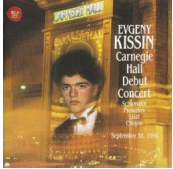


Evgeny Kissin - Carnegie Hall Debut Concert (1990)

Written by bluesever

Sunday, 11 September 2011 09:30 - Last Updated Thursday, 07 November 2013 20:39

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CD1 1. Variations on the name 'Abegg,' for piano in F major, Op. 1 2. Symphonic Etudes ('Etudes in the form of variations') for piano (2 versions), Op. 13: Theme [play](#) 3. Symphonic Etudes ('Etudes in the form of variations') for piano (2 versions), Op. 13: Variation 1 4. Symphonic Etudes in Variation Form (5), for piano (variants & corrections of Op. 13), WoO 6: Posthumous variation 1 5. Symphonic Etudes ('Etudes in the form of variations') for piano (2 versions), Op. 13: Variation 2 6. Symphonic Etudes ('Etudes in the form of variations') for piano (2 versions), Op. 13: Variation 3 7. Symphonic Etudes ('Etudes in the form of variations') for piano (2 versions), Op. 13: Variation 4 8. Symphonic Etudes ('Etudes in the form of variations') for piano (2 versions), Op. 13: Variation 5 9. Symphonic Etudes ('Etudes in the form of variations') for piano (2 versions), Op. 13: Variation 6 10. Symphonic Etudes in Variation Form (5), for piano (variants & corrections of Op. 13), WoO 6: Posthumous variation 4 11. Symphonic Etudes in Variation Form (5), for piano (variants & corrections of Op. 13), WoO 6: Posthumous variation 5 12. Symphonic Etudes ('Etudes in the form of variations') for piano (2 versions), Op. 13: Variation 7 13. Symphonic Etudes in Variation Form (5), for piano (variants & corrections of Op. 13), WoO 6: Posthumous variation 3 14. Symphonic Etudes ('Etudes in the form of variations') for piano (2 versions), Op. 13: Variation 8 15. Symphonic Etudes ('Etudes in the form of variations') for piano (2 versions), Op. 13: Variation 9 16. Symphonic Etudes in Variation Form (5), for piano (variants & corrections of Op. 13), WoO 6: Posthumous variation 2 17. Symphonic Etudes ('Etudes in the form of variations') for piano (2 versions), Op. 13: Variation 10 18. Symphonic Etudes ('Etudes in the form of variations') for piano (2 versions), Op. 13: Variation 11 19. Symphonic Etudes ('Etudes in the form of variations') for piano (2 versions), Op. 13: Finale CD2 1. Piano Sonata No. 6 in A major ('War Sonata 1'), Op. 82: Allegro moderato 2. Piano Sonata No. 6 in A major ('War Sonata 1'), Op. 82: Allegretto 3. Piano Sonata No. 6 in A major ('War Sonata 1'), Op. 82: Tempo di valzer lentissimo 4. Piano Sonata No. 6 in A major ('War Sonata 1'), Op. 82: Vivace 5. Liebesträume, nocturno for piano No. 3 in A flat major ('O Lieb, so lang du lieben kannst'), S. 541/3 (LW A103/3) 6. Rhapsodie espagnole (Folies d'Espagne et jota aragonesa), for piano, S. 254 (LW A195) 7. Waltz for piano No. 7 in C sharp minor, Op. 64/2, CT. 213 8. Appassionata, etude for piano in F minor (Transcendental Etude No. 10), S. 139/10 (LW A172/10) 9. Widmung (Liebeslied), transcription for piano (after Schumann, I & II), S. 566 (LW A133) 10. Etudes (4) for piano, Op. 2: No. 3 [play](#)

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Kissin's U.S. debut recital confirmed his status as a major pianist. The Prokofiev Sonata No. 6, one of Kissin's specialties since he was in his early teens, is very fluent and impressive, but it doesn't have the power the music needs for maximum impact. In fact, a lack of really powerful bass from the pianist's left hand (not a fault of the recording) lightens the weight of his playing throughout. But both sets of Schumann Variations are convincingly played (and contrasted), and Kissin's Liszt playing is as dazzling as any you'll hear. ---Leslie Gerber

This recording signaled Kissin's 'arrival'. There is so much to praise here, but one must remember that this is the playing of a teenager at his debut in the world's premier concert hall; imperfections are to be expected. Almost shocking, then, is the near-perfection of Kissin's playing, and not merely in getting round the notes, but in his complete command of every piece here. While the Prokofiev is hair-raising, the real 'genius' piece here is the Liszt Spanish Rhapsody, by far the best I've encountered. Such power, control, singing line, humor, everything one might ask for in big Liszt playing. Anyone doubting Kissin's greatness need only listen to this. No matter how you slice it, one of the great debut recordings, in the same league as Argerich's (an exalted league to be sure). ---amazon.com

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