

**7th Season
86-87**

**Andrea
Lucchesini**

piano

**Sunday, October 5th, 1986
Vancouver Playhouse**



PROGRAM

SERGEI RACHMANINOV (1873–1943)

6 PRELUDES, OP. 23

Prelude in B Flat Major, Op. 23 no. 2
Prelude in D minor, Op. 23 no. 3
Prelude in D Major, Op. 23 no. 4
Prelude in G minor, Op. 23 no. 5
Prelude in E Flat Major, Op. 23 no. 6
Prelude in C minor, Op. 23 no. 7

6 PRELUDES, OP. 32

Prelude in C Major, Op. 32 no. 1
Prelude in G Major, Op. 32 no. 5
Prelude in A minor, Op. 32 no. 8
Prelude in E Major, Op. 32 no. 3
Prelude in G Sharp minor, Op. 32 no. 12
Prelude in F minor, Op. 32 no. 6

Intermission

CHOPIN (1810–1849)

24 PRELUDES , OP. 28

No. 1 in C Major
No. 2 in A minor
No. 3 in G Major
No. 4 in E minor
No. 5 in D Major
No. 6 in B minor
No. 7 in A Major
No. 8 in F Sharp minor
No. 9 in E Major
No. 10 in C Sharp minor
No. 11 in B Major
No. 12 in G Sharp minor

No. 13 in F Sharp minor
No. 14 in E Flat minor
No. 15 in D Flat Major
No. 16 in B Flat minor
No. 17 in A Flat Major
No. 18 in F minor
No. 19 in E Flat Major
No. 20 in C minor
No. 21 in B Flat Major
No. 22 in G minor
No. 23 in F Major
No. 24 in D minor

Meet the Artist

Andrea Lucchesini was born in 1965 in Montecatini, near Florence. He showed unusual talent from his earliest years, and began formal studies at the age of seven with the renowned pianist, Maria Tipo, with whom he studied exclusively for several years.

In 1982 he graduated with distinction from the Istituto Musicale Giuseppe Verdi, having already won numerous prizes and competitions. The following year he won the prestigious Dino Ciani Piano Competition in Milan, the first Italian to capture First Prize.

Four days after this triumph, the eighteen-year-old Andrea Lucchesini performed a sold-out recital at La Scala, receiving rave reviews from the Milan press. Immediately thereafter he gave recitals in 25 of Italy's most important cities, as well as in Paris, Monte Carlo, Amsterdam and Frankfurt, and was given an exclusive recording contract with EMI/Angel Records. His first recording (of works by Franz Liszt) has received unusual praise. He has been described as one of the most brilliant and interesting young artists to appear in years...

Andrea Lucchesini performs regularly in major centres throughout Europe, and is about to embark upon his first tour of Japan.

Lucchesini was first introduced to the United States at the Newport Festival with such success that he was invited to return there for the two following seasons.

Later this month Andrea Lucchesini will perform in the opening concerts of the Indianapolis Symphony under John Nelson, and he will make recital debuts in Chicago (under the auspices of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra), Los Angeles (Ambassador Auditorium), Ann Arbor (University of Michigan), and Cincinnati.

In May, 1987 Andrea Lucchesini will make his debut with the Berlin Philharmonic.

Tonight's recital marks the Canadian debut of Mr. Lucchesini.

COLUMBIA ARTISTS MANAGEMENT INC.

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PROGRAM NOTES

SERGEI RACHMANINOV

Preludes, Opus 23 (1901-1903)

Preludes, Opus 32 (1910)

FREDERIC CHOPIN

Preludes, Opus 28 (1838)

Sixty years ago the French chef Paul Reboux had the temerity to suggest that an exemplary dinner could be made from two or three well prepared dishes, rather than the lifeless and stultifying succession of formal courses then in vogue. Perhaps this liberated attitude is beginning to apply to the recital menu as well. Instead of a formal sequence of contrasting works from the major historical eras, Andrea Lucchesini has chosen a program of two complementary sets of preludes: a selection from Rachmaninov's Opus 23 and Opus 32, and the complete Chopin Opus 28.

Rachmaninov's two collections of *Preludes* roughly correspond to the second and third *Piano Concertos* in both time of composition and style. In his short biographical article in *Grove's*, Geoffrey Norris characterizes the Opus 23 *Preludes* as demonstrating the "sumptuous harmonies and broadly lyrical, often intensely passionate melodies of the turn of the century composer."

Between the composition of the first and second sets, Rachmaninov produced a considerable body of work (including two operas) and his assurance and technique as a composer had broadened accordingly. "Varied though these pieces are", writes Norris, "they all have a common characteristic in that they show Rachmaninov's ability to crystallize perfectly a particular mood or sentiment: each prelude grows from a tiny melodic or rhythmic fragment into a taut, powerfully evocative miniature. They are, in effect, small tone poems."

Nowhere is Chopin's achievement as a composer of the highest originality more manifestly apparent than in the Opus 28 *Preludes*. Documentary evidence suggests that they were actually composed over a number of years but finally completed, polished and prepared for publication in 1838/39, at the time of Chopin's ill-fated sojourn in Majorca with George Sand.

Theorists and fellow composers have long assessed, analyzed and marvelled over the brilliance and power of these cryptic works. But for the listener about to embark on a concert performance, perhaps the best introduction (and caveat) has been provided by the French writer André Gide, who wrote: "Each of them is a Prelude to a meditation; nothing can be less a concert piece; nowhere has Chopin revealed himself more intimately. Each of them... creates a particular atmosphere, establishes an emotional setting, then fades out as a bird alights — all is still. Not all are of equal importance. Some are charming, others terrifying. None are indifferent."

Please... and thank you...

Whilst ticket sales are a vital source of income to the Vancouver Recital Society, they do not cover the entire cost of its operations. Contributions from members and others are essential if the Society is to continue to meet its obligations and keep pace with ever increasing costs. We operate on a very careful budget and contributions of any size make a difference. **All contributions are tax deductible.** This recital series which presents the "stars of tomorrow" rather than the no-risk, box office big names, is unique in North America. Its continued good health depends upon your support. You are its life blood. If you enjoy these concerts, please consider making a tax deductible contribution. Cheques may be mailed to the Vancouver Recital Society, P.O. Box 35605, Postal Station E, Vancouver, B.C. V6M 4G9.

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Next Concert
Sunday, November 23rd at 8:00 p.m.

PENDULUM Jim Hodgkinson, Pianist Ted Piltzecker, Vibraphonist

Armando's Rhumba	Chick Corea
Yesterdays	Jerome Kern
Partner	Jim Hodgkinson
Yesterday	Lennon/McCartney
A Child's Dream	Ted Piltzecker
Here's That Rainy Day	J. Van Heusen
Ain't Misbehavin'	Fats Waller
In Your Quiet Place	Keith Jarrett
Jake's corner	Jim Hodgkinson
First Arabesque	Claude Debussy
'Round Midnight	Thelonius Monk
Tango Papa	Ted Piltzecker
So Far Away	Carole King
Billie's Bounce	Charlie Parker