

Lisa Smirnova, pianist

Press Quotes

"Lisa Smirnova knows her Bach like no other and plays with an ecstatic devotion....." The New Listener, March 22, 2017, Oliver Fraenzke

... ..Lisa Smirnova combined a special sound with deep feeling and great expression. The native of Russia, who resides in Vienna, virtually lives her art - also visible to every listener. She becomes one with her music. Congenially, she unites the eastern and western piano schools and has also adopted Friedrich Gulda's motto: "Play every tone as if it were your life."
Dithmarschen Landeszeitung, July 1, 2017, Andreas Guballa

"This performance was the proverbial calling card of a great Mozart pianist, for whom younger generations must embark on a long search....." Rhein-Neckar Zeitung, Oktober 2016, Klaus Roß

"As if Emil Gilels and Sviatoslav Richter had been resurrected... The vivid, powerful performance of the exceptional Moscow-born pianist was characterized by unswerving suspense and a completely elastic balance between sound and energy..." Herbert Schranz, Kleine Zeitung, Graz 28.06.2010

"... Lisa Smirnova is a shining light in the pianist heavens ... and her unpretentious nature full of loving humanity is inspiring ..." Karinsberg-Kotterba, Schwarzwälder Bote, March 2009

Recordings:

G.F.Haendel: The Eight Great Suites

"... Ms. Smirnova joyfully communicates her passion for these works and makes a vibrant case for the music to be performed on the modern piano." Vivien Schweitzer, New York Times, 28.09.2012

"Smirnova shows what we – and most pianists – have been missing, for she paints the gígues, fugues and sarabandes with such spirit and wit that it's impossible not to be won over by their joy and sophistication, especially when subjected to what Smirnova calls the "timbral potential" of the modern concert grand.." Fincancial Times, February 18, 2012, Andrew Clark

"... Lisa Smirnova, a Russian-born pianist, gives a big boost to these works with this outstanding recording of Handel's first set of keyboard suites, published in 1720. She has, in a way, squared the circle: coloring the music in a way that can only be done on a modern piano without losing the air and transparency that period instruments impart.

The result is a set of performances that exude energy and charm... . Everything sparkled, from gloriously even trills that begin the Second Suite to the famous variations on "harmonious Blacksmith" that end the Fifth... . The evidence of her devotion is everywhere." David Weininger, The Boston Globe, 16.06.2012

Live at the Concertgebouw: Prokofiev/Beethoven - Paladino Music PMR0077

In sum, these are quite outstanding performances from a pianist who, frankly, should be better known. Highly recommended. Robert Cummings, Classical.net, June 2017