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Sandro Russo

Rachmaninov: Solo Piano Works

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AllMusic Review by James Manheim [-]

The fine Steinway & Sons label has attempted, in various ways, to re-create the pianistic world of a century ago, in which a recital of music by **Rachmaninov** would have been a common entry indeed. In his adopted United States, the recital might have been by the composer/pianist himself. Famous for his powerful hands, he is associated with sounds that could make the walls ring in a good-sized symphony hall, but the fact is that for an ordinary piano recital, which might often have taken place in a smaller space, more intimate approaches are reasonable. That's what you get in this enjoyable album by **Sandro Russo**. **Russo** chooses works that generally respond well to his elegant, rather refined treatment, starting off with the comparatively rare Piano Sonata No. 1 in D minor, Op. 28, with its general inspiration by Goethe's Faust and its inward atmosphere. **Russo** goes on with works that connect with each other in more or less subtle ways that he explains a short booklet note. Some of them are arrangements by **Earl Wild** of non-piano works (sample one of these for the flavor of the whole), and these make a lovely interlude before the final flourish. In general, **Russo** seems more concerned with shades than with pianistic fireworks, and he's one of a group of young pianists who have been finding these in **Rachmaninov**, and finding, in general, that he was more aware of Impressionist developments than he has been given credit for. You may wish for a bit more blood and thunder in the final Variations on a Theme of Corelli, Op. 42, but here too **Russo's** approach is original. Steinway & Sons departs from its usual concert venues for a studio recording here, and the results are superb. A recommended new take on **Rachmaninov**.

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AI Murs
April 24, 2017



Quite simply, an album that should grace every collector's shelf! Cannot recommend it enough... [Read More](#)

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Release Date March 17, 2017

Duration 01:17:59

Genre **Classical**

Styles **Keyboard**

Recording Date June 13, 2016 & June 20, 2016

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Album Moods

Track Listing

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Sample	Title/Composer	Performer	Time
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[Animated](#)
[Brooding](#)
[Energetic](#)
[Flashy](#)
[Gloomy](#)
[Passionate](#)
[Rhapsodic](#)
[Bittersweet](#)
[Dramatic](#)
[Fantastic/Fantasy-like](#)
[Gentle](#)
[Melancholy](#)
[Powerful](#)



Piano Sonata No. 1 in D minor, Op. 28

	1	I. Allegro moderato Sergey Rachmaninov	Sandro Russo	12:06
	2	II. Lento Sergey Rachmaninov	Sandro Russo	8:27
	3	III. Allegro molto Sergey Rachmaninov	Sandro Russo	14:34

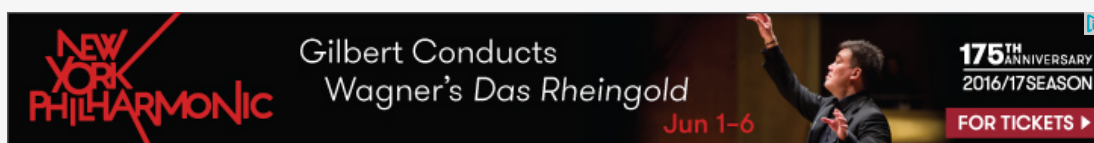
Etudes - Tableaux, Op. 33

	4	No. 3 in C minor Sergey Rachmaninov	Sandro Russo	5:08
	5	No. 6 in E Flat minor Sergey Rachmaninov	Sandro Russo	1:43

Etudes - Tableaux, Op. 39

	6	No. 5 in E Flat minor Sergey Rachmaninov	Sandro Russo	5:22
	7	Dreams, Op. 38 No. 5 (Arr. Wild) Sergey Rachmaninov	Sandro Russo	3:15
	8	Floods of Spring, Op. 14 No. 11 (Arr. Wild) Sergey Rachmaninov	Sandro Russo	3:52
	9	The Little Island, Op. 14 No. 2 (Arr. Wild) Sergey Rachmaninov	Sandro Russo	2:12
	10	Where Beauty Dwells, Op. 21 No. 7 (Arr. Wild) Sergey Rachmaninov	Sandro Russo	3:29
	11	Variations on a Theme of Corelli, Op. 42 Sergey Rachmaninov	Sandro Russo	17:51

blue highlight denotes track pick



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