CERTIFIED TRANSLATION FROM SERBIAN

Translation from Swedish

14 Katrineholm-Kurir, 10 July 2002 Culture/entertainment

The unsurpassable Sonja Radojkovic widely opened the door to a great maestro universe having performed certain sonatas of Beethoven.

The photo: Niklas Brandin
(the text under the photo)

THE UNSURPASSABLE PIANO CONCERT OF REMARKABLE MASTERSHIP

She came from Belgrade and Sarajevo where she was a teacher and taught the piano. The names themselves abound in dramatic quality and trigger everything except pleasant associations. A proverb travels around the world: Ars longa, vita brevis: Life is short, art is long-lasting.

By Holger Wigertz

Applied to the barbarism of modern times and despotic oppressions of culture, reflections emerge on the ability of culture to survive evil times. In the south undesirable books had been burnt on bonfires. But a new literature came to life from ashes and ruins. In the east Shostakovich survived, whose life was endangered by the tyrant who wanted to dictate everything.

In Serbia, Sonja Radojkovic is thought to be lucky to have survived. But for 12 years she was unable to travel to the west. Now she feels like a bird which has finally been let out of the cage. And her first visit was to Julita, of marvellous nature, where she met, as she has said, wonderfully self-disciplined people, for whom she will always want to come back.

In the preface to her CD an authority states that Sonja Radojkovic is a pianist uniting the best qualities: a volcanic temperament with a mild and sensitive soul. One can freely say that.

The Maestro's Universe

Now on the Julita concert, which was a big piano event, which is hard to surpass.

It began with the performance of Beethoven's sonatas, and it was almost a shock when she slammed the door of a great maestro. There was technical virtuosity which enabled the most sublime interpretation of details and mood. A scherzo, for example, should be played that way. Especially when we heard the famed "Apassionata" in such marvellous variations.

Can one be closer to perfection, the perfectionist interpretation of Beethoven?

The Hurricane and the Volcanic Eruption

The second part of the concert began with an A-minor sonata by Prokofiev, who had adjusted himself somewhat better than Shostakovich to the Tyrant's directive on the way of composing music. It was indeed a work of piercing power. It sounded as if a hurricane, a volcano, erupted from the music.

The soloist also enabled us to feel how her countryman composed folklore music. The composer M. Tajcevic lived until 1984 and the music in question was therefore modern, Seven Balkan Dances. They were performed in a dizzy rhythm, but in reality they were probably not so fast. The dances were the basic background for free compositions.

Otherwise Chopin dominated. So much that all that was performed encore was the work of the greatest one in piano music. A romantic, certainly, but even this was not a music of still waters. Anyway, something staying in the ears, that you go to sleep with. And - if any personal comment is allowed - the author is doing that every night.

Belgrade, 11 August 2002

That the translation is true to the original certified by
(signed) Mihajlo Spadijer
Court Interpreter for the Swedish Language

seal:
Mihajlo Spadijer, Court Interpreter for the Swedish Language for the District Court Area of Belgrade

- end of the translation -

I certify that this certificate which has been given to me in Serbian language has been correctly translated into English.

No. 2032/2002
Belgrade, 14 August 2002

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