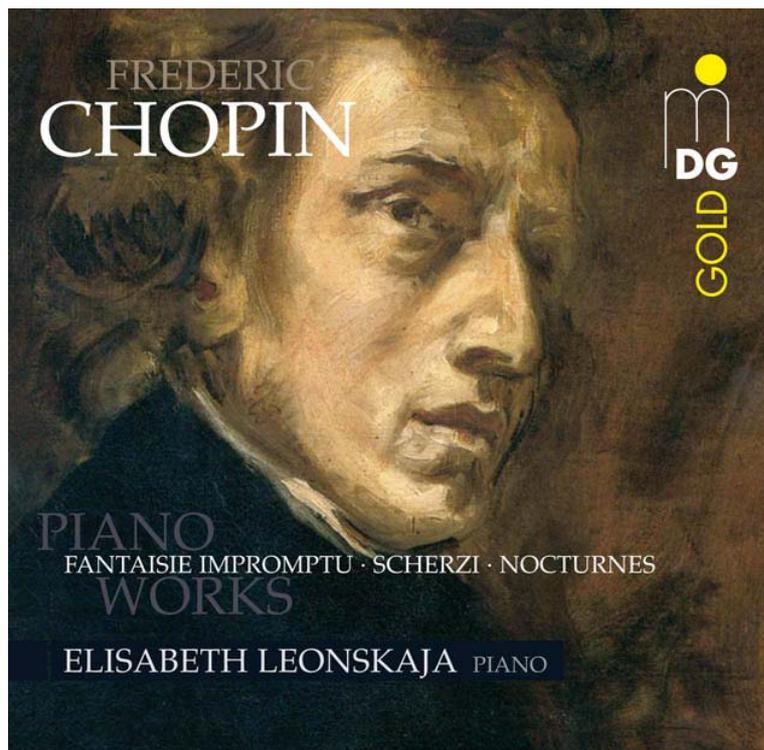


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04/09-(5)

**Title:**  
**Frédéric Chopin** (1810-1849)  
Scherzi  
Nocturnes  
Fantaisie impromptu

**Musician:**  
Elisabeth Leonskaja, piano

1 Hybrid-SACD

**Order Number:**  
MDG 943 1558-6

222<sup>®</sup>  
RECORDING

**UPC-Code:**



### Fascinating Milestone

After Brahms, Mendelssohn, and Schubert, now Chopin: it is always fascinating how Elisabeth Leonskaja on her MDG recordings enables us to experience masterpieces of the piano literature in new ways. Here the pianist presents scherzos and nocturnes by the great Polish composer with inimitable intensity on a Steinway grand piano from 1901 and wins from it incredible sound cascades with which she sets yet another milestone in her superb career.

### Epochal – and More

Frédéric Chopin has always had many admirers. Franz Liszt once called him “epoch-making, bold, dazzling, and enchanting.” This judgment applies in special measure to Chopin's highly virtuosic scherzos. With these four pieces composed between 1831 and 1843 he ventured onto terrain that had never been explored before in this form.

### She has it all!

Elisabeth Leonskaja rises to these challenges with bravura. Combining a brilliant touch with joy in the subtlety of the melodies, she reveals a captivating wealth of keyboard nuances. Wild forte outbursts, for example, are convincingly integrated into the overall process. Along with her special flair for the delightfulness of pearly passages, she has the energy for the necessary motoric drive.

### Sensational Success

Elisabeth Leonskaja meets with thunderous ovations around the globe. This congenial great pianist nevertheless does not at all cultivate the airs of a diva. Born in

Georgia, she presented her first concerts at the age of eleven, and her unusual talent soon brought her to the Moscow Conservatory. Prior to emigrating from the Soviet Union in 1978 and taking up permanent residence in Vienna, Elisabeth Leonskaja presented a number of concerts as Sviatoslav Richter's partner, with this encounter stamping her further artistic development. Her appearance at the Salzburg Festival in 1979 laid the foundation for her career in the Western music world. Since then she has regularly guested in all the world's music centers. Many recordings attest to her high artistic rank, and a number of them have won awards (Grand Prix du Disque, Prix Caecilia, Diapason d'Or, and, most recently, the Midem Award for her Brahms album).

**Franz Schubert:** Piano Works  
MDG 343 1194-2



**Johannes Brahms**  
Piano Works op. 116-119  
MDG 343 1349-2 (CD)  
MDG 943 1349-6 (SACD)



**Felix Mendelssohn:** Piano Concertos No. 1+2,  
Piano Music  
Camerata Salzburg, Ian Volkov (cond.)  
MDG 343 1421-2 (CD)  
MDG 943 1421-6 (SACD)

