

Tchaikovsky - Rachmaninoff - Prokofiev

Dennis Gasanov, *violin* - Yury Panov, *piano*

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

01. Serenade melancholique, Op. 26	09:10
02. Valse-Scherzo, Op. 34	
<i>Souvenir d'un lieu cher, Op. 42</i>	05:48
03. No. 1 Meditation	09:54
04. No. 2 Scherzo	03:38
05. No. 3 Melodie	03:28

Sergei Rachmaninoff

<i>2 Morceaux de salon Op. 6</i>	
06. No. 1 Romance	05:49
07. No. 2 Hungarian Dance	05:15

Sergei Prokofiev

<i>Five Melodies, Op. 35 bis</i>	
08. I. Andante-24b I	02:03
09. II. Lento ma non troppo	02:36
10. III. Animato ma non allegro-24b	02:58
11. IV. Allegretto leggero e scherzando -24b	01:18
12. V. Andante non troppo	02:58

Total Time: 54:55

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Tchaikovsky

Sérénade mélancolique, Op. 26
Valse-Scherzo, Op. 34
Souvenir d'un lieu cher, Op. 42

Rachmaninoff

2 Morceaux de salon, Op. 6

Prokofiev

Five Melodies, Op. 35 bis

Dennis Gasanov, *violin*
Yury Panov, *piano*

The five pieces by P. I. Tchaikovsky included in this CD belong to three different opuses. The "Serenade Melancolique" Op. 26 was Tchaikovsky's first composition for violin and orchestra. Written in 1875, shortly after completing his First Piano Concerto, the Serenade was premiered by Adolph Brodsky. The arrangement for violin and piano presented here belongs to the composer. The title is sufficiently descriptive of the piece's character; it is to be noted that the chosen tonality (B flat minor) causes the violin to play almost no single open string in the entire 10-minute piece, thus reinforcing its introspective character. The vibrant and colorful "Valse-scherzo" Op. 34 was written two years later and published in 1878. It was dedicated to Iosif Kotek. It is written in rounded binary form, with a cadenza. It is worth mentioning that in Tchaikovsky's catalogue this piece precedes his famous Violin Concerto Op. 35, which led some scholars to believe that Valse-scherzo was a preparatory exercise of sorts. Both the violin and piano and violin and orchestra versions belong to the composer, although there are grounds to think that Kotek participated in the orchestration of the piece. The "Three pieces" Op. 42 are a set of pieces for violin and piano, composed between March and May 1878. While after the composer's death every edition of the set has been accompanied by the title "Souvenir d'un lieu cher" (Memory of a dear place), it is not at all clear whether this was the composer's own title, but it is believed that he meant to dedicate the cycle to Brailov, the Ukrainian town where Tchaikovsky's patron Nadezhda von Meck's estate was located. The first of the pieces, "Meditation", was originally meant to be the second movement of Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto, but it was rejected and replaced by a shorter Canzonetta. The orchestrated versions performed along the original for violin and piano belong to Alexander Glazunov. The two "Moreceaux de salon" (Salon pieces) Op. 6 by S. Rachmaninoff are the only works for violin and piano by the composer, and belong to his early period. In the first piece, "Romance", the violin exposes the main theme to a gentle accompaniment of the piano, to restate it later in octaves to a more dramatic piano part. After a passionate cadenza, the music fades into an intimate pianissimo chord. The second one, "Danse hongroise" (Hungarian Dance), marked Vivace, is a virtuosic piece that reflects with great effect all the musical gestures that at the time, under the influence of Brahms and Liszt, were considered typically Hungarian.

Alejandro Drago

Photographer Yury Panov



Dennis Gasanov is a Russian-Azerbaijani violinist. He was born in Lugansk (Ukraine) in 1994. At the age of six he started his studies at the Music School No. 6 under Irina Golovko and Vladimir Zuev. From 2007 to 2013 he studied at the Central Music School of the Moscow State Conservatory Tchaikovsky. From 2013 to 2018 he studied at the Moscow State Conservatory Tchaikovsky, obtaining an Artist Diploma, and from 2019 to 2021, at the school of post-graduate studies of the same conservatory in the class of Professor Marina Keselman. His repertoire includes a wide list of works, equally combining virtuosic compositions for solo violin with chamber music of all styles and eras. The press has repeatedly noted Dennis' originality and lyrical intonation, as well as his flexibility and versatility. All these qualities allow him to constantly take part in salon, chamber and symphony concerts at many concert venues in Moscow and around the world. He is a laureate of international competitions such as: Demidov International Competition "DeMux 2015, Yekaterinburg", 1st prize; Zakhar Bron International Youth Violin Competition in Novosibirsk, 2016, 2nd prize; Beethoven Violin Competition 2017, St. Pölten, Austria, 2nd prize; 3rd All-Russian Music Competition, 2018, finalist and laureate; Premio Rodolfo Lipizer 2021, Gorizia, Italy, 5th prize and special prizes for the best performance of Bach in the first round and for the best performance of E. Ysaÿe's Sonata in the second round; I International Competition

Violino in St. Petersburg, 2nd prize, special Press Award and special prize from Aulicus Classics. In 2022 he received the 2nd prize and silver medal at the Sendai International Music Competition. Dennis Gasanov participated in master classes by such musicians as Pierre Amoyal, Boris Kushnir, Svetlana Makarova, Irina Bochkova, Alexander Vinnitski, Tatyana Samuil, Renaud Capuçon and others. He collaborated with many contemporary composers, and performed world premieres; notable, he recorded a disc with the complete string quartets by Alexander Tchaikovsky (of which the 6th and 7th quartets were performed for the first time) for the "Melodiya" record label, as well as a Piano Quintet in collaboration with Boris Berezovsky. He has been a soloist of the St. Petersburg House of Music since 2017. Since the end of 2021 Dennis Gasanov has been improving his mastery at the International Academy in Imola in the class of Professor Boris Belkin.

Photographer Elizaveta Panova



Yury Panov is a pianist known in the media as a prominent ensemble performer and accompanist. Currently he lives in Moscow, works at the violin department of the Central Music School - the Academy of Performing Arts and of the Tchaikovsky Moscow State Conservatory. He was born in 1982 in Sumy, Ukraine. He was educated at the Music School No. 3 of Sumy city (1988-1990; teacher - Tatyana Kislaya), Kharkov Special Music School (1990-1995; teacher - Elena Kolesnikova), Central Music School at the Moscow State Tchaikovsky Conservatory (1995-2000; professor - Arkady Sevidov), the Gnesin Russian Academy of Music (2000-2006 – artist diploma, 2006-2009 – post graduate diploma; professor - Arkady Sevidov). The pianist's main area of professional interest is chamber music. With sufficient universality of the musician's repertoire policy, he prefers the heritage of Russian and European musical romanticism. Since 2000, Yury Panov has worked as an accompanist in the classes of violin, viola, cello, oboe, trumpet, trombone, percussion instruments, Russian folk instruments in various music schools, colleges and universities in Moscow. However, most of his professional career has been devoted to collaborations with string players. Among the soloists with whom he collaborated at master classes or concert venues are Elena Revich (violin), Anna Kandinskaya (violin), Mikhail Kugel (viola), Dmitry Sitkovetsky (violin) and many others. As a violin accompanist, Yuri Panov won various awards. Among them: The XV Tchaikovsky International Competition - Special award "Best concertmaster prize" in the "Violin" nomination (Moscow, 2015), The III Auer International Violin Competition - Diploma "Best Accompanist" (St. Petersburg, 2015), The X Mravinsky International Competition of Young Musician - diploma "For the preparation of the laureate" (St. Petersburg, 2016), The VII Yampolsky International Violin Competition - diploma "The best accompanist of the competition" (Moscow, 2017), The III Overall Russian Music Competition - special award "Best Accompanist" in the "Violin" nomination (Moscow, 2018), The duet of Dennis Gasanov and Yury Panov is an extraordinary and multi-year project. The musicians are connected not only by common professional guidelines, but also by a huge joint stage experience. Academic concerts of the Moscow Conservatory, international competitions and festivals, constant recordings for various online projects - all this helped to strengthen the mental connection of congenial musicians, the conciseness and sincerity of their musical dialogue. The recording of this project was made especially for Aulicus Classics in St. Catherine's Lutheran Church in St. Petersburg (built in the 18th century), a place that connects different cultures, eras and traditions. Authentic acoustics (only the exterior of the building has been restored), a 1970s Yamaha concert grand piano that has seen famous musicians of the 20th century, and the hardware heritage of the legendary "Melodiya" Recording Studio create an incredibly warm and somewhat vintage sound, proving the timeless essence of music that knows no boundaries and barriers.