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Mehmet Okonşar
pianist-composer-conductor and musicologist
LMO-Records

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A Robert Schumann Disc Released By Mehmet Okonsar



Summary: An arresting selection of works by Robert Schumann, focusing on the German composer's most overwhelming and also "dense" piano styles: the "Fantasie" op.17 and the "Symphonic Etudes" op.13 unveiled by Mehmet Okonsar on CD.

Robert Schumann is amongst the intense and affectionate figures of the 19th century and his impact on piano performing and also on composing for that instrument seems to be commonly underestimated. The Belgian pianist but also composer, conductor and musicologist Mehmet Okonsar shows in this new Compact disk two of the most effective works of the romantic German piano repertoire: "Fantasie in C major" op.17 and also the "Symphonic Etudes" op.13.

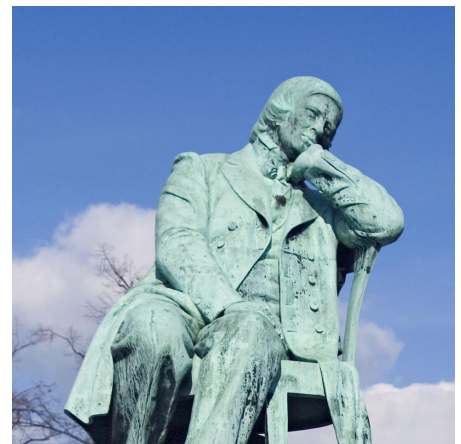


This particular album shows Robert Schumann being a "true" piano composer. Schumann had been probably the most romantic piano player of all periods if not for his hand damage who prevented him on a concertist career. As being a composer, not just he revolutionized crafting for the piano but at the same time, the actual musical expressions of the nineteenth century.

The selections for this CD show a Robert Schumann at the highest of his particular resourceful capability.

The Fantasy in C major op.17, dedicated to Franz Liszt is a vast musical poem and just probably the most profoundly conceptual pianists, i.e. Rubinstein, Pollini succeeded in rendering it fully. The Symphonic Studies, op.13 on the other hand, examines extremely highly developed pianistic designs and settings.

All tracks of the CD are available for auditioning at:
<http://www.okonsar.com/Schumann-Fantasie.html> and video recordings of the works are in the artists Youtube(r) channel:
<http://www.youtube.com/mokonsar>.



The CD, recorded in Turkey is internationally launched through amazon.com(r) and its particular associates.



The Belgian pianist (but also composer, conductor and musicologist) Mehmet Okonsar was born in the "bridge-city" of Istanbul. Essentially this idea of a "bridge" between East and West is really the real key in asserting the unique position of this artist within the international classical music stage. Even though having began his education at Ankara, at the National Conservatory of this city founded by Paul Hindemith, he regularly maintained that all his "real" musical education was supplied in Belgium.

His known concerts incorporated the premiere in Turkey of the Concerto for Piano, op.42 by Schoenberg with the exceptional performances of the Concerto for piano by Lutoslawski in Poland.

He has been a guest judge at the National Piano Competition of Japan beneath the auspices of the P.T.N.A. ("Piano Teachers National Association").

Moreover his worldwide concert carrier he is a prolific publisher. Okonsar is an independent artist, creator of the classical music and also musicology dedicated blog-site: "inventor-musicae" in addition to the very first classical-music video portal: classicalvideos.net. His full biography along with information might be read here: <http://www.okonsar.com/pianist-biography.html#long-bio>

Mehmet Okonsar has a remarkable discography, just about all titles worldwide distributed. By J.S.Bach, Goldberg Variations; The Well-Tempered Klavier (complete in 3 CD set); The Art of Fugue (performed on organ and harpsichord) and The Musical Offering (performed on electronic instruments). An interesting collection of solo piano, free style improvisations is "Shadowy Arcade", a CD composed with pieces possessing stirring titles, in Okonsar's own, personal musical style which is possibly not unlike some very modern jazz improvisation styles.

CD tracks:

Fantasie in C major, Op. 17

1. Durchaus fantastisch und leidenschaftlich vorzutragen; Im Legendenton
2. Massig. Durchaus energisch
3. Langsam getragen. Durchweg leise zu halten

Etudes Symphoniques, Op. 13

4. Theme; Andante, Etude 1 (Var.1): Un poco piu vivo
5. Etude II (Var.2): Andante
6. Etude III Vivace
7. Etude IV (Var.3): Allegro marcato, Etude V (Var.4): Scherzando
8. Etude VI (Var.5): Agitato
9. Etude VII (Var.6): Allegro molto
10. Etude VIII (Var.7): Sempre marcatissimo
11. Etude IX Presto possibile
12. Etude X (Var.8): Allegro con energia
13. Etude XI (Var.9): Andante espressivo
14. Etude XII (Finale) - Allegro brillante

Etudes Symphoniques (supp.) to Op.13

15. Variation I
16. Variation II
17. Variation III
18. Variation IV
19. Variation V

All tracks are available for auditioning at: <http://www.okonsar.com/Schumann-Fantasie.html> and video recordings of two of the tracks are in the artists Youtube® channel: <http://www.youtube.com/mokonsar>.

About Mehmet Okonsar

Mehmet Okonsar was born in Istanbul (Turkey) and lived in Paris during his first instruction. He started learning piano at the National Conservatory of Ankara, with Nimet Karatekin and Necil Kâzım Akses.



Due to the rich resources the Ankara Conservatory then had and the Médiatheque of the *Centre Culturel Français d'Ankara*, he grew up studying the music of Pierre Boulez, Edgar Varèse, Olivier Messiaen and Pierre Schaeffer, composers that will have a very powerful effect on him.

The artist claimed that his real musical education was given at the Royal Conservatory of Brussels. His teachers were: Jean-Claude Vanden Eynden for the piano and Madame Jacqueline Fontyn for composition along with orchestration. He furthermore studied along with a former pupil of Olivier Messiaen: Claude Ballif from the Paris National Conservatory along with the renowned pianist Alexis Weissenberg in Switzerland.

His repertoire includes a selection from the early seventeenth century ("The Fitzwilliam Virginal Book") including among others Orlando Gibbons and Giles Farnaby and reaches up to late 20.th century with the works by Karlheinz Stockhausen and Witold Lutoslawski. Remarkable works in this particular repertoire are: J.S.

Bach "The Art of Fugue" carried out on organ (or piano) and harpsichord; the Goldberg Variations, the *integrale* of Well-tempered Keyboard.

Okonsar has performed recitals displaying the total piano works by Arnold Schoenberg, Alban Berg and Anton Webern. Despite he denies most kind of "musical specialization", his repertoire is seriously on the "modern" side with Igor Stravinsky "Three Movements of Petrouchka" the "Sequenza" for the piano by Luciano Berio and the *Klavierstücke* by Karlheinz Stockhausen.

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For more information or a sample copy please contact:

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