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RACHMANINOV: Piano Sonata No. 2

NAXOS

Rachmaninov was known during his lifetime not only as a composer, but as a pianist of considerable skill and virtuosity. In its original form, the *Piano Sonata in B flat minor, Op. 36*, makes considerable technical demands on the performer and includes extended passages of virtuoso piano writing. The composer revised the work in 1931, cutting out extensive passages and clarifying textures. The *Variations on a Theme of Chopin, Op. 22*, composed in 1902 and 1903, add a series of 22 variations, well suited to Rachmaninov's own style of performance, to Chopin's *Prelude, Op. 28, No. 20, in C minor*, while the five *Morceaux de Fantaisie, Op. 3*, feature some of the composer's most characteristic music, particularly the second piece in its drama and implicit feeling of melancholy.



Sergey
RACHMANINOV
(1873-1943)

Variations on a theme by
Frédéric Chopin, Op. 22

1	Theme: Largo	1:12
2	Variation 1 – Moderato	0:32
3	Variation 2 – Allegro	0:13
4	Variation 3	0:13
5	Variation 4	0:45
6	Variation 5 – Meno mosso	0:29
7	Variation 6 – Meno mosso	1:07
8	Variation 7 – Allegro	0:16
9	Variation 8	0:19
10	Variation 9	0:22
11	Variation 10 – Più vivo	0:32
12	Variation 11 – Lento	1:18
13	Variation 12 – Moderato	2:28
14	Variation 13 – Largo	1:19
15	Variation 14 – Moderato	1:39
16	Variation 15 – Allegro scherzando	1:23
17	Variation 16 – Lento	1:14

18	Variation 17 – Grave	1:27
19	Variation 18 – Più mosso	1:04
20	Variation 19 – Allegro vivace	1:18
21	Variation 20 – Presto	1:05
22	Variation 21 – Andante	3:05
23	Variation 22 and Coda – Maestoso	4:53
Morceaux de fantaisie, Op. 3		20:52
24	Elégie	5:53
25	Prélude	3:53
26	Mélo die	4:39
27	Polichinelle	3:16
28	Sérénade	3:11
Piano Sonata No. 2 in B flat minor, Op. 36 (Revised 1931 Version)		20:56
29	Allegro agitato – Meno mosso	8:33
30	Non allegro – Lento – Più mosso	6:54
31	Allegro molto – Poco meno mosso – Presto	5:29

Konstantin Scherbakov, Piano

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Playing Time
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