Bogus masterpieces exposed by software

In one of the strangest stories of the classical music world, CDs claimed to be performances by the late British piano prodigy, *Joyce Hatto*, have been exposed as fakes. The sham was uncovered when the *Gracenote* database identified a Hatto CD as a release by pianist *Laszlo Simon*

CD digital track information



- Music CD: Standard disc does not list track names, but contains unique raw data which identifies track number and track length
- gracenote
- 2 iTunes: Submits raw data via internet to *Gracenote* database. Gracenote contains data on more than 55 million tracks and 4 million CDs
- Gracenote: Identifies
 CD from raw data and
 matches track names.
 Hatto CD identified as
 recording by pianist
 Laszlo Simon
- 4 Visual waveform match: No two recordings are identical. Comparison of same sequence of Liszt's étude *Mazeppa* by different pianists indicates Hatto CD is a copy of Simon recording



1. Joyce Hatto, Concert Artist (album below right)



2. Laszlo Simon. BIS Records (above right)



3. Christopher Taylor, eMusic.com



4. Michael Ponti, eMusic.com

© GRAPHIC NEWS

Sources: Gracenote, Pristine Audio

Transcendental Studies
by Franz Liszt



Released 1987



Recorded 1990-2001