



Solomon plays Beethoven, Schumann, Bach, Chopin & Brahms

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A Jewish boy from the East End, Cutner Solomon went from exploited child prodigy to master pianist, his career abruptly cut short at 54 by a stroke – although he lived a further, crippled, 32 years. These RIAS recordings are of typical repertoire: Bach's Italian Concerto, Beethoven's 'Moonlight' and Op.2:3 sonatas, Carnaval, Brahms Intermezzi and a Chopin group including the F minor Fantasy. The Audite essayist finds a 'holy sobriety' in his playing – never overstated, elegant but not emasculate. Few 'Beethoven pianists' convince equally in Chopin, as Solomon could (eg, the Op.9:1 Nocturne here). A bonus is the fine sound quality of these 23/24 Feb '56 tapes.