## VLADIMIR KHOMYAKOV (piano)

## Reviews

"The Chords of Spanish Passion. A brilliant piano recital performed in Magnitogorsk by Vladimir Khomyakov."



"The beauty of Spanish music, the virtuosity of the performer, the full sound of the "Steinway" piano - all this is in the program "Dance of Fire", presented on the stage of the Ordzhonikidze Palace of Culture, with the support of the Concert Association."

"It only took Vladimir Khomyakov fifteen minutes after our interview to find an inspiration and to come out to perform to the public. Tall and stately, with bow-tie on a white shirt, he immediately aroused the appreciation of the audience. And when the first chords of the "Ritual Fire Dance" by Manuel de Falla began, it was clear that the real celebration of the

piano art has commenced. Tenderly and passionately sounded "Asturias" from the suite "Spain", light keyboard "trills" triumphed in "Maja and the Nightingale", the sounds of a fiery Spanish dance were woven into the fabric of performed pieces from the cycle "Goyescas". "Gaspard de la nuit" and "Alborada del gracioso" by Maurice Ravel, which formed the second half of the recital, highlighted the excellent technique and a special style of Vladimir Khomyakov's playing. Shouts of "Bravo", now and then ringing out from the audience, have inspired the musician to perform the "encores" — "Prelude in B minor" by Bach and "Valse" by Chopin. He then talked with and distributed autographs to the audience."

- Elena Pavelitsa, "Magnitogorsk Worker" Newspaper. October 30, 2015

## "Vladimir Khomyakov and Alexander Walker performed in Voronezh with the Youth Symphony Orchestra"

"Khomyakov and Walker [conductor] make a harmonious pair: both are cheerful, charismatic, with unruly curly hair. The pianist and the conductor understood each other very well in the Beethoven's Concerto, presenting an original interpretation: not with «in-your-face» heroism, but with lyricism, wit, and friendliness. The soloist and the orchestra did not compete with each other, but were in a natural dialogue, emphasizing the improvisational nature of Beethoven's Third Piano Concerto, and its relaxed expressiveness.

...Khomyakov demonstrates an excellent technique, which clearly emerges from intelligence and maturity of the maestro. A great musical orator, he



impresses with his ability to project meaning on the piano. It seems that you hear a singer, not a pianist. And as a proof of his mastery of the pianistic "bel canto", Khomyakov has concluded the performance with a virtuoso encore - a piano transcription of "The Figaro's Aria" from "The Barber of Seville" by Rossini — to an unrestrained delight of the audience."

- Elena Fomina for "Culture VRN" Magazine, October 30, 2015

"The recital of Vladimir Khomyakov, the winner of international piano competitions, was titled "The Dances of Fire", and the fiery sounds echoed throughout all the works by Spanish composers. The most impetuous dance of burning flame spurts was visibly perceived in the music of Manuel de Falla which provided the thematic motive to the entire program. The virtuosity of the pianist coupled with a deep interpretation of every performed work, including "Asturias" by Isaac Albeniz, "Maja and the Nightingale" by Enrique Granados, Argentinian melodies of Alberto Ginastera, and "Gaspard de la Nuit« by Maurice Ravel, which made this evening emotionally filled with fascinating and magical sound.

... Performing in Ufa, Vladimir demonstrated virtuoso technique and deep understanding of musical concepts of each of the Spanish composers, and also of such geniuses as Bach and Chopin whose works were presented as an encore and were delightfully perceived by grateful audience."

Alla Dokuchaeva, "Ufa Vedomosti" Newspaper, December 17, 2015

"There is something uniquely and utterly magnificent about a gifted and brilliant classical musician, such is Vladimir Khomyakov. Vladimir is easily one of the finest pianists I've yet encountered.

Vladimir has an honest and wise understanding of the classical music.

... He has a truly inspiring take on giving live performances that is refreshing and underscores his love of music and his commitment to the integrity of classical music and moving his audiences."

- Jeff Gafford, Shine On Hollywood Magazine, September 2015





"I first heard Vladimir in the Anton Rubinstein Competition in Dresden, Germany, a number of years ago and was instantly impressed with his musicality and the personality behind the talent I heard. He is a brilliant pianist, has his own personality on stage. His performances are on the highest level, always producing excitement with audiences. Vladimir has a virtuosic technique that he molds into sounds that impact the listener with deep emotional intensity. His virtuosity is commanding, but with it comes an intelligence that understands styles and musical concepts, which he imparts to audiences."

- Daniel Pollack, pianist