

Emmanuel Despax

PROGRAMMES

Programme One

Après un rêve

Fauré / Despax

Après un rêve Op. 7 No. 1

Chaminade

Nocturne Op. 165

Duparc

Aux étoiles

Debussy

Clair de lune

Poulenc

Les Soirées de Nazelles FP 84

Interval

Saint-Saëns/Liszt/Horowitz

Danse Macabre

Ravel

Gaspard de la nuit

A programme of French Belle Époque music inspired by the night. Including my own transcription of one of Fauré's beautiful song: Après un rêve.



Programme Two

Curtain Call

Busoni

Chamber Fantasy on Bizet's Carmen

Wagner / Liszt

Isolde's Liebestod (from Tristan und Isolde)

Wagner / Liszt

Ouverture zu Tannhäuser, S.442

Rodgers & Hammerstein / Despax

The Sound of Music Fantasy

Interval

Prokofiev

Romeo & Juliet

A programme centred around opera and ballet, depicting some of the greatest love stories set to music. From Busoni's Carmen fantasy, to Liszt's epic transcriptions of Wagner's Liebestod (from Tristan und Isolde), and Tannhäuser's overture. Also included is my own concert paraphrase based on themes from The Sound of Music. There is a long tradition in classical music of instrumental virtuoso transcriptions based on opera, and I wanted to do the same with a musical. The piece pays tribute to Rodgers and Hammerstein's beautiful and iconic melodies, adding a few jazz and classical influences. In the beginning, I set out to write a small simple piece using one song, but, in the words of Ravel describing Scarbo, one of the most fearsome works of the piano repertoire, "perhaps I let myself get carried away". We finish the recital with Prokofiev's own arrangement of one of the greatest ballets: Romeo and Juliet.

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