

Playing
Time
57:20

RACHMANINOV

William Kapell (1922 -1953)

Robin Hood Dell Orchestra of Philadelphia,
William Steinberg * • Fritz Reiner †

8.110692

[ADD]

COMPACT
DISC
DIGITAL AUDIO

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Piano Concerto No. 2 in C minor, Op. 18*

[1] Moderato - Allegro	31:12
[2] Adagio sostenuto	9:31
[3] Allegro scherzando	10:47
	10:49

Recorded on 7th July 1950 in the Academy of Music, Philadelphia

Matrices: E0-RC-1223 through 1232 (all Take 1)

First issued on RCA Victor LM-1097

Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini, Op. 43 †

[4] Introduction; Variation I	22:08
[5] Theme	0:29
[6]-[28] Variations II - XXIV	0:18
	21:20

Recorded on 27th June 1951 in the Academy of Music, Philadelphia

Matrices: E1-RC-3789 through 3794 (all Take 1)

First issued on RCA Victor LM-126

[29] Prelude in C sharp minor, Op. 3, No. 2

3:59

Recorded on 19th March 1945 in RCA Studio No. 2, New York City

Matrix D4-RC-0544-5

First issued on RCA Victor 11-8824

American pianist William Kapell is one of music's lost treasures. He died in a plane crash at the age of 33, his star still very much in the ascendant, leaving behind a tragically small recorded legacy. Famed chiefly for bringing the music of Aram Khachaturian to public consciousness through his championing of the composer's Piano Concerto, Kapell was equally inspired by the works of Sergey Rachmaninov, whose fiery Romantic temperament Kapell shared. This disc includes two of the composer's most enduringly popular works, the glorious *Piano Concerto No. 2* and *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini*. Kapell's playing is simply electric, combining blistering intensity with astounding technical security, giving us that rare treat of bringing all the excitement of a live performance to the recording studio.

Producer and Audio Restoration Engineer: Mark Obert-Thorn

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A complete tracklist can be found on page 6 of the booklet.

Cover Photograph: William Kapell, mid 1940s (Private Collection)

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