

Piotr Ilitch TCHAIKOVSKI (1840 – 1893)

Irakly AVALIANI, piano

Les Saisons, Op. 37 bis

1. Janvier. Au coin du feu.	5'04
2. Février. Mardi gras.	3'15
3. Mars. Le chant d'alouette	2'04
4. Avril. Le perce-neige.	2'56
5. Mai. Les nuits blanches.	3'28
6. Juin. Barcarolle.	4'33
7. Juillet. Le chant de faucher.	1'45
8 ; Août. La Moisson.	3'23
9. Septembre. La chasse.	2'18
10. Octobre. Chant d'automne.	4'23
11. Novembre. En Troïka.	2'57
12. Décembre. Fête de Noël.	4'36
13. Dumka, Op. 59	9'18
14. Valse sentimentale, Op. 51 n°6	4'43

Durée totale : 55'31

Paris 1992

Prise de son, montage : Studio SOFRESON

Tableau de couverture : Masha S.

Livret en allemand, anglais et français.



IRAKLY AVALIANI
PIANO

TCHAIKOVSKY
LES SAISONS **DUMKA**
LA VALSE SENTIMENTALE

Peter Ilitsch TCHAIKOWSKY (1840-1893)

The year 1993 marks the centenary of the death of Piotr Ilyitch Tchaikowsky, the most romantic of all Russian composers. His inspiration certainly reached its highest level with the opera, the symphonic composition and the ballet, but his chamber music, and especially his piano music, is not less interesting.

THE SEASONS, op. 37 bis

THE SEASONS is probably his most popular piano work for the Russian audience. This series of twelve melodies, corresponding to the twelve months of the year, was written between December 1875 and November 1876 and was published at that time in the St. Petersburg "Novelist". Each melody is introduced by a poetic motto, that leads into the atmosphere and the fine timbres of the piece, without standing for a program.

As Tchaikowsky himself said in a letter to Lady von Meck: "it is a musical confession of the soul, which takes flight through the sounds like the expression of a poet through his verses. The only difference is that music is more powerful and has a wider language to suggest the numerous nuances of mood and emotions".

N° 1 JANUARY. At the Fireside

This corner of calm beatitude
Dressed by the night in a veil of obscurity
In the hearth, the lire dies away
And the candle lies consumed.
From A. Pushkin's poem
"The Dreamer" (1815)

N° 2 FEBRUARY. Mardi Gras

Soon, lively Mardi Gras
Will have a great feast prepared.
From K. Viazemski's poem
"Mardi Gras in a foreign land" (1853)

N° 3 MARCH. The Lark's Song

The field is spread with dancing flowers
Waves of light glide across the sky
The song of the spring lark
Fills the blue gulfs of the azure.
From A. Maikov's poem
"The field spread with dancing flowers"
(1857)

N° 4 APRIL. The Snowdrop

Blue, pure,
Snowdrop!
And, beside it, gleams
The last of the snow

The last tears
for past grief
And the first dreams of new bliss...
A. Maikov's poem "Spring" (1857)

N° 5 MAY. White Nights

What a night! What complete felicity!
Thanks to you, my midnight homeland!
Of the realm of ice, of the realm of storms
and snow,
How your May flies away so fresh and limpid.
From A. Fet's poem "Another May night"

N° 6 June. Barcarolle

Let us go to the shore, where the waves kiss
our feet.
The stars, with secret sadness,
shine above us.
From A. Plecheev's poem "The Song" (1845)

N° 7 July. The Reaper's Song

Shoulder, heave,
Hand, strive with a will
Thou, blow in my face,
Noon wind.
A. Kolsov's poem "The reaper" (1836)

N° 8 AUGUST. The Harvest

Whole families of people
set to harvest
the tall rye
cut to the ground.

In separate heaps
The sheaves pile up.
All night long, is heard
The squeaky music of laden carts
From A. Koltsov "The Harvest" (1835)

N° 9 SEPTEMBER. The Hunt

Halloo, halloo! The hunting horn sounds;
The huntsmen in finery
At daylight mount their steeds;
The hounds strain at their leashes.
*From A. Pushkin's poem
"Count Nulin" (1825)*

N° 10 OCTOBER. Autumn Song

Autumn! Our poor garden is quite bare
Yellow leaves fly in the wind
*From A. Tolstoy's poem "Autumn! Our poor
garden is quite bare"*

N° 11 NOVEMBER. In the Troika

Don't look in sadness at the way
And don't hurry to follow the troika;
And the anguish of your melancholy heart
Make haste, smother it forever
*From N. Nekrassov's poem "The Troika"
(1846)*

N° 12 DECEMBER. Christmas

On the night of Epiphany
Young girls question the future.
Behind the portal they throw
The shoes that they take from their feet.
From V.Jukovski's poem "Svetlana" (1811)

*Verse adapted from the French by
Duncan Richards*

DUMKA, op.59

This work "Scenes of Russian country life", is dedicated to Marmontel, who was that time Professor at the Conservatoire de Paris. It was first performed by the pianist Blumenfeld on November 20, 1893, just after Tchaikowsky's death.

The composition of Dumka is built on a free rhapsodic form. It consists of various and contrasted sections inspired by images of the Russian landscape. After an extremely virtuosic cadenza, a dramatic climax leads to the finale, whose motif recalls the opening theme of the piece. The cyclic structure forms a frame for this evocation of Russian country life.

"SENTIMENTAL WALTZ", op.51 n° 6

This work is a charming example of the intimate music, that Tchaikowsky composed for the "salons". This wonderful piece is remarkable for its sincere tone and refined melancholy.

Irakly Avaliani est né à Tbilissi en Géorgie. Il commence ses études musicales à l'école Supérieure de Musique de Tbilissi et les poursuit au Conservatoire Tchaïkovski de Moscou. Après y avoir obtenu les plus hautes récompenses, il se perfectionne auprès d'Ethéry Djakeli qui l'initie à l'enseignement de Marie Jaëll et qui, pendant cinq ans, reconstruit entièrement sa technique pianistique.

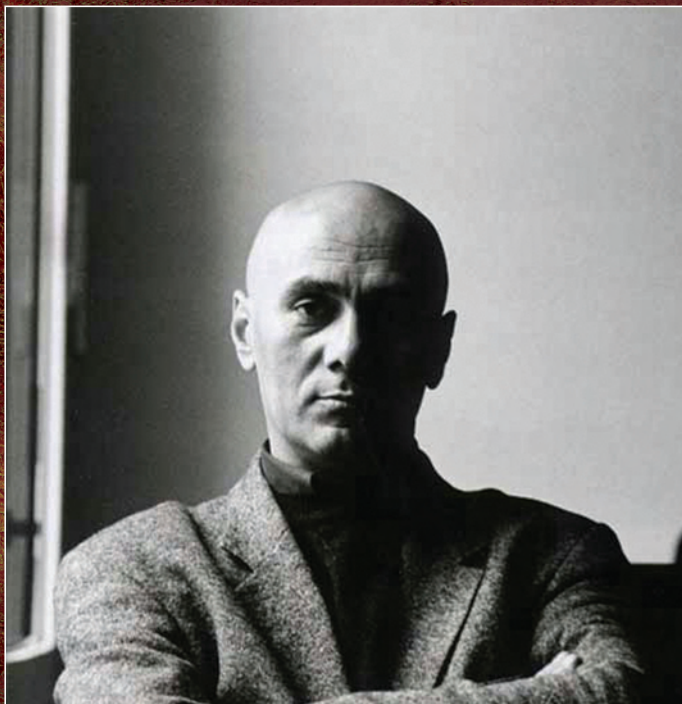
Aujourd'hui, il est un des rares pianistes à explorer cette voie, comme l'ont fait Albert Schweitzer, Dinu Lipatti, Eduardo Del Pueyo. Depuis 1989 Irakly Avaliani vit à Paris.

Irakly Avaliani was born in Tbilissi, Georgia. He began his musical studies at the Tbilissi High School of Music, then went on to Moscow Tchaikovsky conservatory. After winning the highest awards there, he continued his studies with Ethery Djakeli who introduced him to the work of Marie Jaëll and, over a period of five years, completely reconstructed his piano technique.

Today he is one of the few pianists to have explored this path, as did also Albert Schweitzer, Dinu Lipatti and Eduardo Del Pueyo. Irakly Avaliani has lived in Paris since 1989.

Irakly Avaliani wurde in Tiflis, Georgien geboren. Er began sein Musikstudium an der Musikhochschule in Tiflis. Er schloss sein Studium mit den höchsten Auszeichnungen am staatlichen Konservatorium Tchaikovsky in Moskau. Er beschloss dann, nach Georgien zurückzukehren und sich bei Ethery Djakely weiter zu bilden. Ethery Djakely führte ihn in Marie Jaëlls Lehre ein und stellte in fünf Jahren sein Spiel gänzlich um.

Er gehört heute zu den wenigen Pianisten, die, wie vor ihm Albert Schweitzer, Dinu Lipatti und Edouardo Del Pueyo, diesen Weg ausschöpfen. Seit 1989 ist Irakly Avaliani in Paris ansässig.



Irakly AVALIANI