

PENTATONE LIMITED

CREATING TIMELESS CLASSICS



Sit back and enjoy

PENTATONE

Creating timeless classics

Around the start of the new millennium, three music enthusiasts came together to launch a new music label that promised to redefine the way people listen to classical music.

Their vision was crystal clear: to offer an unrivalled classical music experience through superior audio technology.

The introduction of 5-channel surround sound which made this experience possible came at a time when classical music sales were

suffering. But PENTATONE's founders were unwilling to compromise their vision, so convinced were they of the new technology that they launched their own label in 2001.

After a somewhat rocky start, the label quickly began adding talented artists to its roster. Now, 13 years later, PENTATONE enjoys a reputation for excellence, its catalogue comprising some of the very best that classical music has to offer.

For all their diversity, the artists featured on PENTATONE have one thing in common. They all put their heart and soul into the music, drawing on every last drop of creativity, skill, and determination to perfect their compositions.

PENTATONE exists to extract everything that went into creating these timeless classics and put it before the listener with a resolution and crispness not found anywhere else.

We don't dabble in technology for technology's sake – we believe it's the only way to truly appreciate these great works of art.

As we celebrate 13 years of PENTATONE and prepare for a changing of the guard, it is time to reflect on our achievements and look toward the future.

This release – the first to feature the label's new visual identity – marks the start of a new chapter in PENTATONE's history.

Robert Schumann

Waldszenen, Op. 82

1. Eintritt 1.58
2. Jäger auf der Lauer 1.32
3. Einsame Blumen 2.11

Martin Helmchen, piano

Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Symphony No. 4 in F minor, Op. 36

4. Scherzo – Pizzicato ostinato: Allegro 5.20

Russian National Orchestra

Concert Master: Alexei Bruni

Conducted by Mikhail Pletnev

Johann Sebastian Bach

Concerto in C minor, BWV 1060 For oboe, violin, strings and continuo

5. Adagio 5.43

Vesko Eschkenazy, violin

Alexei Ogrintchouk, oboe

Concertgebouw Chamber Orchestra

Arcangelo Corelli

Concerto da chiesa in D, Op. 6 no 4

6. Allegro 3.13

The Chamber Orchestra of The New Dutch Academy

Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy

Piano Trio No. 1 in D minor, Op. 49

7. Scherzo – Leggiero e vivace 3.32

Julia Fischer, violin

Jonathan Gilad, piano

Daniel Müller-Schott, cello

Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Symphony No. 2 in C Minor, Op. 17

“Little Russian”

8. Andantino marziale, Quasi moderato 6.22

Russian National Orchestra

Conducted by Mikhail Pletnev

Ludwig van Beethoven

Piano Sonata No.21 in C, Op. 53 "Waldstein"

9. Rondo (Allegretto moderato – Prestissimo) 9.29
Mari Kodama, piano

Erich Wolfgang Korngold

Violin Concerto in D, Op. 35

10. Finale – Allegro assai vivace 7.39
Arabella Steinbacher, violin
Orquestra Gulbenkian
Conducted by Lawrence Foster

Howard Blake

Clarinet Concerto, Op. 329a

For Clarinet and Chamber Orchestra

11. Round Dance – Vivace (Intenso, molto ritmico) 6.14
Andrew Marriner, clarinet
Academy of St. Martin in the Fields
Conducted by Sir Neville Marriner

Sergei Rachmaninov

Morceaux de Fantaisie, Op. 3 (Fantasy Pieces)

12. Prelude Op. 3 No. 2 in C-sharp minor 3.54
Nareh Arghamanyan, piano

Franz Schubert

Piano Quintet in A, Op. posth. 114 – D. 667

Forellenquintett – Trout Quintet

13. Andante 6.52
Martin Helmchen, piano
Christian Tetzlaff, violin
Antoine Tamestit, viola
Marie-Elisabeth Hecker, cello
Alois Posch, double bass

Dmitri Shostakovich

Symphony No. 1 in F minor, Op. 10

14. Allegro 5.12
Russian National Orchestra
Concert Master: Sergey Galaktionov
Conducted by Vladimir Jurowski

Camille Saint-Saëns

Symphony No. 2 in A minor, Op. 55 (1859)

15. Adagio

Orchestre de la Suisse Romande

Conducted by Marek Janowski

3.15

Compilation by Dirk van Dijk

Total playing time: 72.53

Producers and Engineers

Executive Producers

Maja Ellmenreich (Deutschlandfunk), Stefan Lang, Job Maarse,
Rick Walker, Wolf Werth

Recording Producers

Wilhelm Hellweg, Andrew Keener, Job Maarse, Everett Porter,
Carl Schuurbiers, Sebastian Stein

Balance Engineers

Jean-Marie Geijsen, Erdo Groot, Everett Porter

Recording Engineers

Jean-Marie Geijsen, Ientje Mooij, Everett Porter, Roger de Schot,
Sebastian Stein

Editing

Nora Brandenburg, Holger Busse, Jean-Marie Geijsen, Erdo Groot,
Alfredo Lasheras Hakobian, Jonas Häger, Everett Porter, Roger de Schot,
Carl Schuurbiers, Sebastian Stein

The better the sound, the more you feel

Music is powerful. It can be a source of happiness, of comfort, of inspiration. And when it strikes the right chords, it can unlock feelings and memories that lie hidden deep inside us – sometimes even overcoming us with emotion.

The power of music lies in its ability to move us. To make us *feel*. That is why we at PENTATONE love music. And why we care so much about *sound*. Because ultimately, sound quality is what determines our

musical enjoyment and the resulting intensity of emotion.

That is why we extend to you, as a music lover, an invitation to listen closely and to *retune your ears*.

PENTATONE is about providing the best possible audio quality to accompany whatever you happen to be doing – whether you're at home, at work, or on the move – because our feelings tend to follow us, whatever we do, wherever we go.

We offer a range of high-quality audio formats and download-files for use with different players. So there's always an option that is right for you and fits your budget.

Above all, we're convinced that once you've had a 'taste' of high-quality audio, you'll never want to go back. But if you still have doubts, all we can say is: *Retune your ears!*

Artist Impressions

What was **Arabella Steinbacher's** funniest experience on stage?

How did **Mari Kodama's** road to classical music begin?

How does **Nareh Arghamanyan** prepare for her performances?

To give you an impression of the three artists presented on this album, we asked them to share with us something about their life in music.



Photography by freshu

“I had quite a funny experience in Vienna’s Musikverein when I performed the Korngold concerto. The stage of the Musikverein is not very big and while I was playing one of the wilder passages in the piece, I accidentally kicked the concertmaster’s music stand over, causing his part to fly all over the place. But we continued to play, despite a good bit of laughing.”

Arabella Steinbacher

“My cradle was next to my mother’s piano, where she had students from the morning until the evening, so that playing the piano appeared to me as the most natural occupation one possibly could have. In fact, I thought everybody in the world played piano. My very first experience of a live concert was a recital by Bruno Leonardo Gelber, when he came to play in Osaka. It was amazing to see how a single person could transport his audience to a different world using just one instrument. It made a strong impression on me as a four-year-old and it was a moment that has stayed with me vividly to this day.”

Mari Kodama



Photography by Vincent Garnier



Photography by Julia Wesely

“Every new performance is a new journey for me – a life journey in the composer’s footsteps. I not only have to follow these footsteps, but also must draw my listeners into the world created by the composer.”

Nareh Arghamanyan

Korngold and Bruch - Violin Concertos
Chausson - Poème for Violin and
Orchestra
Arabella Steinbacher - Violin
PTC 5186 503

**"There is no doubting
Steinbacher's refulgent
sound or the flair of her
delivery."**

BBC Music Magazine

Sergei Rachmaninov Piano Pieces
Nareh Arghamanyan - Piano
PTC 5186 399

**"Arghamanyan's own
booklet notes discuss her
responses to the music in
eloquent, articulate, and
refreshingly non-indulgent
prose. A terrific release in
every way."**

Classics Today

The Barber of Neville
Andrew Marriner - Clarinet
Academy of St. Martin in the Fields
conducted by Sir Neville Marriner
PTC 5186 506

**"What a joyful 68 minutes
it is! [...] It's not so
ridiculous to say that this
very entertaining music
can fill a place much like
the divertimenti and
serenades of Mozart's
time, and fill it very
well. I was thoroughly
delighted."**

SA-CD.net

Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4
Russian National Orchestra
conducted by Mikhail Pletnev
PTC 5186 384

"From the start to the final tragic ending, this is a dramatic, lovingly crafted and insightful performance by musicians who seem to feel the music as well as understand it."

The Washington Post

Franz Schubert's Trout Quintet
Martin Helmchen - Piano
PTC 5186 334

"This has got to be one of the most shapely, elegant, and effortlessly flowing versions ever committed to disc. [...] You'll love it."

Classics Today

Mendelssohn's Piano trio
Julia Fischer - Violin
PTC 5186 085

"Here's a starry line-up who really know how to play chamber music. There is something awfully exciting about seeing, or rather hearing, three leading talents of the younger generation joining forces [...] An urgent, questing disc."

Gramophone - Editor's choice

"This new recording is irresistible, with the three players caught in a wholly natural ambience. It's always a good sign when you don't want to stop playing a disc long enough to write about it."

Gramophone

www.pentatonemusic.com