

Anton Rubinstein always regretted that his status as an elite pianist eclipsed his reputation as a composer. Recent recordings have shown that his music is melodically distinguished and attractive, as these two major works from the mid-1860s show. Cast on a wide canvas, the *Fantasia in E minor* conforms to Romantic grandeur in its gestures, which also include Beethovenian echoes in the finale. The *Five Pieces* are condensed character studies, evoking Chopin and Schumann, and ending with a brilliant *Toccata*. The *Trot de cavalerie*, a march for mounted troops, was a popular genre in the 19th century.

Anton
RUBINSTEIN
(1829–1894)

	Fantasia in E minor, Op. 77 (1866)	44:56
1	I. Adagio – Allegro con fuoco –	13:30
2	II. Moderato assai	6:46
3	III. Allegro molto – Moderato – Allegro molto – Poco meno mosso – Presto –	7:34
4	IV. Molto lento – Vivace assai – Tempo rubato – Quasi presto	16:56
	Five Pieces, Op. 69 (1867)	24:32
5	No. 1. Caprice	4:30
6	No. 2. Nocturne	3:41
7	No. 3. Scherzo	6:07
8	No. 4. Romance	6:08
9	No. 5. Toccata	4:06
10	Trot de cavalerie (1850) (simplified version in D major)	5:49

Regina Chernychko, Piano

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