

The 5 Browns  
**The Little  
Tin Box**

A Collection of Childhood Memories



STEINWAY & SONS

The idea behind *The Little Tin Box* comes from the image of a childhood keepsake box filled with the treasures of a little girl or boy. The five of us kept our favorite things in such tin boxes as children, and happening upon their contents in adulthood can release a flood of ancient memories. The pieces of music we've included in this album (some of which we actually played as children) are intended to illustrate an emotional encounter with childhood memory—the wonderful and difficult things we hold on to in the tin boxes of our minds. Opening them can be beautiful, it can be heartbreaking, and sometimes it can be a little bit of both. Undoubtedly, though, there is a certain peace and power to be accessed in the treasures of childhood. Thus, *The Little Tin Box* represents a rediscovery of childhood through music, a reclaiming of its sweetness and beauty, and finding greater meaning in the light by having survived the dark.

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Recorded at The Dorothy Young Center for the Arts at Drew University on June 24–26, 2016.

Producer/Engineer/Mastering Engineer: Adam Abeshouse

Executive Producers: Eric Feidner, Jon Feldner

Production Assistant: Renée Oakford

Art Direction: Jackie Fugere | Design: Cover to Cover Design, Anilda Carrasquillo

Illustrations: Hilary Onyon | Photographs: August Miller, UVU Marketing & Communications

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# The Little Tin Box

by Liesl Shurtliff

I crack open the lid  
And memories spill,  
flow like a dream,  
vivid and real.

Grand ideas,  
curious thoughts,  
heartfelt wishes,  
and secret plots.  
Gadgets and widgets,  
treasures and charms,  
the magic of childhood  
wrapped in my arms.

A sadness comes too,  
seeps through the years,  
and cold cruel darkness,  
to feed on my fears.

But light conquers darkness,  
love throws us a rope,  
and these warm joyful memories  
will stay me with hope.



**The 5 Browns** – Ryan, Melody, Gregory, Deondra and Desirae – all attended The Juilliard School in New York City, where they became the first family of five siblings to be admitted. The quintet enjoyed their first wave of critical attention in 2002, when People magazine dubbed them the “Fab Five” and they were featured on Oprah and 60 Minutes. The 5 Browns’ albums have collectively spent over 30 weeks in the #1 position on Billboard Magazine’s Classical Album Chart. The New York Post has proclaimed: “One family, five pianos and 50 fingers add up to the biggest classical music sensation in years.”

The quintet has garnered extensive coverage from media outlets ranging from The Tonight Show, Good Morning America, Today, and The View, to NPR’s Performance Today, The New York Times, The Los Angeles Times, and Entertainment Weekly.

The 5 Browns tour extensively in the U.S. and abroad and have performed in venues including Carnegie Hall in New York City, the Grand National Theater in Beijing, Suntory Hall in Tokyo, Symphony Hall in Chicago, and Zaryadye Concert Hall in Moscow. Individually and collaboratively, they have soloed with orchestras including the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the National Symphony Orchestra, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the New Jersey Symphony, the Saint Louis Symphony, the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, and the Orchestre de chambre de Paris.

Additionally, filmmaker Ben Niles’ feature-length documentary “The 5 Browns: Digging Through the Darkness” has played at film festivals around the world and was labeled a Critic’s Pick by The New York Times.” The 5 Browns are exclusive Steinway Artists.



The 5 Browns

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The musical keepsakes found in *The Little Tin Box* represent an encounter with childhood memory, a reclaiming of its sweetness and beauty, and finding greater meaning in the light by having survived the dark.

- 1 **The Moldau** | Smetana/Shumway | *The 5 Browns* 11:07
- 2 **Peer Gynt: Anitra's Dance** | Grieg | *Desirae & Deondra Brown* 2:17
- 3 **Rondo Alla Turca** | Mozart/Anderson | *The 5 Browns* 3:16
- 4 **Children's Corner: Dr. Gradus Ad Parnassum** | Debussy | *Melody Brown* 2:25
- 5 **Skater's Waltz** | Waldteufel/First Piano Quartet | *The 5 Browns* 5:23
- 6 **Sonata for Two Pianos: Allegro con spirito** | Mozart | *Desirae & Deondra Brown* 5:57
- 7 **Symphony No. 5: Allegro con brio** | Beethoven/Shumway | *The 5 Browns* 7:36
- 8 **The Current** | R. Brown | *Ryan Brown* 4:15
- 9 **Les Barricades Mystérieuses** | Couperin | *Melody Brown* 2:20
- 10 **Kinderszenen (Scenes from Childhood)** | Schumann | *Gregory Brown*
- 11 **Of Strange Lands and People** 1:51
- 12 **Pleading Child** 0:56
- 13 **Child Falling Asleep** 1:55
- 14 **Dreaming** 2:42
- 15 **The Poet Speaks** 2:08
- 16 **I Wish I Could Turn Back Into A Kid** — An improvisation by Desirae's daughter, Poppy Luch (age 6) 6:02

Playing Time: 60:18



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