları), Op. 82 (2019)

I composed my first violin and piano sonata, *Op. 7*, in 1997. It is one of the works written in my youth. It contains five movements, and features a lot of Turkish motifs – listening to it is like taking a short trip to Anatolia. The first movement is melancholy. The second movement provides an atmosphere evoking the jazz that is played at an Ottoman Palace. The third movement is a *horon*, an energetic dance originating from the Black Sea region. The fourth movement is an improvisation on the folk song *Odam Kireçtir*. The last movement evokes the melancholic atmosphere of the first.

I composed *Violin Sonata No. 2, 'Kaz Dağları'* for Friedemann in 2019. I, along with the people of Turkey, have been very much affected by the 'massacre of nature' (in 2019 gold mining activities led to widespread

deforestation) that happened at Mount Ida. The work's main theme is inspired by this incident. The first movement is *Decimation of Nature*, the second *Wounded Bird* and the third *Rite of Hope*, each representing the situations created by the destruction of ecosystems. The music conveys the messages of uprising against those who have desecrated the land, and solidarity with those who stand with nature. This is especially depicted in the *Wounded Bird* movement.

Cleopatra for Violin, Op. 34 (2010)

Cleopatra is a short piece composed for solo violin. It was actually commissioned by a competition ten years ago to be the *morceaux imposés* audition piece. *Cleopatra* is tremendously virtuosic and technically very difficult. Contestants performed this piece to decide who would reach the finals of the competition in 2011. *Cleopatra* is dance-like in nature, and depicts the Egyptian Queen Cleopatra's character. The violin is also used as a percussive instrument which creates rhythmic melodies for this short concert piece.

Violin Concerto '1001 Nights in the Harem', Op. 25 (2007)

Violin Concerto '1001 Nights in the Harem', Op. 25, was written in 2007. The premiere took place in Lucerne and was given by Patricia Kopatchinskaja. All the erotic and epic elements of music of the palace from centuries past are reflected in Friedemann's performance. The third movement's main theme is taken from *Kâtîbîm*, a famous Turkish folk song, which is also found in other languages and regions as well. The first, second and fourth movements feature Turkish percussive instruments such as the *kudüm*, *bendir* and *darbuka* alongside the violin. The percussion acts together with the violin, both dominating the music as soloists. In this recording these parts are performed by Aykut Köşelerli, who also performed in the premiere in 2008.

Fazil Say

Friedemann Eichhorn



One of the most creative and versatile artists of his generation, German-born Friedemann Eichhorn's artistic activities range from performing early Baroque music on period instruments to classical and contemporary works with renowned orchestras and chamber music partners. Among many other pieces, Friedemann Eichhorn rediscovered and first recorded the complete violin concertos by French virtuoso Pierre Rode. He studied with Valery Gradov, Alberto Lysy and Margaret Pardee and graduated from the Mannheim University of Music and Performing Arts, the International Menuhin Music Academy and The Juilliard School. He also earned a PhD in musicology at the University of Mainz. Friedemann contributes articles to encyclopedias and edits violin sheet music for G. Henle and Schott Music publishers. He holds a violin professorship at the University of Music Franz Liszt Weimar and is artistic director of the Kronberg Academy. On this recording he plays the Antonio Stradivari violin 'Lady Jeanne' from 1731 with the kind support of J & A Beare Ltd, London.

www.friedemaneichhorn.com

Aykut Köseleli



Photo: Emre Unlenen

Born in Ankara in 1985, Aykut Köseleli began percussion studies at the Bilkent University Music Preparatory High School under the tutelage of Aydın Mecid. He joined the Bilkent Youth Symphony Orchestra in 2001 and started performing with the Bilkent Symphony Orchestra as a guest musician the following year. He continued with his undergraduate degree at the Bilkent University Faculty of Music and Performing Arts, graduating with honours in 2007. He has performed in the world premieres of several of Fazıl Say's works, including *Violin Concerto, Op. 25*, *'1001 Nights in the Harem'*, *Istanbul Symphony, Concerto for Clarinet and Orchestra, Op. 36*, *'Khayyam'*, *Concerto for Ney and Orchestra, Op. 39*, *'Hezarfen'*, *Mesopotamia Symphony* and *Universe Symphony*. He also performed in the recordings of Say's *Violin Concerto, Op. 25*, *'1001 Nights in the Harem'* and the ECHO Klassik 2013 Special Jury Award-winning *Istanbul Symphony*. Köseleli has served as a percussionist in the Ankara State Opera and Ballet since 2017, and continues to perform with various ensembles around the world.



Handwritten musical score for a percussion ensemble. The score is written on multiple staves, including a grand staff at the top. The title at the top reads "Mevahidi İda Sürme, Fırk. Vokal and Gitar" and "Op. 92, Solo". Below the title, there are several staves of music with various rhythmic notations, including eighth and sixteenth notes, rests, and dynamic markings like "p" and "f". The score is signed "AYKUT KÖSELELİ" at the bottom left.

Deutsche Radio Philharmonie Saarbrücken Kaiserslautern



Photo: Pasquale D'Angiolillo

The Deutsche Radio Philharmonie (DRP) is one of the largest radio symphony orchestras of the ARD, the German association of public service broadcasters. It plays a major role on the music scene in South West Germany, especially around its home sites in Saarbrücken and Kaiserslautern, as well as in nearby France and in Mannheim, Mainz and Karlsruhe. Recent tours include Poland, China and South Korea. Finnish conductor Pietari Inkinen has been chief conductor of the DRP since 2017. In addition to music from the Classical and Romantic eras, the DRP's repertoire focuses on the discovery or rediscovery of composers such as French-German symphonist Gouvy, the charismatic Polish composer Paderewski or Clement, Romberg and Eybler, who were contemporaries of Ludwig van Beethoven. The DRP also attaches great importance to new and contemporary music – Rolf Riehm, Philippe Manoury, Thierry Pécou and Jakub Sarwas have composed orchestral pieces commissioned by the DRP. Film music, live-to-picture concerts and classical/jazz crossover works also feature regularly in the orchestra's programmes.

www.drp-orchester.de

Christoph Eschenbach

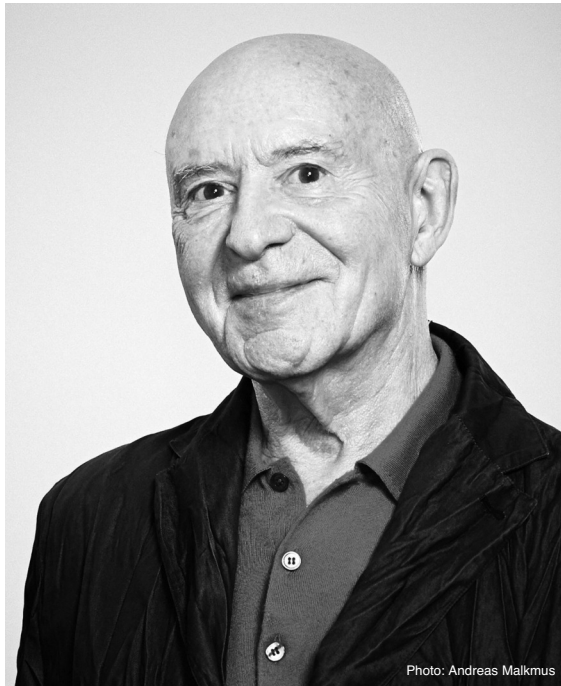


Photo: Andreas Malkmus

Christoph Eschenbach is in demand as a distinguished guest conductor with the finest orchestras and opera houses throughout the world, including those in Vienna, Berlin, Paris, London, New York, Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, Milan, Rome, Munich, Dresden, Leipzig, Madrid, Tokyo and Shanghai. He is currently music director of the Konzerthaus-orchester Berlin, principal guest conductor of the Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra and honorary conductor of the Bamberger Symphoniker. In June 2017 Eschenbach received the title of conductor laureate of the National Symphony Orchestra after serving as music director (2010–17). Other past positions include music director of the Orchestre de Paris (2000–10), The Philadelphia Orchestra (2003–08), NDR Symphony Orchestra (1998–2004) and Houston Symphony (1988–99). A prolific recording artist, Eschenbach has an impressive discography as both a conductor and pianist. He was mentored by George Szell and Herbert von Karajan. His many accolades include the French distinction of Légion d'honneur and the prestigious Ernst von Siemens Music Prize in honour of his life's dedication to music.

www.christoph-eschenbach.com

Fazıl Say is one of the world's most prominent pianists but he is also a much-admired composer with a substantial catalogue of works. He combines both these accomplishments in his two *Violin Sonatas*, the first of which is suffused with Turkish motifs and dances, such as the *horon*. The second sonata takes as its theme the abuse of nature and the need to resist despoliation. His *Violin Concerto* is subtitled '1001 Nights in the Harem' and is full of rich melodies and atmosphere, and features an array of Turkish percussion instruments.



Fazıl
SAY
(b. 1970)



- | | | |
|--------------|--|--------------|
| 1-3 | Sonata for Violin and Piano No. 2
'Mount Ida' (Kaz Dağları), Op. 82 (2019)* | 22:09 |
| 4 | Cleopatra for Violin, Op. 34 (2010) | 5:37 |
| 5-9 | Sonata for Violin and Piano No. 1, Op. 7 (1997) | 14:28 |
| 10-13 | Violin Concerto '1001 Nights in the Harem', Op. 25 (2007) | 27:47 |

***WORLD PREMIERE RECORDING**

Friedemann Eichhorn, Violin

Fazıl Say, Piano 1-3 5-9 • Aykut Köseleli, Percussion 10-13

Deutsche Radio Philharmonie Saarbrücken Kaiserslautern 10-13

Christoph Eschenbach 10-13

A Saarländischer Rundfunk / Südwestrundfunk recording in co-production with Naxos Rights (Europe) Ltd (2020) • A detailed track list can be found inside the booklet.
Recorded: 25 November 2019 1-3, 23-24 5-9, 24 4 April 2019 and 18-19 February 2019 10-13 at the Großer Sendesaal, Saarländischer Rundfunk, Saarbrücken, Germany
Producer and mastering: Nora Brandenburg • Engineer: Thomas Becher
Editors: Nora Brandenburg, María-Emma Laín-Fernandez • Booklet notes: Fazıl Say
Publisher: Schott Music GmbH & Co. KG • Fazıl Say appears courtesy of Warner Classics
Cover concept by Eren Yağmuroğlu • Photograph of Fazıl Say by Marco Borggreve

© & © 2020 Naxos Rights (Europe) Ltd • www.naxos.com