

Between Fire and Silence - Echoes of a Romantic Soul

Schumann and Sibelius on the debut album of David Munk-Nielsen



Robert Schumann: Kinderszenen, Op. 15	
1	I. Von fremden Ländern und Menschen 1:42
2	II. Kuriose Geschichte 1:09
3	III. Hasche-Mann 0:34
4	IV. Bittendes Kind 1:01
5	V. Glückes genug 0:41
6	VI. Wichtige Begebenheit 0:58
7	VII. Träumerei 2:54
8	VIII. Am Kamin 1:01
9	IX. Ritter vom Steckenpferd 0:41
10	X. Fast zu ernst 1:46
11	XI. Fürchtenmachen 2:01
12	XII. Kind im Einschlummern 2:10
13	XIII. Der Dichter spricht 2:24
Jean Sibelius: 10 Pieces, Op. 24	
14	1. Impromptu 3:46
15	8. Nocturno 3:25
16	9. Romance 3:27
Jean Sibelius: 6 Impromptus, Op. 5	
17	Impromptu no. 5 3:26
Robert Schumann: Fantasie in C Major, Op. 17	
18	Durchaus fantastisch und leidenschaftlich vorzutragen 13:19
19	Mäßig. Durchaus energisch 7:59
20	Langsam getragen. Durchweg leise zu halten 11:06
	Total 65:30
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Between Fire and Silence is the debut album of the young Danish pianist **David Munk-Nielsen**, presenting a program that brings together the Romantic worlds of **Robert Schumann** and **Jean Sibelius**. Through this combination, the recording explores a rich musical landscape shaped by contrasts between intimacy and passion, reflection and intensity.

At the heart of the album are two central piano works by Schumann: *Kinderszenen, Op. 15* and the monumental *Fantasie, Op. 17*. In *Kinderszenen*, Schumann looks back on childhood through a series of poetic miniatures that capture innocence, nostalgia, and quiet reflection. Pieces such as the famous *Träumerei* reveal the composer's deeply lyrical voice and his gift for expressing profound emotion within a small musical frame.

The Fantasie, Op. 17, composed shortly afterwards, represents the other side of Schumann's artistic personality. Vast in scale and emotional scope, the work is filled with longing, passion, and dramatic power. Written during a period when Schumann was separated from Clara Wieck, the *Fantasie* became a deeply personal expression of love and yearning. Together, these two works reveal the dual nature often associated with Schumann's artistic identity: the poetic introspection of Eusebius and the fiery intensity of Florestan.

Complementing Schumann's music are selected piano pieces by Jean Sibelius from Op. 5 and Op. 24. Although Sibelius is best known for his orchestral works and symphonies, his piano music offers a more intimate perspective on his compositional voice. These miniatures are refined, atmospheric, and rich in subtle color, revealing a quieter but deeply expressive side of the Finnish composer.

Placed alongside Schumann's *Kinderszenen*, Sibelius' piano works create a contemplative counterpart to the dramatic scale of the *Fantasie*. The program thus unfolds as a dialogue between two composers and two musical worlds, balancing Nordic lyricism with German Romantic intensity.

With **Between Fire and Silence**, David Munk-Nielsen introduces himself as a thoughtful and expressive interpreter, presenting a debut recording that reflects both his artistic roots and his commitment to exploring the storytelling power of Romantic piano music.

Link to the album:

<https://www.ourrecordings.com/albums/between-fire-and-silence>

Link to direct streaming: <https://www.ourrecordings.com/stream-music>

Album Teaser: <https://youtu.be/b5E8I7cJZQI>

Schumann : <https://youtu.be/1zTFLwtY1qU>

Sibelius: <https://youtu.be/i70FOx8UYCQ>

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