

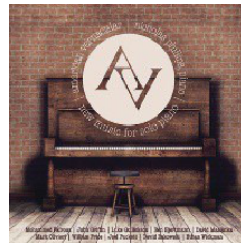


Ravel: Orchestral & Virtuoso Piano

Vincent Larderet, piano
Ars 38 146
[Total Time 70:06]
www.ars-produktion.de

This album highlights the virtuosity and orchestral scope in Ravel's piano writing, and Vincent Larderet navigates the demanding repertoire with fitting prowess. Larderet communicates his vision of *Gaspard de la nuit* with crystal-clear articulation and perfectly controlled pacing. "Ondine" shimmers with brilliant finger work, while the fateful ostinati of "Le Gibet" punctuate the frosty scene with an eerie atmosphere. Both *Jeux d'eau* and *La Valse* exude imagination and microscopic precision. While polished and impressive, the meticulously exposed layers at times overwhelm their intended whimsical and glamorous style, and

Larderet's imposing technique dims the excitement found in the surprising musical gestures of "Scarbo." *Pavane*, on the other hand, is beautifully crafted and flows quite effectively at a refreshing tempo. The world-premiere recording of three excerpts from *Daphnis et Chloé* make this CD an important contribution; Larderet savors the sweetness of the nocturne, and elevates the dazzling "Danse guerrière" to symphonic dimensions. S.H.T.



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Nicholas Phillips, piano
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