It is astonishing to recall that five years after the première of Swan Lake, one of the greatest of all Russian ballets, and of Tchaikovsky's three full-length ballets the one with the greatest number of memorable tunes, the composer wrote to his editor: "To save this music from sinking into oblivion, I would like to make it into a concert suite modelled on Delibes... published both as a symphonic score and as a transcription for four hands," The original transcription by the pianist Eduard Langer is heard on this recording with piano duet versions of concert suites from The Sleeping Beauty, commissioned from Rachmaninov and Ziloti, though later corrected by the composer himself, and from The Nutcracker, transcribed by Stepan Esipoff.

Pyotr Il'yich **TCHAIKOVSKY**

(1840-1893)

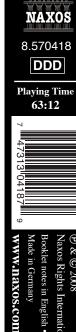
Ballet Suites (Transcriptions for Piano Four Hands)

The Sleeping Beauty	8 No. 3 Danses des cygnes	1:36
(La belle au bois dormant), Op. 66a	9 No. 4 Scène	5:17
(transcription by Sergey Rachmaninov,	10 No. 5 Danse hongroise. Czárdás	2:14
revised by Ziloti and Tchaikovsky) 19:55	11 No. 6 Scène	4:23
No. 1 Introduction. La Fée des lilas 4:43	The Nutcracker	
2 No. 2 Adagio. Pas d'action 5:30	(La Casse-noisette), Op. 71a	
3 No. 3 Pas de caractère. Le Chat botté	(transcription by Stepan Esipoff)	20:35
et la Chatte blanche 2:11	12 No. 1 Ouverture	3:10
4 No. 4 Panorama 3:33	13 No. 2 Marche	2:18
5 No. 5 Valse 3:58	14 No. 3 Danse de la Fée-Dragée	2:00
Swan Lake	15 No. 4 Danse russe (Trepak)	1:09
(Le lac des cygnes), Op. 20a	16 No. 5 Danse arabe	2:58
(transcription by Edouard Langer) 22:42	17 No. 6 Danse chinoise	1:04
6 No. 1 Scène 2:48	18 No. 7 Danse des mirlitons	2:16
7 No. 2 Valse 6:25	19 No. 8 Valse des fleurs	5:39

Aurora Duo

Julia Severus and Alina Luschtschizkaja, Piano

Recorded at the Piano School Berlin-Mitte, Germany, in January 2007 Producer: Julia Severus • Engineer and editor: Martin Kistner • Booklet notes: Julia Severus Cover image: The Death of the Swan, illustration for La Gazette du Bon Ton inspired by Tchaikovsky's ballet Swan Lake, (French School, 1924) (Bibliothèque des Arts Décoratifs, Paris / Archives Charmet / The Bridgeman Art Library)



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