Rachmaninoff’s *Symphonic Dances*
and Its Premiere by the Philadelphia Orchestra
Celebrating the Rediscovery of a Historic Recording

January 31\textsuperscript{st}, 2020
Class of 1978 Orrery Pavilion
Van Pelt-Dietrich Library Center

www.library.upenn.edu/about/exhibits-events/rachmaninoff
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5:30 PM — Reception on the Moelis Terrace
(Kislak Center)

6:30 PM — Program*

**Welcome**
Constantia Constantinou

**Conversation**
Matías Tarnopolsky interviews Yannick Nézet-Séguin about *Symphonic Dances*

**Rachmaninoff’s Recording**
Jay Reise, introduction
Ward Marston

**Performance of Symphonic Dances, op. 45 (1940)**
Marcantonio Barone and Andrew Hauze, pianos

*The program will proceed without intermission.*
Biographies

Constantia Constantinou is the H. Carton Rogers III Vice Provost and Director of the Penn Libraries. She is a global leader in integrating the work of a large university library system with the wider academic mission of a university. Before coming to Penn, Constantinou was Dean of University Libraries and SUNY Distinguished Librarian at SUNY–Stony Brook for five years, and before that was the director of the Luce Library at SUNY–Maritime College for twelve years.

Matías Tarnopolsky was appointed president and chief executive officer of the Philadelphia Orchestra Association in April 2018, assuming the role that August. Tarnopolsky came to Philadelphia from Cal Performances, at the University of California, Berkeley, where he was executive and artistic director since 2009. Cal Performances presents the world’s leading orchestras, ensembles, and musicians in multifaceted residencies. He previously served as vice president of artistic planning for the New York Philharmonic, Senior director of artistic planning for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, and producer for the BBC Symphony Orchestra and BBC Singers.

Yannick Nézet-Séguin has been music director of the Philadelphia Orchestra since 2012 and artistic director and principal conductor of Montreal’s Orchestre Métropolitain since 2000. In September 2018, he became music director of the Metropolitan Opera in New York. He is also honorary conductor of the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra, having been its music director from 2008 to 2018. Maestro Nézet-Séguin has worked with many leading European ensembles and enjoys close collaborations with the Berlin and Vienna Philharmonics, Munich’s Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, and the Chamber Orchestra of Europe. He has also conducted critically acclaimed performances at many of the world’s leading opera houses.

Award-winning composer Jay Reise, University of Pennsylvania professor emeritus of music composition, wrote both the music and libretto for his opera Rasputin, which was commissioned by the late Beverly Sills and premiered by the New York City Opera in 1988. The work was described in the Washington Times as “a spellbinding, challenging and profoundly beautiful creation.” Rasputin was given its Russian premiere in in 2008 by the Helikon Opera and has been performed by them over the last ten years in Moscow, Estonia (Saaremaa Opera Festival), and Paris (Opéra de Massy). He recently completed “Three Capone Portraits” for orchestra based on material from his opera-in-progress Al Capone and Family.
Ward Marston is a renowned producer, recording engineer, and jazz pianist. Born blind in 1952, music has been a central part of his life and career. He studied classical piano and organ and played jazz piano throughout his life, including a performance with a jazz orchestra at the White House. He became well known as a reissue producer in 1979, when he restored the earliest known stereo recording, made by the Bell Telephone Laboratories in 1932. He has won a Grammy Award, a Grammy nomination, and the Gramophone Magazine Award for Historical Vocal Record of the Year.

American pianist Marcantonio Barone has given solo recitals in New York, Washington, Philadelphia, London, Moscow, and St. Petersburg. In the 1980s and ’90s, he frequently performed as soloist with major orchestras, in collaboration with such conductors as Antonio de Almeida, Sergiu Commissiona, Leon Fleisher, Arthur Fiedler, Sir Simon Rattle, Barry Tuckwell, and Vladimir Ziva. Barone has given the world premieres of works for piano by Ingrid Arauco, Richard Brodhead, David Finko, Ulysses Kay, Gerald Levinson, Philip Maneval, George Rochberg, Andrew Rudin, and Melinda Wagner. He studied with Eleanor Sokoloff at the Curtis Institute of Music and with Leon Fleisher at the Peabody Conservatory of Music. He teaches at the Bryn Mawr Conservatory of Music and Swarthmore College.

A conductor, pianist, and organist, Andrew Hauze has taught at Swarthmore College since 2006, where he directs the College Orchestra and Wind Ensemble and teaches classes in musicianship, conducting, and orchestration. Since 2014, he has also served as the music director of the Delaware County Youth Orchestra. An alumnus of the Curtis Institute of Music and Swarthmore College, Hauze is also a Fellow of the American Guild of Organists.

Penn Libraries is pleased to present this program, which grew out of a collaboration between library staff and Jay Reise, Ward Marston, and Scott Kessler. The original recording of Rachmaninoff playing the Symphonic Dances is preserved in the Ormandy Collection, Ms. Coll. 440, no. 98, held in the Kislak Center at the Penn Libraries.

For more information on Ward Marston’s restored version of the recording, see the Marston Records website:
www.marstonrecords.com/collections/piano/products/rachmaninoff

Cover image: Sergei Rachmaninoff at piano and Eugene Ormandy.
Photo courtesy of the Adrian Siegel Collection/
Philadelphia Orchestra Archives