

Schub's recording fascinating

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Music Critic

BRAHMS: *Variations on a Fugue and a Theme by Handel, Op.24.*

LISZT: *Grand Etudes de Paganini - No.2, No.6; Dante Sonata.* Andre-Michel Schub, piano. (Vox Cum Laude D-VCL 9009).

By a felicitous coincidence, the appearance of Andre-Michel Schub at McCain Auditorium follows closely the release of his first LP recording and, furthermore, one item on his recital program here is included on this recording (the *Dante Sonata*).

It is evident from his performance on the record that Mr. Schub is an exceptionally gifted pianist. His playing is characterized by a clarity of articulation and a crystalline tone. The performance of the Brahms *Handel Variations* allows him to display both a technique that makes light of all the demands of the music and also an attractive rhythmic crispness and a delicacy and lyricism that lacks only a sense of warmth and a feeling of spontaneity.

The Liszt works are all performed with plenty of fire and an exceptional clarity of tone and articulation. The listener has again to be dazzled by the fluid technique.

That Mr. Schub is a cerebral performer, rather than an emotional one, is testimony perhaps to the influence of his teacher, Rudolf Serkin.

The quality of Andre-Michel Schub's pianism is not well served by the all too usual shallow glitter of the digital sound.

But this is a fascinating release, that should serve well as keepsake of Tuesday's recital.

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