

ABSTRACT

Title of Dissertation: FRANZ LISZT'S PIANO OEUVRE: AN
OVERVIEW OF VARIOUS GENRES

Magdalina Ararati Melkonyan, Doctor of
Musical Arts, 2010

Directed By: Professor Larissa Dedova, School of Music

Franz Liszt (1811-1886) was one of the most celebrated pianists of the 19th century and one of its most innovative composers. He was a leader and a champion of the Romantic Movement. Liszt wrote more than 1300 compositions for the piano, including works from nearly all musical genres. Some of these genres were new in the 19th century, such as character piece, rhapsody, Concert Etude, Transcription, Sonata and Concerto in one movement. These piano works, which make up the greater part of Liszt's musical output, range from virtuosic fireworks to sincerely moving emotional statements. Many of these compositions stand as pinnacles of the piano literature. In addition to composing original piano music, Liszt made many masterful transcriptions of the works of other composers. The totality of this work forms a major foundational element of the modern piano repertoire.

Liszt's unique compositions bewildered, inspired and inflamed the imaginations of his own era, yet quite miraculously he also laid the seeds for a series of schools that would flourish in the near and distant future (such as the Late Romantic, Impressionist

and Atonal schools). His musical legacy and influence are unquestionably monumental. Two formal traits give Liszt's compositions a personal stamp: experiment with large-scale structures (extending traditional sonata form, unifying multi-movement works), and thematic transformation, or subjecting a single short idea to changes of mode, rhythm, meter, tempo or accompaniment to form the thematic basis of an entire work.

The three recitals that I have performed include representative examples of some of the main genres found in Liszt's piano oeuvre, including Rhapsody, Etude, Concerto, Fantasia-Sonata, transcriptions, paraphrases and character pieces. My selection includes works from different periods of his life: early, middle and late. These pieces represent some of Liszt's most important contribution to their respective genre. When taken as a whole, the selections serve to demonstrate the various stylistic elements of Liszt's music as they appeared and evolved over the span of his productive years. The Recording of my three recitals is available through the Michele Smith Performing Arts Library.

FRANZ LISZT'S PIANO OEUVRE: AN OVERVIEW OF VARIOUS GENRES

By

Magdalena Ararati Melkonyan

Dissertation submitted to the Faculty of the Graduate School of the
University of Maryland, College Park, in partial fulfillment
of the requirements for the degree of
Doctor of Musical Arts
2010

Advisory Committee:
Professor Larissa Dedova, Chair
Professor Bradford Gowen
Professor Mikhail Volchok
Professor Cleveland Page
Professor Kira Gor

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2010

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PROGRAM

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Der Müller und der Bach (The miller and the brook; G minor)

F. SCHUBERT (1797 - 1828) - F. LISZT (1811 - 1886)
Serenade "Standchen"

F. LISZT (1811 - 1886)
Après une Lecture de Dante: Fantasia quasi Sonata

INTERMISSION

F. LISZT (1811 - 1886)
Sonetto 104 del Petrarca

F. LISZT (1811 - 1886)
Sonetto 123 del Petrarca

F. LISZT (1811 - 1886)

Venezia e Napoli

1. Gondoliera
2. Canzone
3. Tarantella

This recital is being presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements of the Doctor of Musical Arts Degree. Magdalina Melkonyan is a student of Larissa Dedova.

There will be a reception in the student lounge following the performance.

CLARICE SMITH
PERFORMING ARTS
CENTER AT MARYLAND



THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF MUSIC
presents

Magdalena
Melkonyan
piano

DISSERTATION TITLE:
Liszt's Piano Oeuvre:
An Overview of Various Genres



FEBRUARY 25, 2009 AT 8PM

JOSEPH & ALMA GILDENHORN RECITAL HALL

CLARICE SMITH PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
University of Maryland, College Park

PROGRAM

Franz Liszt (1811-1886)
Au lac de Wallenstadt (At the Lake of Wallenstadt)

Franz Liszt (1811-1886)
Les Cloches de Geneve (The Bells of Geneva: Nocturne)

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Concerto for Piano and Orchestra No. 1 in E flat Major

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THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF MUSIC
presents

Magdalina Melkonyan

Piano

ACCOMPANIED BY:
Alexander Timofeev, Piano

MARCH 6, 2010 at 8pm

GILDENHORN RECITAL HALL
CLARICE SMITH PERFORMING ARTS CENTER



PROGRAM

FRANZ LISZT (1811-1886)
6 Consolations, S. 172

FRANZ LISZT
Concert Etude No. 3 in D flat (Un Sospiro)

FRANZ LISZT
Hungarian Rhapsody No. 12 in C-sharp minor

INTERMISSION

FRANZ LISZT
Concerto for Piano and Orchestra No. 2 in A Major
assisted by Soohyung Yoo

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PERFORMING ARTS
CENTER AT MARYLAND



THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF MUSIC
presents

Magdalena Melkonyan

piano

DISSERTATION TITLE:
LISZT'S PIANO OEUVRE:
AN OVERVIEW OF VARIOUS GENRES

ASSISTED BY:
Soohyung Yoo, piano



MAY 12, 2008 AT 8PM

JOSEPH & ALMA GILDENHORN RECITAL HALL
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University of Maryland, College Park