

## Sergei Lyapunov – Piano Sextet In B-flat Minor Op.63 (2003)

Written by bluesever

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1. *Allegro maestoso* 10:53 2. *Scherzo. Allegro vivace* 5:12 [play](#) 3. *Nocturne* 12:28 4. *Finale. Allegro risoluto* 8:59

Performers: - John Thwaites - piano - Leon Bosch – double bass - Dante Quartet

Sergei Lyapunov, a Russian composer and pianist, who was born in 1850 and died in 1924.

This Piano Sextet is a significant chamber music work of Lyapunov's composition library. It was composed in 1915 and later revised in 1921. In 1893, when Lyapunov was still a professor of piano at the Petersburg Conservatory, he was commissioned to collect folksongs from the northern provinces of the Russian empire, together with Liadov and Balakirev. Other piano sextets of similar instrumentations include Mendelssohn and Glinka's sextets. This sextet was composed in four distinct movements, and it's scored for piano, 2 violins, viola, cello and double bass.

*Allegro mastoso*, the first movement that is big and impressive. It begins with a loud impact. The first theme appears as a light-hearted folk melody but the music soon develops itself into one which is of much emotional intensity before the arrival of the second theme.

The second movement *Scherzo*, *allegro vivace* is sparkling and jovial, and it fully exhibits the contrast with the beautifully flowing but slow movement that comes next.

The third movement *Nocturne*, is slow, sensuous and soulful. It is also beautifully flowing and

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extremely romantic. It was utterly moving at the point when the other instruments reached out to fetch the charming solo cello.

The finale, Allegro risoluto, The coda had cast a generally strong impact with both themes battling out for domination. The powerful rhythm is aggressive, yet impressive. ---Boon Sin Ler

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