

Augsburger Allgemeine

"Wild, Feverish, Exciting"

Soul! This means for Evgenia Rubinova that she identifies herself totally with the piece she plays. With feeling and without show. An intensely felt individuality came through in each miniature of the Chopin's 24 Preludes Op. 28. Her playing was exceptional because of her very well thought out dynamics, tempi and rests. The cycle with its extreme contrasts: from lyrical melancholy, piano filigree to wild excitement was presented as a comprehensive Whole.

The same is true of Chopin's b-flat minor Sonata Op. 35. The artist emphasized the unity of two compositions, by playing them almost without a pause. Like in the final thunder in the last Prelude in d-minor, Evgenia Rubinova threw herself into the piece with enormous energy and also with a lot of feeling for the subtle strength of the b-flat minor sonata. The funeral march was played with sonorous power. The bizarre Finale (Anton Rubinstein called 'the whistling wind over graves') was played with breathlessly clear speed.

Just as fine was the performance of the 'Barcarolle' Op. 60 at the end of the concert. One witnessed a synthesis of heart and power in the constantly beautiful colors of the melodies and harmonic lines, in the wonderful sound of the climax. Uproarious applause for a rising star.