

The newspaper "Voice of Slavonia" as of February 4, 2007

Article "The Evening That Will be Remembered for a Long Time to Come"

In the hands of the master even our old concert grand piano can briefly experience a return to youth. But do not be deceived that its strings will once again be able to withstand such a "return" ...

WHAT A PERFORMANCE!

The second part of the musical evening was special since it was a completely different repertoire, extremely serious and requiring from the pianist both technical and interpretative skills. The young artist Dmitry Vlasiuk from Minsk (Belarus) known for his concert performances in Europe, USA, China and Japan appeared before the audience from Osijek. He played two sonatas requiring a lot of skills from the artist and therefore rarely performed at concerts (when compared with the sonatas of other authors). They were Sonata No. 2 for Brahms' Fis-moll piano, opus No. 2 and Sonata No. 7 by Sergei Prokofiev in B-Dur, op. 83.

Irreproachable technique, virtuosity of the highest quality, the thoughtfulness of every tone in every slightest musical phrase - in short, it was fantastic! It was not a coincidence that sonatas of these two composers were chosen, they both have the same Beethoven technique of a large "smear" in common, and that is why the choice of the program for this evening seems so logical.

In addition to this, Vlasiuk also played Ravel's work "Gaspard de la nuit" using such a large palette of colors and dynamics that the public quite justifiably reacted to all this with the question, "Is he really playing our old piano that is already 30 years old and how does he make it sound this way?" But in the hands of a real master, even our old concert grand piano can briefly experience a return to the moments of its youth yet let us not be deceived - it is unlikely that it will be able to withstand many more such intense returns to youth.

"Gaspard de la nuit" sounded the right way: the late romantic long phrase was supplemented by impressionistic paints, and not as it usually happens by the forced impressions of Debussy which unnaturally "break" the musical phrases of Ravel. But still it seems incredible that the artist is a young man of 25 who has yet to experience real performing "maturation." And this fact seems incredible!

But the highest assessment was given in the end by the audience leaving the concert hall with the words: "Incredible! What a performance! Simply fantastic!"