



## HOMMAGE À PAGANINI

Saturday, March 14 , 8pm

Serouj Kradjian, piano

*Programme:* CHOPIN Souvenir de Paganini; SCHUMANN Études for piano on Caprices by Paganini, Op.3; BRAHMS Variations on a theme by Paganini Op. 35; LISZT Transcendental Studies; RACHMANINOFF Sonata no 2 Op.36 in B flat minor; *Encore:* PIAZZOLLA Tango

# “The Devil is in the details!”

(Greg Mason)

Vive la virtuosité! Can two hands possibly play so many notes? Now we know why the snow is melting in the streets of Winnipeg. (Anon.) A truly outstanding performance - a real treat. A truly emotional performance, a total musical experience. (Cathie Zarfes)

It was so enjoyable to hear such unusual repertoire. Mr. Kradjian is a very virtuosic player, but also a very lyrical player when the music calls for this. Please bring him back! (Linwood DeLong)

Super virtuosity with sensitive musical interpretation. (Edith Toews) Marvelous playing (Helen Toews) The devil is in the details. Spectacular! (Greg Mason)

Chopin - sweet and clear with perfect inflection and care to show its transparent beauty; Schumann - some of these were not caprice-like but featured an absolutely enviable cantabile with every nuance perfectly played and also a perfect use of the pedal; Brahms - Paganini would have had trouble sounding better even if he did have a deal with the devil; Liszt - really did transcend human possibilities, from lightening speed & “ff” to cantabile and a “p” - all were handled with impeccable care and ease; Rachmaninoff - real harmony and soothing melodies wreathed in flowing arpeggios - wonderful certainty and virtuosity at its best; Tango - seductive & sensuous . Maybe this artist is Paganini reincarnated as a pianist. (Virginia Heinrichs)

Just excellent coverage of such a wide range of literature. A great artist. (Fred Dyck) An outstanding performance! (Esther Remis) This was an unbelievable concert. The Rachmaninoff was deep, dark, complex and significant. A magnificent performance! (Peter Czapliski and Alan Forrest)



This was probably the most enjoyable performance of the series. Mr. Kradjian is a genius. How could anyone play the piano better than him! (Louis Billinkoff) Words fail me! Fantastic, Phenomenal, Extraordinary! The pianist, the program, the performance. I’m overwhelmed. (Judith London Bager)

My OH My! Virtuoso playing - pianissimo & fortissimo! Had he lived in Paganini’s time he would also be suspected of being in league with the devil. Bring him back for more. (Don Rodgers)

Breathtaking! An exquisite performer, technically, musically, emotionally - one of the best piano concerts I’ve ever heard. I’ll be looking for CDs by Serouj Kradjian! (Bonnie Wilson)

This pianist was phenomenal. I heard Brahms, I heard Rachmaninoff, not the pianist. I feel like I was able to forget the performer and know the composer directly. (Skye Rousseau)

Mr. Kradjian is an artist of enormous talent. We could have used one or two pieces of less density - more melodic - even less virtuosic. Nonetheless, a splendid concert. (J.F. Reeh Taylor)

Serouj Kradjian is an absolute powerhouse! His amazing virtuosic technique has not been witnessed here in years! An electrifying concert!! With a cute and humorous Tango encore! (Caron Whitlaw Hiebert)

A mountain of a concert! He plays loud and fast; he plays lyrically with soul too! Liszt & Rachmaninoff played consummately. Come back soon! (M. Evans)

(Mireille Theriault, ed.)

### ✧ VIRTUOSI WINNERS CIRCLE ✧

**Headline: Greg Mason**  
CD Prize: “CHOPIN: Préludes op 28 Polonaises, Angela Cheng”

**Critics Award: Bonnie Wilson**  
CD Prize: “CHOPIN: Études op 10 & op 25. Joel Hastings”