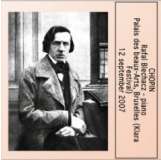


Rafal Blechacz - Chopin - Klara Festival, Brussels 2007

Written by bluesever

Sunday, 25 October 2009 16:53 - Last Updated Saturday, 24 October 2015 19:16

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01 - *Barcarolle chopin 60 (1845-6) 08'46"* 02 - *I Nocturne en si majeur 07'08"* 03 - *II Nocturne en mi majeur 05'45"* 04 - *III Nocturne en si bémol majeur 05'45"* 05 - *Trois Mazurkas opus 50 (1841-2) 02'11"* 06 - *I Mazurka en sol majeur 02'11"* 07 - *II Mazurka en la bémol majeur 03'13"* 08 - *III Mazurka en do dièse mineur 05'21"* 09 - *Polonaise en la bémol majeur opus 53 (1842) 06'49"* 10 - *24 Preludes opus 28 (1836-9) 38'01"* 11 - *Mazurka en mi mineur opus 17/II (1832-3) 02'03"* 12 - *Valse en do mineur opus 64/II (1846-7) 03'56"* Rafal Blechacz - piano Palais des Beaux-Arts, Bruxelles (Klara Festival) 12 Sept 2007

This is simply a gorgeous recital. Chopin, played in such a way that dissolves the tightrope act of balancing a subjective interpretation with the replaying of oft-retreaded notes. Rafal Blechacz reminds me of early Ivan Moravec in this. The ungainly, dissonant, stranger side of the works is neither slighted nor paraded, and I feel nary a trace of schmaltzy moping. What is left is a great recital, clean and confident.

The radio announcer (in french, appropriately enough) is there but you can program her out, if you wish. This concert includes my personal favorite Chopin composition: *Barcarolle*, opus 60, and a complete, unbroken stream of what James Huneker considers "...Chopin's claim to immortality. Such range, such vision, such humanity! All shades of feeling are divined, all depth and altitudes of passion explored. If all Chopin, all music, were to be destroyed I should plead for the *Preludes*"... ---statework.blogspot.com

download (mp3 @224 kbs):

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