



## \*\*\*\*\* The Left Hand Has It Here

May 31, 2016 By <u>Dennis E. Ferrara</u> This review is from: Works for the left hand Vol.2 (Audio CD

Pianists have always found performing compositions for the left hand a creative challenge. The most popular has always been the Ravel concerto; here, however, the left hand is in the "lime" light as it were. These compositions are extremely difficult and require the highest form of piano virtuosity to make them come alive for the listener. Maxime Zecchini is certainly one pianist who has this gift of virtuosity and musicality and his entire series of now 5 recordings have these artistic elements throughout.

The Program - Œuvres Pour La Main Gauche - vol. II - Maxime Zecchini – Ad Vitam - TT: 72:31 - Felix Blumenfeld - (1863-1931) - Etude, Op. 36; Bela Bartok - (1881-1945) - Etude Pour La Main Gauche; Pierre Sancan - (1916-2008) - Caprice Romantique; Charles-Valentin Alkan - (1813-1888) - Fantasie in A-flat major, Op. 76; Erwin Scholhoff - (1894-1942) - Suite No. III - pour la main gauche - i. Preludio; ii. Air; iii. Zingara; iv. Improvisazione; v. Finale; Max Reger - (1873-1916) - Prelude and Fugue in E-flat minor; Camille-Saens - (1835-1921) - Concerto for Piano No. IV, Op. 44, First Movement - (transcription by Maxime Zecchini - (b.1979)); Maxime Zecchini - (b. 1979) - Naouli in F minor - (2005).

This pianist has everything that nature has given: beautiful tone, nuance, expression, subtlety and total understanding of the musical phrase. This virtuosity is for the music itself and not for only the great technique itself. The repertoire is unique and there are several noteworthy examples: Blumenfeld, Bartok, Alkan, Reger, Saint-Saens and the pianist's own transcription and original work.

**Excellent program notes in French and English** by the artist himself add much to the overall enjoyment of this particular volume in the series of five.