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8.553768

Playing Time
76:23

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The Russian composer Anton Arensky combined vivid elements of Russian Nationalism with an awareness of the work of the European romantics in a style which contained the prerequisites of the pianism of Rachmaninov and early Scriabin. The three *Suites* demonstrate typically Russian attributes of humour, gravity and sparkling colour. Both the second and third *Suites* began life as piano duets. *No. 2, 'Silhouettes'*, is a work from the same vein as Schumann's *Carnaval*, in its five witty musical characterisations, and the *Suite No. 3* is not so much a suite as an eclectic set of nine variations on a short vivid theme, which includes nods towards baroque and classical styles as well as the works of Chopin. The *Suite No. 1* includes the *Basso ostinato* fourth movement which enjoyed a huge contemporary popularity.

Anton
ARENISKY
(1861-1906)

Suite No. 2 ('Silhouettes'), Op. 23	17:17	Suite No. 3 ('Variations in C major'), Op. 33	30:08
1 Le Savant (The Scholar)	2:40	11 Theme (Andante)	1:27
2 La Coquette (The Coquette)	3:21	12 Variation 1 – Dialogue	2:21
3 Polichinelle (The Buffoon)	2:40	13 Variation 2 – Valse	1:44
4 Le Rêveur (The Dreamer)	5:53	14 Variation 3 – Marche triomphale	2:53
5 La Danseuse (The Dancer)	2:43	15 Variation 4 – Menuet XVIII ^{ème} siècle	1:16
Suite No. 1 in G minor, Op. 7	28:58	16 Variation 5 – Gavotte	3:38
6 Variations sur un thème russe	7:19	17 Variation 6 – Scherzo	3:45
7 Air de danse	4:22	18 Variation 7 – Marche funèbre	5:02
8 Scherzo	7:45	19 Variation 8 – Nocturne	4:47
9 Basso ostinato	3:49	20 Variation 9 – Polonaise	3:15
10 Marche	5:43		

Moscow Symphony Orchestra • Dmitry Yablonsky

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