

Schubert • Schumann • Bruch • Enesco – Music For Viola (2008)

Written by bluesever

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1. Sonata in A Minor, D.821 ("Arpeggione"): Allegro moderato 12:08 2. Sonata in A Minor, D.821 ("Arpeggione"): Adagio 4:44 3. Sonata in A Minor, D.821 ("Arpeggione"): Allegretto 8:47 4. Märchenbilder, Op. 113: Nicht schnell 3:40 5. Märchenbilder, Op. 113: Lebhaft 3:56 6. Märchenbilder, Op. 113: Rasch 2:50 7. Märchenbilder, Op. 113: Langsam, mit melancholischem Ausdruck 6:52 8. Adagio and Allegro, Op. 70, in A-Flat 9:05 9. Kol Nidrei, Op. 47 10:39 10. Konzertstück 9:15

Yuri Bashmet viola

Mikhail Muntian piano

Yuri Bashmet's recording of the Arpeggione sonata and the Marchenbilder are excellent, as with the other pieces on this disc. Although the Arpeggione sonata is mostly heard on cello, I think the viola transcription has a distinct, touching, aura to it, particularly the slow second movement. The Marchenbilder, or Fairy Tales, is one of the few works from the Romantic Period written for viola, which is too bad, because as you can hear in this recording, the viola is very well suited to the style of this period. Yuri Bashmet's playing is impeccable, and this recording is my favorite of the Marchenbilder. The last three works on this disc are interesting as well, although they do not compel constant, repeated listenings. The Bruch Kol Nidrei on this disc is originally for cello and orchestra, but is played in the transcription for viola and piano reduction. However, Yuri Bashmet has also made a recording of this work for viola and orchestra, which is on a disc with the Walton Concerto, Bruch Romance, and Bruch Concerto for Violin and Viola, also highly recommended. ---Percy Wong, amazon

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