

**Brahms: Hungarian Dances, Waltzes Op. 39. Schubert: Marche Militaire; Fantasia in F Minor.** Richard and John Contiguglia, duo-pianists. **Connoisseur Soc. CS 2037**, stereo, \$5.98.

This is the finest disc of two-piano Brahms and Schubert since Stereo! In my memory, only the team of Demus and Badura-Skoda, on old mono Westminster, could possibly compare in the truthfulness and beauty of this Schubert, as here put forth. And I *never* remember hearing Brahms like this! Not on discs, anyhow. I played the whole damn thing three times through.

These two young men, out of Yale University, are that rare phenomenon, a two-piano team that plays *music*, not just brilliantly coordinated pianism. They are indeed superbly coordinated, almost beyond belief. But what comes out makes one forget the pianos. And think of the composer himself. They have such a beautiful sense for phrasing, for rhythm, for the exactly perfect tempo. And they play, truly, as one.

Though I haven't liked Connoisseur's one-piano recording, a too-reverberant church sound, I find no fault whatsoever with this larger sound of two grand pianos together. It suits both the music and the performers.

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Performance: A

Sound: B+

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