

January 15, 2016

Riccardo Chailly conducts Shostakovich and Rachmaninov

Works by Dmitri Shostakovich and Sergei Rachmaninoff featured in three major concerts of the Gewandhaus Orchestra season with Kapellmeister Riccardo Chailly. Soloist in Shostakovich's second violin concerto is Vadim Gluzman.



... The sun comes out at last in Shostakovich's final concerto, the Second Violin Concerto, dimly peering through the haze of deep sadness that infuses the work. Vadim Gluzman is the soloist in this hugely demanding piece, which is as cryptic as it is profound, and his performance is superb: even in the face of Shostakovich's extreme technical demands, his supreme musicianship

rings out on his Stradivarius. His tone is grand, earthy and substantial, sounding lively even in the passagework or the distant polyphonic stretches of the cadenzas. Gluzman's playing, as flawless as it is fearless, still remains unfailingly devoted to the principles of beauty and truth, thoroughly indifferent to the virtuosic effects that are undeniably there to be exploited in Shostakovich's music. He brings out the feeling at the heart of this masterpiece, investing every note with meaning and revealing its place within the logic of the finely wrought symphonic structure created by Riccardo Chailly and his Gewandhaus Orchestra. ...

Peter Korfmacher