

The SBS Radio and Television Youth Orchestra (SBS Youth Orchestra) located in Sydney, was one of the premier youth orchestras of Australia. It was founded in 1988 by the Russian-born conductor Matthew Krel, who died in 2009. It was disbanded in 2013. From its inception it provided young musicians with extensive exposure to media publicity: the orchestra has made 30 TV programs and five CDs and has been aired on ABC Classic FM. As well as being broadcast on television and radio nationwide, it had a challenging concert schedule, performing at venues such as the Sydney Opera House and Sydney Town Hall every year. The orchestra toured internationally, giving its members opportunities to showcase their repertoire abroad and experience different cultural environments. Since 1993 it toured New Zealand, Tonga, Taiwan, New Caledonia, Germany, Austria, France, Italy, Malta, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Japan, Estonia, Finland, Russia, the People's Republic of China, Spain, Hong Kong and Macau. The members of the orchestra were aged from 12 to 25 and came from a variety of cultural backgrounds. They worked with many international artists, including Giuseppe Giglio (Italy), Roman Rudnytsky (USA), Jansyk Kakhidze (Georgia), Christina Ortiz (England), Dimka Ashkenazy (England), and Liam O'Flynn (Ireland). The Australian artists they performed with include Horst Hoffmann, Myer Fredman, Kathryn Selby, Donald Hazelwood, Marilyn Meier, Dene Olding, Don Burrows, James Morrison, Geoffrey Collins, Nicole Youl, Elizabeth Whitehouse, Rosario La Spina, Judy Bailey, Chris Shepard, Stephen Mould and Simon Tedeschi. In November 2013, the Board announced the disbanding of the orchestra, and the endowment of a position in the Fellowship Program, one of the main education programs of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, in perpetual remembrance of Matthew Krel. The orchestra's final performance was on 1 December 2013, at the Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre in Penrith, New South Wales under the baton of Simon Thew.



ALC 0170

**Rachmaninov** Piano concerto No. 2 in C minor Op. 18  
**Tchaikovsky** Symphony No. 5 in E minor Op. 64  
**SBS Radio and Television Youth Orchestra**

**Floriana Alberico**, piano  
**Leonardo Quadrini**, conductor

**S. Rachmaninov Piano concerto No. 2 in C minor Op. 18**

01. Moderato	11:37
02. Adagio	11:52
03. Allegro scherzando	11:54

**P. Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 5 in E minor Op. 64**

04. Andante - Allegro con anima	13:54
05. Andante cantabile	12:16
06. Valse - Allegro moderato	05:16
07. Finale. Andante maestoso-Allegro vivace - Molto meno mosso	11:56

Total Time: 78:47

Orchestra: SBS Radio and Television Youth Orchestra of Sydney ( Australia)

Soloist **Floriana Alberico** (Italy) - Conductor **Leonardo Quadrini** (Italy)

Live recording **Nazzareno Fiorillo**

Serghej Rachmaninov Piano concert No.2 in C minor Op. 18

Recorded in Potenza on October 9, 2002 at the Auditorium Conservatorio G.Da Venosa

Pëtr Il'ič Čajkovskij Symphony No. 5 in E minor Op. 64

Recorded in Naples, October 10, 2002, Scarlatti Hall, San Pietro a Majella Conservatory

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Rather than describing two works which count among the best loved in the Piano Concerto and Symphonic literature respectively, the following liner notes will focus on the Tchaikovsky-Rachmaninoff relationship, which is perhaps slightly lesser known. Tchaikovsky and Rachmaninoff belonged in two different generations. The older composer was born in 1840, and when he died, in 1893, Rachmaninoff was exactly twenty years old. His senior by approximately 30 years, Tchaikovsky could biologically have been Rachmaninoff's father. Tchaikovsky, who was at the height of his fame when Rachmaninoff began his musical activity, was actually able to mentor him almost from the outset. Rachmaninoff had received his first piano lessons as a very young child, and at five his formal musical education started. At ten he enrolled at the Conservatory of St Petersburg, but the results were not encouraging; so the boy moved to Moscow where he became a private student of Nikolay Zverev. It was at his teacher's home that he met Tchaikovsky for the first time. Supported by the legendary composer, Rachmaninoff enrolled at the Conservatory of Moscow; indeed, so impressed was Tchaikovsky with Rachmaninoff's performance at the theory exams, that he encouraged the budding musician to study composition along with the piano. When Rachmaninoff was sixteen, Tchaikovsky is reported to have said: "For him I predict a great future". The elder composer's support did not limit itself to words, though; Tchaikovsky entrusted to Rachmaninoff the transcription for four-hand piano duet of his ballet *The Sleeping Beauty*. Even though in the end Tchaikovsky was not enthused at all by Rachmaninoff's work, he kept promoting him and sustaining his youthful efforts. For instance, he knew that the young musician had undertaken the composition of his First Piano Concerto, and wrote about it to Taneyev. It was however with Rachmaninoff's graduation piece, the one-act opera *Aleko*, that Tchaikovsky acknowledged him as a colleague rather than just as a promising musician. In an interview published by a St Petersburg newspaper in 1892, Tchaikovsky affirmed that he hoped to be able to compose for some more years, but that, should his Muse lack inspiration, he would gladly "make way for younger people". Asked by the journalist to provide some names, Tchaikovsky unhesitatingly cited Rachmaninoff, "who has created a wonderful opera setting of Pushkin's poem *The Gypsies*". Rachmaninoff was very impressed by the great composer's public statement: "That made me so glad! My hearty thanks to the old man for not having forgotten about me!". Some months before Tchaikovsky's death, the two musicians saw each other once more. Rachmaninoff offered Tchaikovsky a copy of his *Morceaux de Fantaisie*, op. 3, among which is the now famous C-sharp minor Prelude, which gained also Tchaikovsky's approval. Later in that same year, Tchaikovsky's last, Rachmaninoff played for him some of his most recent works. A witness recalled that "his symphonic poem went down very well with everyone, especially with Pyotr Ilyich, who was fascinated by its colouring. This performance of *The Rock* and the ensuing discussion [...] restored him to his previous agreeable mood". That would be the two composers' last encounter, later fondly recalled by Rachmaninoff, who wrote: "I remember very well how [...] I met P. I. Tchaikovsky for the last time; I played him *The Rock*, and he said with that nice grin of his: 'It's amazing how many things Serezha has managed to write this summer! A symphonic poem, a concerto, a suite, etc etc! All I've managed to write is just this one symphony!'". When Tchaikovsky died, a few weeks later, Rachmaninoff dedicated to his memory his *Trio élégiaque*, and he would keep cherishing the memory of his mentor for his entire life.

Chiara Bertoglio

Leonardo Quadrini - Ph. Nazzareno Fiorillo



**Leonardo Quadrini** is a prominent figure in both the national and international music scene. He is a tenured professor of Orchestral Studies at the renowned San Pietro a Majella Conservatory in Naples. Since 1991, he has served as an honorary inspector for the Italian Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities (MIBACT), overseeing the preservation of historical and artistic heritage, particularly organs and antique instruments. During his exceptional career, Quadrini has conducted over 2,900 concerts across five continents, performing in major world capitals such as Madrid, Helsinki, Paris, New York, Sydney, Miami, Tirana, Sofia, Bucharest, Rome, Minsk, Dubrovnik, Athens, Seoul, Skopje, Caracas, Venice, Milan, Turin, Ulaanbaatar, Shanghai and Toronto. He has collaborated with some of the most distinguished artists in the music world, including Katia Ricciarelli, Aida Garifullina, Ines Salazar, Nicola Martinucci, Cecilia Gasdia, Maria Dragoni, Gianluca Terranova, Oscar Ghiglia, Lya De Barberis, Giuseppe Gibboni, Francesco De Angelis and many more. An interpreter of both symphonic and operatic works, his repertoire includes the direction of operas such as *Il Trovatore*, *Rigoletto*, *La Traviata*, *Nabucco*, *Un Ballo in Maschera*, *Turandot*, *Tosca*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Edgar*, *La Bohème*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *Pagliacci*, *Il Matrimonio Segreto*, *Don Pasquale*, *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *Mefistofele*, *Aida*, *La Serva Padrona*, and *Norma*. He has conducted the complete symphonies of Beethoven, Brahms and Martucci. Quadrini has conducted prestigious orchestras such as *Gli Archi del Teatro alla Scala* in Milan, the National Philharmonic of Venezuela, the Prague Symphony Orchestra, the Chamber Orchestra of Bucharest Radio, the SBS Symphony Orchestra in Sydney, and the Euro-Asian Philharmonic Orchestra in Seoul. He possesses a strong musical foundation, holding diplomas in Conducting, Band Instrumentation, Choral Music and Choir Conducting, Organ and Organ Composition, and Piano. He graduated with honours in piano, earning the distinction *summa cum laude*. Leonardo Quadrini has published approximately 24 CDs and is also present on platforms such as Amazon, Spotify, Believe, etc.

Floriana Alberico - Ph. Pino Finizio



**Floriana Alberico** studied piano and composition with masters Annamaria Pennella, Sergio Fiorentino, Aldo Ciccolini and Bruno Mazzotta. She has to her credit numerous concerts both in Italy and abroad as an interpreter of the solo repertoire, chamber music, as a soloist with orchestra (Istituzione Sinfonica Abruzzese, Euphonion Ensemble of Naples, Nuova Orchestra Scarlatti, Lyricon Ensemble, Hyperion Ensemble, Youth Orchestra of the Australian radiotelevision SBS, symphony orchestra of IJhewsk, Orchestra of the conservatory of Avelino, Academic international orchestra, Udmurtia symphony orchestra, Rachmaninov symphony orchestra). She won many national and international contests. She participated in many theatre plays such as: "Lu cunto de li canti" with Peppe Barra and Nuova Orchestra Scarlatti (Leuciana Festival, San Leucio; Istituzione Universitaria dei Concerti, Rome; Royal palace of Naples; Settembre Musica, Turin), "Delizie Leuciane", "Cantata Napoletana", "Il Trionfo di Partenope", "Canto per il Presepe di Corte", "La Via dei Canti". She collaborated as rehearsal and stage assistant in many operas, among which "La Nina pazzo per amore" by G. Paisiello, "La Locandiera" by P. Auletta. She's a member of the "Percussion 5" group, with which she dedicates herself to experimenting new musical paths. She has made several CDs both as a soloist and in chamber ensembles, and is the main piano teacher at the "S. Pietro a Majella" conservatory of Naples.