

PRESS RELEASE



VINCENT LARDERET

Between Light & Darkness

2 CD-Set

Release date :

October 1st 2020

Label :

PIANO CLASSICS

(BRILLIANT CLASSICS International Distribution)

FRANZ LISZT

Between Light & Darkness

CD1	45'03	CD2	41'12		
1	Après une Lecture de Dante (from <i>Années de Pèlerinage</i> II - Italie)	17'47	1	Ballade N°.2	15'33
2	La Notte	12'39	2	R. W. – Venezia	4'08
3	Schlaflos!	2'18	3	Funérailles (from <i>Harmonies poétiques et religieuses</i>)	12'53
4	La lugubre gondola N°.2	8'31	4	Unstern! – Sinistre	5'50
5	Nuages gris	3'25	5	En rêve	2'27

Recording: October 29th & 30th at Schiedam Westvest Church (The Netherlands)

Cover: Photo Karis Kennedy - Design Mary McNeill

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Between light and darkness evokes the incessant emotions that run through Liszt's work, expressing the infinite struggle that symbolized the profound duality of the composer. Even though Liszt remained famous in history, he was above all well known as a transcendent virtuoso who revolutionized the pianistic technique. It was with a vision that was simplistic but also beyond his time that prevented him to manifest the deep essence of his music. The program of this 2 CD-Set also embodies the many facets of the composer.

First and foremost, as a visionary innovator, Liszt created numerous works for many of his contemporaries, among others Berlioz and Wagner, and who would soon become the initiator of "the music of the future". *Après une lecture de Dante* perfectly illustrates his extensive intellectual capacity exemplifying a conception of "program music" with an extremely orchestral virtuosity. The title taken from a poem by Victor Hugo imposes a double poetic reference since the work also draws its initial inspiration from the reading of *The Divine Comedy* by the Florentine poet Dante Alighieri. The first version entitled *Dante Sonata* also reveals Liszt's unceasing work renewing the Sonata form by transfiguring it into a single movement.

Liszt was also a musician in love with the Arts, especially poetry, nourishing his inspiration in the prose of his contemporaries such as the *Harmonies poétiques et religieuses* of Lamartine. According to Liszt, the *2nd Ballade* is a musical transcription of the poem *Héro et Léandre* from *Musée. La Nuit*, for which Liszt wrote three versions (for orchestra as the second piece of the *Odes funèbres*, for violin and piano, and then for piano in its final form) is inspired by a poem by Michelangelo. Finally, as a religious Abbot, Liszt was to finish his life in solitude, sufferance and prayer. These later mournful works are still unfortunately not played enough within the pianistic repertoire which expresses not only a new form of futuristic musical abstraction which seems to precede the *Second School of Vienna* (Schoenberg, Berg and Webern); but also the despair relinquished by a man hurt by life and ending in a state of total withdrawal.

Often relegated to the title of anecdotal pieces placed at the end of a recording with no other purpose than of completion, Liszt's last works for piano stripped of all artificiality go through the program of this double album instead as an obsessive *Leitmotiv*. Hence *La lugubre gondola No. 2*, *R.W. Venezia*, *Schlaflös !*, *Unstern ! - Sinistre*, *Nuages gris*, *En rêve* intersperse between the great works as poetic mirrors evoking the conflicting duality of romanticism and ascetic abstraction, of form and substance, of passion and despair, of Hungarian sentimentality and religious mysticism, of darkness and light.

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“Larderet has blossomed into a great pianist”

Fanfare Magazine (USA)

“The ghost of Claudio Arrau”

MUSICA 5 stars Award (Italy)

“An impressive pianist”

MusicWeb International (UK)

“Larderet makes the piano equal to an orchestra”

CLASSICA “CHOC” Award (France)

“Larderet is grandiose in every situation and feels every sound’s color”

PIANO News (Germany)

“Larderet overcomes with panache”

Toronto Star (Canada)

“Vincent Larderet has a very lyrical playing”

Crescendo magazine (Belgium)





BIOGRAPHY

Honored with the revered title of “Steinway Artist”, Vincent LARDERET has attracted international recognition for the exceptional intensity of his performances and his highly acclaimed recordings.

Praised as an “impressive pianist” (*MusicWeb International*, UK) for his “very lyrical playing” (*Crescendo Magazine*, Belgium) and his “multi-timbred” sound (*Fanfare*, USA), he “makes the piano equal to an orchestra” (*Classica*, France) with a wide range of “fascinating pianistic colors” (*PIANO News*, Germany). His very personal and deeply inspired interpretations are often compared to the piano legends such as Michelangeli, Pollini, Zimerman and Argerich. The *MUSICA* magazine in Italy hailed “the ghost of Claudio Arrau” while the *Toronto Star* in Canada described : “his playing is remarkable for its ease as well as style. Larderet overcomes with panache”. Nominated for the “International Classical Music Awards” and “Classical Revelation” by Adami winner at MIDEM in Cannes, he is considered as one of the leading French pianists of his generation.

Vincent Larderet's eclectic repertoire stretches from Scarlatti to Boulez, who played an important role in the romantic period, French music and during the 20th century. He also ardently favors lesser-performed composers such as Berg, Falla, Schmitt, Scriabin and Szymanowski. In 2007 he performed a series of recitals dedicated to Beethoven and especially distinguished himself with the “Hammerklavier” *Opus 106* and *Opus 111 Sonatas*. He also participated in the complete live recording of Beethoven's *32 Sonatas*, notably alongside Stephen Kovacevich for the prestigious DVD set released by Piano Passion. Internationally renowned as a Ravel specialist, he worked in Paris with Carlos Cebro who passed on to him the stylistic and musical tradition of Vlado Perlemuter and studied Ravel's works on Perlemuter's personal scores annotated during his collaboration with the composer. Mr Larderet is also used to performing both the 2 Ravel *Concertos* during the same concert. He completed his training at the National Conservatory of Music in Rueil Malmaison where he won the “Virtuosity Prize” and perfected his art at Lübeck's Musikhochschule in Germany with the famous pianist Bruno-Leonardo Gelber. At the same time, Vincent was a prize-winner in several international piano competitions including Maria Canals in Barcelona, A.M.A. Calabria (in Italy under the jury chairman of Lazar Berman) and Brest. He was also laureate of the “Orpheum Foundation for the Advancement of Young Soloists” in Switzerland. When it comes to shaping his interpretations, he is committed to a musicological approach studying and analyzing music history. He has written essays including booklets for his own recordings.



© Photography: Karis Kennedy Design: Mary McNeill

Vincent Larderet has performed worldwide in recital and concerto at prestigious venues. With the release of his recordings by ARS Produktion, Naxos, Chandos and INTEGRAL Classic, he has achieved outstanding international critical acclaim and won many prestigious awards.



© Photography: Karis Kennedy Design: Mary McNeill

Vincent Larderet has performed worldwide in recital and concerto at prestigious venues such as Zurich's Tonhalle, Barcelona's Palau de la Musica, Leipzig Gewandhaus, Hong Kong Cultural Centre (Ravel's *Concerto in G*), Tokyo Toppan Hall, Washington's Kennedy Center, Potton Hall (UK); and major concert halls in France including the Salle Pleyel, Salle Gaveau, Cité de la Musique, the Nice Opera (Beethoven's *Triple Concerto*), the Saint-Eustache church (Beethoven's *Concerto n°4*), the Parc du Château de Florans (the 2 Ravel *Piano Concertos*), the Cannes Palais des Festivals and the Juan les Pins Palais des Congrès (Prokofiev's *Concerto n°3*).

Invited to perform at renowned international festivals and concert series (including Schleswig Holstein Musik Festival, Orpheum Music Festival, Festival Pianistico Busoni, Le French May, Fantastic Pianist Series, Piano Texas, Berlioz Festival, Besançon Festival, Boulez Festival, La Roque d'Anthéron and La Folle Journée), he also devoted himself intensively to chamber music with distinguished artists including Emmanuelle Bertrand, Yi-Bing Chu, Marc Coppey, Michel Dalberto, Nicolas Dautricourt, Sol Gabetta, Pavel Sporcl, the Debussy Quartet as well as the West Side Quartet, his group for 2 pianos and percussion. Among the esteemed conductors and orchestras who he has collaborated with include Salvador Brotons, Giuseppe Cataldo, Daniel Kawka, Eric Lederhandler, Grigor Palikarov, György G. Ráth, Robert Trevino, Pierre-André Valade, the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, the Sinfonia Varsovia, the Orchestre Philharmonique de Nice, the Orchestra Simfonica del Valles, the Czech Virtuosi Symphonic Orchestra, the Ose Symphonic Orchestra, the Orchestra Sinfonica di Sanremo and the City Chamber Orchestra of Hong Kong.

Moreover, he has served as a member of the jury at various international piano competitions, in addition to several Masterclasses. A truly dedicated artist, he has given several beneficial concerts for humanitarian causes such as Amnesty International and Combating Cystic Fibrosis. His performances have been broadcasted on major radio and TV channels such as France 3, France 2, France Musique, Radio Classique, Radio Suisse Romande, SRF (Switzerland), Kultur Radio RBB, MDR, WDR, HR2 Kultur, BR-klassik (Germany), Radio Nacional d'Espanya, Civil Radio (Hungary), Radio Paris-La Paz (Bolivia), QBS (Qatar), Radio Canada, ABC Classic FM (Australia) and Radio New Zealand.

His recordings released by ARS Produktion, NAXOS, Chandos and INTEGRAL Classic have achieved outstanding international critical acclaim as well as winning prestigious Awards including the *Classica* "CHOC", *Diapason 5*, *Télérama 4 f*, *Resmusica* "CLEF" (France), *MusicWeb International* "recording of the month" (UK), *Klassik Heute* "Empfehlung" (Germany), *Crescendo Magazine* "JOKER" (Belgium), *RITMO* 4 stars (Spain), *MUSICA* 5 stars (Italy) and *Pizzicato* "SUPERSONIC" (Luxembourg). He is also responsible for the major world premieres of Debussy, Ravel and Schmitt works. In 2019 he performed in the US the American Premiere of Ravel's *Daphnis et Chloé Suite*. The SACD-CD of the 2 Ravel *Piano Concertos* is praised by *Fanfare* magazine (USA) to be amongst "the best recordings of the year" and "the only relevant performance which could exist alongside the referenced recordings of Michelangeli and Zimerman" (*Klassik Heute*). His new album devoted to Debussy stands out as one of the recording events of 2018 in tribute to the centenary of the composer's death. Mr. Larderet is also the co-founder of the *Piano au Musée Würth* international festival in France, which he managed as Artistic Director until 2017.



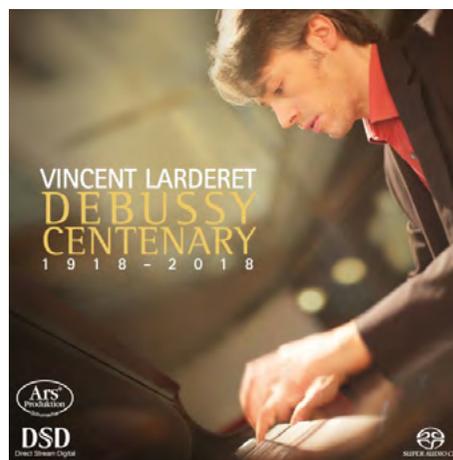


LISZT BETWEEN LIGHT & DARKNESS 2 CD-SET

PIANO CLASSICS
October 2020

CD1 :
Après une Lecture de Dante (from *Années de Pèlerinage II - Italie*)
La Notte
Schlaflos !
La lugubre gondola N°2
Nuages gris

CD 2 :
Ballade n°2
R. W. - Venezia
Funérailles (from *Harmonies poétiques et religieuses*)
Unstern ! - Sinistre
En rêve



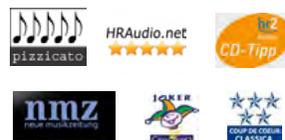
DEBUSSY CENTENARY SACD-CD

ARS Produktion
January 2018

Catalogue Number : ARS 38 240
Stereo/Multichannel Hybrid SACD
plays on CD, SACD & DVD player -
Direct Stream Digital

Images - 1ère Série
Préludes - Livre II
Symphonic Fragments from *Le Martyre de saint Sébastien* - 1911 André Caplet
transcription revised and completed
by Vincent Larderet - WORLD PREMIERE
RECORDING

Awards



BRAHMS - BERG SACD-CD

ARS Produktion
October 2016

Catalogue Number : ARS 38 217
Stereo/Multichannel Hybrid SACD
plays on CD, SACD & DVD player -
Direct Stream Digital

BRAHMS: *Sonata n°3 Op.5*
BRAHMS: *3 Intermezzi Op.117*
BERG: *Sonata Op.1*

Awards





RAVEL SCHMITT SACD-CD

ARS Produktion
September 2015

Catalogue Number : ARS 38 178
Stereo/Multichannel Hybrid SACD
plays on CD, SACD & DVD player -
Direct Stream Digital

Ravel: *Piano Concerto for the left hand*
& *Piano Concerto in G*
SCHMITT: *J'entends dans le lointain...*
(World première recording of the version
for piano & orchestra). Ose Symphonic
Orchestra conducted by Daniel Kawka

Awards



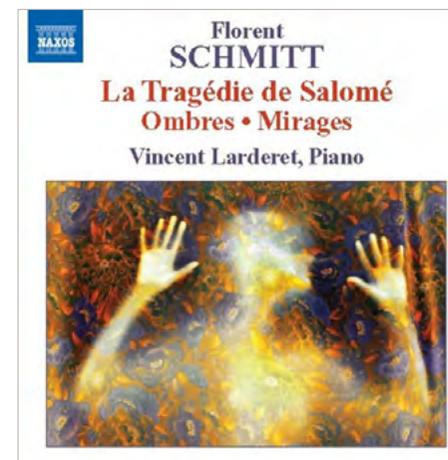
RAVEL ORCHESTRAL & VIRTUOSO PIANO SACD-CD

ARS Produktion
March 2014

Catalogue Number : ARS 38 146
Stereo/Multichannel Hybrid SACD
plays on CD, SACD & DVD player -
Direct Stream Digital

Gaspard de la Nuit (1908)
Suite from Daphnis et Chloé
(1912 Ravel piano version - World Première
- revised by Vincent Larderet)
Jeux d'Eau (1901)
La Valse (1919-1920)
Pavane pour une infante défunte (1899)

Awards



FLORENT SCHMITT CD

NAXOS
February 2011

Ombres Op.64
Mirage Op.70
La Tragédie de Salomé Op.50 bis
(World première recording of the
composer's piano version)

Awards





BEETHOVEN DVD SET

Piano Passion
December 2007

BEETHOVEN : The complete 32 *Sonatas*
Prestige video DVD set (10 DVD)
DVD Format : Stereo 2.0 - 16/9 (PAL) Colour
Live recordings filmed in concert in May 2007
Limited Edition - SOLD OUT

> Display the "Hammerklavier Op.106 Sonata"
on Youtube



SCHUMANN, SCRIBINE, RAVEL, PROKOFIEV CD

INTEGRAL Classic - July 2004

Catalogue Number : INT 221.331
SCHUMANN : *Symphonic Studies Op.13*
SCRIABIN : *Sonata n°2 "Sonata – Fantasy"*
Op.19
RAVEL : *Valses nobles et sentimentales*
PROKOFIEV : *Toccata Op.11*

"The decision to gather together Schumann, Scriabin, Ravel and Prokofiev in this recording isn't guided by the wish of delivering an anthology of works within a shared aesthetics. (...) Vincent's intention was to make the best of diversity in keyboard's approach. (...) In this way Etude, Prelude, Nocturne, Sonata, Waltz and Toccata live together in a spirited quest for the most original identity. They question forms that carry reaction forces and potentiality opened to the very renewal of music itself."

Alban Ramaut Musicologist, faculty professor

Awards

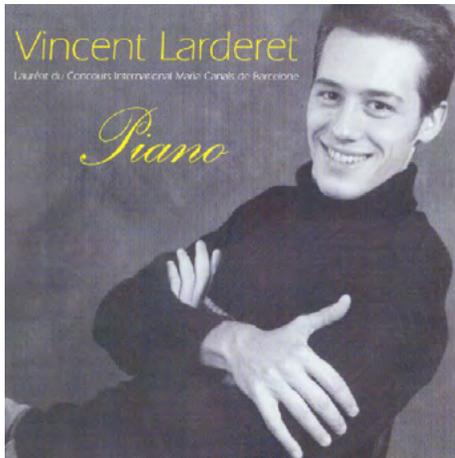


LIVE CD OF ADAMI 2003 CLASSICAL REVELATIONS

June 2003

Recorded live in concert at the Cité de la Musique during the *Musicora* event

with
Vladimir STOJANOVIC
Blandine STASKIEWICZ
Blandine ARNOULD
Damien VENTULA
Jean TEITGEN
Marina CHICHE
Barbara DUCRET



PIANO CD

Label Audio
June 1999

BACH-BUSONI : *Choral Prelude*
"Nun Komm der Heiden Heiland"

HAYDN : *Sonata Hob. XVI : 50*

CHOPIN : *Study Op.25 n°11*

SCRIABIN : *Study Op.42 n°5*

DE FALLA : *Fantasia Bætica*

RACHMANINOFF : *Sonata Op.36 n°2*
(1931 version)

This first recording by Vincent Larderet perfectly matches his artistic personality and enlightens his rich repertoire ruled by colors and passion.

This CD is SOLD OUT.

A man with short, dark hair and a light beard is leaning against a piano. He is wearing a dark, patterned suit jacket over a dark shirt. The background is dimly lit with purple and blue tones, suggesting an indoor setting like a club or a lounge. The text "REVIEWS HIGHLIGHTS" is overlaid in the center of the image.

REVIEWS HIGHLIGHTS



CLAVIER COMPANION

"On this disc, one hears two masters at work : Debussy for harmony and style, and Larderet for flair and appeal."

Clavier Companion Magazine (USA) - July / August 2018 issue - Laura Melton



FANFARE

"Reviews in these pages of Larderet's previous work have been unanimously positive. Peter Burwasser recently (40:4) grouped him with Pollini, Brendel, and Badura-Skoda as 'masterful technicians and intellectual[s].' John Bell Young wrote (39:3) that Larderet 'has blossomed into a great pianist indeed.' And Colin Clarke (35:5) described his playing as 'gripping and multitimbred.' I will add that it is full of vivid colors, subtle rubato, and an equal affinity for the contemplative and the virtuosic aspects of Debussy's writing."

Fanfare Magazine (USA) N°41:5 - May / June 2018 issue - Myron Silberstein



THE RECORD GEIJUTSU

"It can be said that it is a wonderful performance combining playfulness and polished poetry."

The Record Geijutsu (Japan) - May 2018 issue



FONO FORUM

"Vincent Larderet, with his interpretation of the second Book of [Debussy's] *Préludes* in comparison with the youngest of the named 'old Master' [Krystian Zimerman], is almost on equal footing. The juxtaposition of individual voices and chords, the highly differentiated dynamics and the parallel play of colors require the interpreter to achieve a maximum in the areas of agogics and pedaling. Larderet possesses great subtlety in this regard."

Fono Forum (Germany) n°04 - 2018 / April 2018 issue - Gregor Willmes



MUSICA 5 STARS AWARD

"His Brahms has a huge tragic force for the depth of sound, breath phrasing, the density of speech and a lyrical, passionate, painful intensity. A great value CD on which the ghost of Claudio Arrau seems to appear in the background."

MUSICA 5 stars Award (Italy) n°283 - February 2017 issue - Luca Segalla



SCHERZO

"Larderet caresses you directly, soft and seductive."

Scherzo n°315 (Spain) - February 2016 - Santiago Martín Bermúdez



KLASSIK HEUTE "EMPFEHLUNG"

"I call it fascinating because it's the only relevant performance for me which can exist without restriction alongside the reference recordings of Michelangeli (*Concerto in G*) in 1957 and Zimerman (both concertos) in 1994."

Klassik Heute "Empfehlung" (Germany) - December 2015, Christof Jetzschke



GRAMOPHONE (UK)

"There is a lot to admire about the ARS [Larderet-Kawka] versions."

Gramophone (UK) - November 2015 - Jeremy Nicholas



TÉLÉRAMA ffff

"Debussy used to be suavely ironic about the art of Ravel, "a fakir that grows flowers around a chair". Vincent Larderet grows landscapes around his piano, as a true Ravelian magician."

Télérama ffff Award n°3353 (France) - April 2014 - Gilles Macassar



PIZZICATO "SUPERSONIC"

"In this Ravel program, French pianist Vincent Larderet signs very personal, almost visually shaped performances, deeply expressive and atmospheric as well."

Pizzicato "SUPERSONIC" Award (Luxemburg) - March 2014 - Remy Franck



CRESCENDO MAGAZINE

"Vincent Larderet has a very lyrical playing (...) and sometimes focuses on things that others completely ignore. We're dealing with a clever pianist there."

Crescendo Magazine (Belgium) - August 2013



CLASSICA "CHOC"

"He makes the piano compare to an orchestra, and let us wonders whether he hasn't got some third hand available. It's understandable that he holds us spellbound from the first to the very last measure, expressing all the expected sensuality, mystery and demonic frenzy."

Classica "CHOC" Award n°131 (France) - April 2011 - Michel Fleury



TORONTO STAR

"Larderet overcomes with panache. His playing is remarkable for its ease as well as style."

Toronto Star (Canada), March 2011



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LINKS HIGHLIGHTS



**LISZT BETWEEN LIGHT & DARKNESS
INTERVIEW - DOCUMENTARY**

2 CD-SET released in
October 2020 by PIANO CLASSICS



**RAVEL/SCHMITT CONCERTOS SACD
TRAILER - LARDERET, KAWKA,
OSE ORCHESTRA - 2015**

Trailer of the Ravel/Schmitt ARS
SACD-CD produced by NO.TE
Director : Daniel Kawka
Piano soloist : Vincent Larderet



**RAVEL : SCARBO FROM GASPARD
DE LA NUIT**

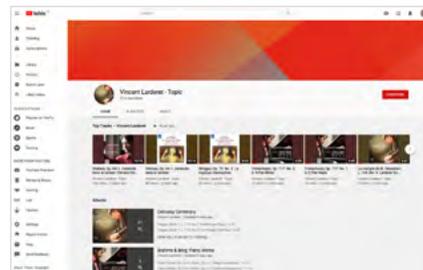


**BEETHOVEN : "HAMMERKLAVIER"
SONATA OP.106, 3RD MOVEMENT
(PART 1 OF 2)**

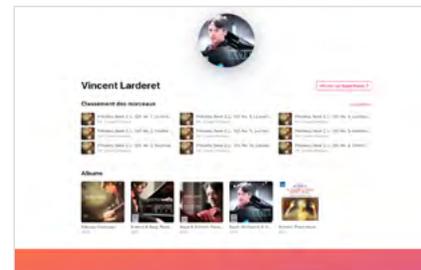
Recorded live in 2007 during
Vincent Larderet's recital tour
dedicated to the 180th anniversary
of Beethoven's death.



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YouTube



Apple MUSIC



Official Facebook page