November 2013

GRAMOPHONE Choice



Informed by our unrivalled panel of critics, we choose the month's must-hear recordings



Chabrier Trois valses romantiques - No 3^a Delvincourt Croquembouchesb - No 4, Grenadine;

No 6, Plum pudding; No 10, Pets de nonne; No 12,

Huile de ricin Fauré Ballade, Op 19^b Fontana A la mazurka^c Glière Preludes, Op 30^d - No 1; No 5; No 9;

No 11 A Gutmann Nocturne, Op 8 No 1c Hahn Le rossignol éperdu^b - No 28, Matinée parisienne;

No 29, Chérubin tragique Liszt Adelaïde

(Beethoven), S466iiie. Valse mélancolique J Marx Prelude^f, Fugue^f D Scarlatti/Granados Veintiséis

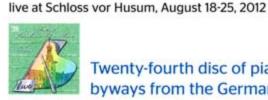
Sonatas inéditas9 - No 7 (after Kk102); No 18 (after

Kk547) Szymanowski Mazurka, Op 50 No 1c

^aDuo Grau/Schumacher, ^bSofja Gülbadamova,

Gianluca Luisi, e Joseph Moog, 9Sandro Russo, CHubert Rutkowski, Amir Tebenikhin pf

Danacord (F) DACOCD729 (80' • DDD), Recorded



Twenty-fourth disc of piano byways from the German town

For their newest venture, Schloss vor Husum dig ever deeper into the byways of piano literature. And if not everything is of equal value, everything is of absorbing interest, particularly when played by pianists new to the festival. There is Fauré's Ballade in its early solo version, its profusion of notes creating a magical trellis that even Liszt found daunting. Not so Sofia Gülbadamova, who weaves her way through Fauré's intricacy with a warmth and affection the reverse of a rigidity often seen as an authentic French style. Sandro Russo

Gianluca Luisi, too, revels in the lush Scriabinesque outpouring of Joseph Marx: rarely can a fugue have sounded less academic and more freely expressive as it builds towards its effulgent end. Amir Tebenikhin offers four

Preludes by Glière in superb performances, and

gives us Granados's take on Scarlatti, clearly

delighting in the romantic glow cast across

music whether gentle or extrovert.

Gutmann (who, according to Chopin, could punch a hole in a table), Julian Fontana and Szymanowski expertly played by Hubert Rutkowski. The programme ends with the

there are tributes to Chopin from Adolf

third of Chabrier's Valses romantiques from the Duo Grau/Schumacher and there is much more. This, then, is an outstanding disc, particularly for explorers on the lookout for something beyond the safe and narrow.

Bryce Morrison