

In his early days the composer-pianist Igor Raykhelson – born in Leningrad in 1961, once a New York resident and now based in Moscow – studied both classical and jazz piano. Both influences have combined to create a uniquely personal, Rachmaninov-plays-the-blues Neo-Romantic style: not only is Raykhelson unafraid to write a good tune – it's clear right away whose tune it is. And in his chamber and instrumental works, the *parlando* manner that Raykhelson absorbed from jazz becomes particularly effective.



IGOR RAYKHELSON Piano and Chamber Music, Volume Two

Piano Trio No. 2 in B minor (2004)	30:32	9 Melodia for violin and piano (2008)	3:21
1 I <i>Misterioso</i>	13:22		
2 II <i>Allegretto</i>	9:53	Piano Quartet in G sharp minor, Homage to Robert Schumann (2002)	31:50
3 III <i>Allegro maestoso</i>	7:17	10 I <i>Sostenuto – Allegro risoluto</i>	10:13
Five Short Pieces for Piano (2005)	14:48	11 II <i>Allegretto</i>	5:49
4 No. 1 <i>Consolation: Andante mosso</i>	2:39	12 III <i>Andante cantabile</i>	8:38
5 No. 2 <i>Serendipity: J = 60</i>	3:46	13 IV <i>Allegro maestoso</i>	7:10
6 No. 3 <i>Delirium: J = 100, melancholic</i>	3:06		
7 No. 4 <i>Mirage: J = 70, melancholic</i>	3:09		
8 No. 5 <i>Pranks: Scherzando; J = 90</i>	2:08		
			TT 80:34

Marc Bouchkov, violin 1–3 10–13

FIRST RECORDINGS

Ekaterina Astashova, violin 9

Andrei Usov, viola 10–13

Alexander Kniazev, cello 1–3 10–13

Konstantin Lifschitz, piano

MusicWeb International on Volume One:
 'Neoclassicism, late-Romanticism, Shostakovich, Prokofiev, Rachmaninov and [...] jazz all coalesce into these lyrically effusive and attractively colourful scores. [...] There's much to enjoy in this superbly engineered release and I, for one, have relished the music's lyricism and cross-fertilizations. The works are given stylish performances.'

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