

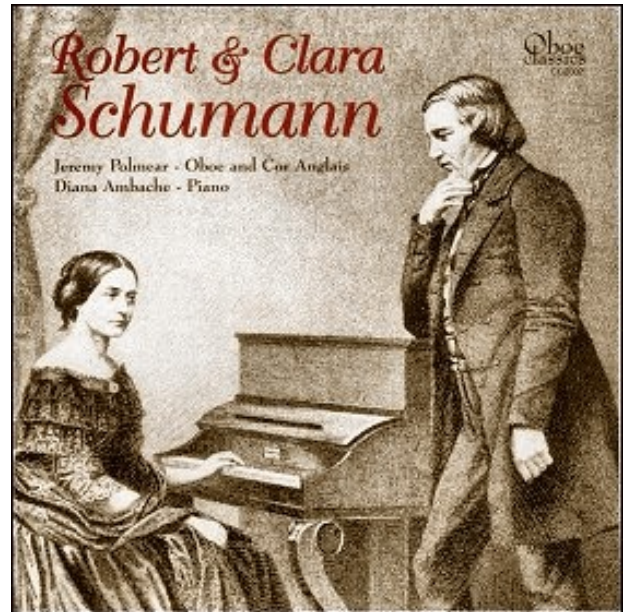
Robert & Clara Schumann

Jeremy Polmear (oboe & cor anglais) Diana Ambache (piano)

These are the best of Romantic miniatures. Robert Schumann's works are deservedly the best known oboe chamber pieces of the period. Clara Schumann's take on the same genre is darker, and with more ambitious piano writing: their two sets of *Romanzen* make a fascinating comparison.

The cor anglais (english horn) features too - in Robert's *Adagio & Allegro Op 70*, and also in an unusually spritely role in his popular-style five pieces *Stücke im Volkston*.

There are two other individual items - a gentle *Romanze* from Clara, and a simple, poignant *Abendlied* from Robert.



Cat No CC2002 Bar Code 5023581200220

The download version includes an introduction to the repertoire. The CD version has a 24-page booklet with, additionally, track descriptions, a French and German translation, and many photos. More details can be found at www.oboeconcerts.com/Schumanns.htm



"In this recording, Jeremy Polmear is ideal for these kinds of pieces because his playing is so controlled. The sound he produces varies from the softest, most delicate tones to more powerfully evocative sonorities. Because his control is so masterful Polmear avoids the saccharine sweetness that tempts lesser artists. His vibrato is solid, not too quick or too slow; he applies it appropriately. As a result, his phrasing is impeccable; his gorgeous tone is warm, mellow, but always strong." *Patrick Meanor, Fanfare Magazine (USA)*

BBC Music Magazine has made this the Benchmark Recording (best available version) for this repertoire.

"Jeremy Polmear ... is an expressive player, relishing the long line of the slow movement of the *Volkston* set, and with Diana Ambache finding just the right touch for the mischievous phrasing of its middle movement. There is much elegant and accomplished music-making here, as well as a lively sense of fun ... the commitment of both players and the attractiveness of the music will give much pleasure."

Peter Branscombe, International Record Review

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