



THE VERY BEST OF RACHMANINOV

"The music comes straight from the heart, and speaks only to the heart"

(Rachmaninov, of his own music)

The romanticism of Rachmaninov's music was immortalised in the 1940s film classic of unfulfilled love and stoicism, *Brief Encounter*. He was not only the finest pianist of his day but also the last truly great late Romantic composer. The technically formidable Piano Concertos may be his best-known works, the Third immortalised in the film *Shine*, but this 2 CD survey goes much further into his legacy. His sumptuous and lyrical Symphonies and Symphonic Dances feature alongside the sparkling Paganini Variations and the searching solo piano works. His choral masterpiece, the deeply-felt Russian Orthodox Vespers, makes an arresting contrast.

Compact Disc 1

- 1** Piano Concerto No. 3: Allegro ma non tanto **2** Vespers: Bless the Lord, O my soul **3** Prelude No. 12 in G sharp minor: Allegro
4 Vocalise **5** Morceaux de Fantaisie: Élégie **6-12** Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini: Variations 18 - 24
13 Symphonic Dance No. 1: Non allegro **14** Etudes-Tableaux No. 9 in D major: Allegro moderato **15** Cello Sonata in G minor: Andante

Compact Disc 2

- 1** Piano Concerto No. 2 in C minor: Adagio sostenuto **2** Morceaux de salon: Humoresque
3 Prelude No. 2 in B flat major: Maestoso **4** Francesca da Rimini: Francesca's Aria
5 Moments Musicaux No. 3: Andante cantabile **6** Prelude in C sharp minor
7 Vespers: Troparion for the Virgin Mary **8** Prelude No. 5 in G minor: Alla marcia
9 Daisies **10** Aleko: The Young Gypsy's Romance **11** Piano Sonata No. 2: Allegro molto
12 Etudes-Tableaux in G minor: Moderato **13** Symphony No. 2 in E minor: Adagio



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