



Bach & Gubaidulina

aud 97.830

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Gramophone (2025.11.10)

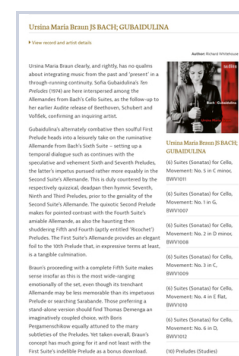
source: <https://www.gramophone.co.uk/review/ursi...>

GRAMOPHONE

Ursina Maria Braun clearly, and rightly, has no qualms about integrating music from the past and 'present' in a through-running continuity. Sofia Gubaidulina's "Ten Preludes" (1974) are here interspersed among the Allemandes from Bach's Cello Suites, as the follow-up to her earlier audite release of Beethoven, Schubert and Voříšek, confirming an inquiring artist.

Gubaidulina's alternately combative then soulful First Prelude heads into a leisurely take on the ruminative Allemande from Bach's Sixth Suite – setting up a temporal dialogue such as continues with the speculative and vehement Sixth and Seventh Preludes, the latter's impetus pursued rather more equably in the Second Suite's Allemande. This is duly countered by the respectively quizzical, deadpan then hymnic Seventh, Ninth and Third Preludes, prior to the geniality of the Second Suite's Allemande. The quixotic Second Prelude makes for pointed contrast with the Fourth Suite's amiable Allemande, as also the haunting then shuddering Fifth and Fourth (aptly entitled 'Ricochet') Preludes. The First Suite's Allemande provides an elegant foil to the 10th Prelude that, in expressive terms at least, is a tangible culmination.

Braun's proceeding with a complete Fifth Suite makes sense insofar as this is the most wide-ranging emotionally of the set, even though its trenchant Allemande may be less memorable than its impetuous Prelude or searching Sarabande. Those preferring a stand-alone version should find Thomas Demenga an imaginatively coupled choice, with Boris Pergamenschikow equally attuned to the many subtleties of the Preludes. Yet taken overall, Braun's concept has much going for it and not least with the First Suite's indelible Prelude as a bonus download.



Ursina Maria Braun JS BACH; GUBAIDULINA

► [View record and artist details](#)

Author: Richard Whitehouse

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(6) Suites (Sonatas) for Cello,
Movement: No. 5 in C minor,
BWV1011

(6) Suites (Sonatas) for Cello,
Movement: No. 1 in G,
BWV1007

(6) Suites (Sonatas) for Cello,
Movement: No. 2 in D minor,
BWV1008

(6) Suites (Sonatas) for Cello,
Movement: No. 3 in C,
BWV1009

(6) Suites (Sonatas) for Cello,
Movement: No. 4 in E flat,
BWV1010

(6) Suites (Sonatas) for Cello,
Movement: No. 6 in D,
BWV1012

(10) Preludes (Studies)