

FAZIL SAY (1970)  
**Paganini jazz**  
(arr. by Laura Puiu) 10.05

SERGIO CALLIGARIS (1941)  
**Parafrasi da concerto Op. 16**  
sul valzer del 1° atto del balletto  
“Il Lago dei Cigni” di Tchaikovsky 8.45

GEORGE GERSHWIN (1898-1937)  
**Rhapsody in Blue**  
(arr. by Henry Levine) 17.40

FAZIL SAY (1970)  
**Black Earth**  
(arr. by Laura Puiu) 7.12

LAURA & BEATRICE PUIU, piano

## **Hugs and kisses of embarrassing generosity**

Piano to four hands: exquisite performance in nineteenth-century, parlour expression as well as concerto-music, family affections that meet often - characterized - in repeated and expected educational essay, where admiration, emotion tears and the consents are above all if not exclusively by their parents and grandparents sitting in the first row. To whom the whole appears as a due intimate offer, as an embrace. Likeable homely. Nevertheless, only for the naives, the "four - handed" is a kind of poor relative of the stately and authoritative ones "two pianos" ) yet, here the fingers don't multiply themselves: they remain always no more than twenty ( that the great institutions have proposed and still propose with the brothers Kontarski, Canino-Ballista , the sisters Labèque...

Also in the pentagram shops, seldom if ever, they extend to "four-handed". So that the CD's outbound by the twins Laura & Beatrice Puiu comes out again as an exception: a golden occasion to enjoy an itinerary on a piano solo. Which flies above the "usual" (with all respect) performances of Dances and Waltz along fortunate, as well as the traditions which took advantage in the Central Europe, among the revered Brahms and Dvorák.

It's not enough, because here the two young concert artists, of Romanian origin, fascinated by the language of the by now mythical Turkish pianist-composer Fazil Say, are encouraged and applauded by him - to arrange two of his absolute masterpieces : Paganini jazz and Black earth. This means to recreate both , above arrant violinist themes and on unexpected rhythmic openings, melodic and harmonica, a range of instrumental surprises, never end to itself, on the contrary accomplice of unpublished works crossed of thoughts, poetry, meditation, of pure fun.

Almost a challenge.

Besides the cheerful virtuosities in the name of Fazil Say, the CD holds one of the most fascinating performance of the Argentinian Sergio Calligaris: the concert Paraphrase op. 16 on the Waltz from the 1° act of the Lake of swans by Tchaikovsky, given the first time in 1981 in the TV program 'Music desire' conceived and managed by Chigiana di Siena, from who writes this same note. Yes, exactly from Luigi Fait.

Enjoying now, here a collection of beats, full of enchanting theatricality, such to envision the two interpreters directly catapulted out of the black and severe Steinway, towards a coloured, fantastic stage, on which they are dancing, playing a part, smiling, even greeting us and kissing us with embarrassing generosity, before dedicating to the Rhapsody in blue (Aeolian Hall in New York, 1924) of George Gershwin, which, as most of us probably don't know, is the friendship testimony of the musician Brooklyn with the orchestra leader Paul Whiteman.

The last one had implored the composer not to write a piece in jazz style, so that in this way, such popular amusement would leave the ballrooms and the cabarets, to introduce it in the classical auditoriums, considered, rehearsed and introduced to the public, as it was used in this case of Bach, Mozart, Beethoven.

And, just here with the technical attentions, dynamics and agogics owed to the music goddess, the twins Puiu recreate the American masterpiece according to the fantastic arrangement signed up by Henry Levine.

I remember that in the first rows were seated, at the memorable concert of February 12 th 1924, some among the most famous musicians of that epoch, as: Heifetz, Kreisler, Stravinskij, Rachmaninov, Stokovski.

*Luigi Fait*

## **About the passages**

The Paraphrase of Tchaikovsky's Waltz "Lake of the Swans" has been discovered by us a short time ago and we have been attracted immediately by Calligaris' piano writing , for its freshness and the inciting distribution of the two parts on the whole keyboard. It is always exciting to live again the different "scenes" of the ballet, "to see" them to flow under our hands as true ballet dancers, with those smooth and flowing passages and the virtuosity , that give so much satisfaction to the fingers! We have played Gershwin's Rhapsody in blue for so many years, since we were children, during the studies in the Conservatoire.

We still remember the feeling that we tried listening to the first notes ....it was always electrifying to hear the initial trill, turning back in the time, at home, when we were six years old, sitting on the carpet in the parlour, listening electrified and concentrated the fascinating and strange sound of the clarinet produced by the record player.

You find yourselves to the service of a music, that keeps on changing, transforming itself at an astounding speed !

You have only to surrender to this star of the musical firmament.

Now, after so many years, we feel the rhapsody close to us.

"We look" at it as grandparents look at their grandchildren, with a smile and much pleasantness.

The compositions of Fazil Say are liberty! Liberty to play, to express ourselves , to communicate completely and unconditionally what the music suggests.

When you have done his music as your , you surprise yourself together with your fingers, to all your being, as if you were yourself anymore, as if you went out of yourself...

This is a music that speaks of us, of now and this moment, arriving directly and by force, involving all as an intoxicating perfume to which resistance cannot be opposed.

It tells about the Earth, of the earth of everyone of us , and of her ancient mysteries, about the human being, and about the life. Emotions turn into music with an intensity of harmonies and vibrations, that remain impressed in the soul!

Twins **Laura and Beatrice Puiu** are one of the most important Piano Duo of the International Musical panorama. They are very talented and expressive with a special gift for creative interpretation.

Born in Bucarest, now Italian citizens, they started learning piano at 4 at the Arts High School “G.Enescu, under the supervision of Master Alexandru Dumitrescu.

They were 9 years old when they win the International Competition “Città di Stresa”, continue the studies at the Conservatoire “G.Verdi” of Milan , where they graduated in 1999 under the supervision of Master C. Levi Minzi.

While studying at the Conservatoire they attended the International Piano Accademy “Incontri col Maestro” in Imola, where in 1997 they brilliantly graduated in Chamber Music under the supervision of Master Pier Narciso Masi.

They awards at many National and International Contests, effect radio and television recording for Rumania, Czech Republic, Poland and Japan.

Since they were young , besides an intense concert activity , they attend an important didactic activity , that sees her inventors of new and revolutionary methods of teaching, turned towards the first years of study and the preliminary studies of the Piano.

From 1999 to 2007, further to have been piano teachers, they were in charge of also the Responsible of Artistic Events and Responsible of Didactic at Academy of arts Discanto in Verona .

They promote, realize and organize numerous and important didactic, artistic and cultural activities as Festival, reviews, shows, conferences, meeting, work-shops of examination and formation, etc., turns to the cultural development of the territory.

From 2007 they are regular teachers of principal Piano at the Civic School in Verona - Sommacampagna.

In 2008 they founded the International Cultural Association of Music and Art SferMusic, that aims at developing, diffusing and increasing the knowledge of the classic music and generally of the culture , also through innovative and experimental channels.

Laura and Beatrice are engage in the search, in the extension and in the diffusion of the repertoire for piano duo , also through their own adaptations for 4 hands and 2 pianos, constant collaborating with artists of international fame.