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LIVE



09/12-(5)

Glazunov: Concert Waltz No. 1
Lysenko: Overture to "Taras Bulba"
Miaskovsky: Symphony No. 21 op. 51
Scriabin: Poème de l'Extase op. 54,
Rêverie op. 24

Beethoven Orchester Bonn
Stefan Blunier, conductor

1 Hybrid – SACD

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RECORDING

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Ecstatic Experience

"Poème de l'Extase" – the title itself promises big things, and in fact Alexander Scriabin's masterpiece of the most sensuous compositional artistry with a sonorous harmony culminating in a mighty apotheosis was designed to set a milestone as an all-encompassing work of art. Thousands of devotees were supposed to gather at the foot of the Himalayas for its festive premiere and to celebrate the synthesis of art, music, dance, colors, and fragrances in a gigantic seven-day magical mystery rite. Things turned out otherwise, but Stefan Blunier's emotionally charged interpretation of this trailblazing work and other Russian compositions more than compensates in a gripping live performance with the Beethoven Orchestra of Bonn – as always, ready to reach for the stars!

Genuine Expression

Russian music is marked just as much by sensuousness as it is by proud reflection on the original power of Russian folk art. Nicolai Miaskovsky knew how to blend elegiac breadth with folkloristic melodies in his formally demanding works. His Symphony No. 21 was regarded as the most genuine expression of Soviet composing – in any case, until those in power listened to it more closely!

National Epic

Slavic national pride sometimes produced unusual ethnic crisis situations. None other than Peter Tchaikovsky was enthusiastic about Mykola Lysenko's opera on the subject of the Ukrainian national epic

Taras Bulba and wanted to arrange for its performance in Moscow immediately after its publication. Lysenko vetoed the idea: his work would have been performed in Russian, not in Ukrainian – unthinkable!

Extraordinary Ending

Alexander Glazunov seems to have been much more internationally inclined. His Concert Waltz No. 1 begins in elegant nobility and is pervaded by airy lightness. Brass and percussion instruments provide for a tremendous intensification of the phenomenally instrumented work, which ends in a bacchantic stretta. Thanks to our outstanding 3D audio technique in 2+2+2 sound every top stereo unit experiences rare transport.

Anton Bruckner

Symphony No. 8 (version 1890)
Beethoven Orchester Bonn
Stefan Blunier, cond.
MDG 937 1713-6 (2 Hybrid-SACDs)

Anton Bruckner

Symphony D minor „Die Nullte“ WAB 100 etc.
Beethoven Orchester Bonn
Stefan Blunier, cond.
MDG 937 1673-6 (Hybrid-SACD)

Franz Schmidt

Symphony No. 4, Intermezzo out of Notre Dame
Beethoven Orchester Bonn
Stefan Blunier, cond.
MDG 937 1631-6 (Hybrid-SACD)

