

ILYA KALER

Szymanowski: Violin Concertos Nos. 1 and 2 / Nocturne and Tarantella – Album Review

A wonderfully compelling disc from Ilya Kaler and Antoni Wit, in the sense that you never want to stop listening to it. Together they explore Szymanowski's fantasy world, with Kaler in particular relishing the melodic sweetness, and the sense of an exploration of a strange yet delightful terrain.

Edward Greenfield | Gramophone | July 2007

On the evidence of this disc Kaler is one of the most distinguished of Szymanowski players. His technique is cast iron, his tonal purity remains intact even in the most vertiginous demands made upon it, and he has a sure and cogent view of the manifold architectural difficulties facing the intrepid interpreter. The concertos make very different – but equally complex – demands on the player as they do indeed of the conductor. Fortunately Kaler has Antoni Wit and the Warsaw Philharmonic alongside. Together a compelling case is made for the concertos, one that easily surmounts questions of price bracket. This is first and foremost a formidably well-played and interpreted brace of performances.

Jonathan Woolf | MusicWeb International | May 2007