

When the British newspaper *The Daily Telegraph* reports that the St. Petersburg-born pianist Yevgeny Sudbin is 'potentially one of the greatest pianists of the 21<sup>st</sup> century', then, given the quality of his BIS recordings to date and as far as the critics are concerned, they could have saved the word 'potentially'! -

KLASSIK-HEUTE.DE \*10/10\* Peter Cosse



#### INTERNATIONAL RECORD REVIEW

December 2009

"I was fortunate to hear Yevgeny Sudbin performing Scriabin's Piano Concerto at the Festival Hall last month and it amply confirmed what has been so evident from his recordings. He is a consummate musician with phenomenal technical prowess, especially distinguished for his range of tone and rich *cantabile* playing. At the age of 30, Sudbin has already reached the top of his profession without having had the recourse to the competition circuit. His releases have often provided a fascinating mix of well-known works with neglected ones...Sudbin follows the dynamic markings and allows the music to breathe between phrases, and what emerges is a much more lyrical work, one that benefits enormously from Sudbin's stunning variety of sonority...Similar intelligence and passion shine forth in Sudbin's own programme notes, which are ardent in support of these works...The disc ends with Sudbin's own transcription of Rachmaninov's 'Floods of Spring', a breathtaking *tour de force*, providing further confirmation of an extraordinary talent. – Nicholas Salwey

#### PIANO

February 2010

"...and the devotion to the big *cadenza* in [Medtner's 1. Piano Concerto] is unquestionably a piano art of grandest proportions! It becomes clear what makes Sudbin an exceptional pianist: the synthesis of his deep lyricism and inner transparency as well as a limitless pianistic brilliance...this recording is a discovery voyage one mustn't miss. – C. Durer (translated from German) songfulness...there is never a dull moment on this disc." – Bayan Northcott

#### THE TELEGRAPH

23 November 2009 \*CD of the Week\* \*\*\*\*\*

"With Yevgeny Sudbin's scintillating interpretation of Scriabin's Piano Concerto still resonating in the memory after his London performance of it last month, this CD brings together two other works that are comparative rarities. It is a huge asset to have a pianist of Sudbin's stature and sensitivity championing music that can lie unpardonably overlooked by the wayside, and this disc couples a pair of works that complement one another perfectly... There are occasions on which one feels the composer was right to rethink aspects of texture and balance, but Sudbin's compelling performance, in tandem with the North Carolina Symphony, gives new life to a version that, if you can put the familiar one out of your head, has a breadth and passionate dynamism all its own. – Geoffrey Norris

#### CLASSIC FM MAGAZINE

January 2010 \*Editor's Choice\* \*\*\*\*\*

#### "Russian Fireworks"

Yevgeny Sudbin continues Russia's tradition of producing exceptional pianists with a thrilling recording of concertos by his compatriots...This is a glorious recording." – Jeremy Nicholas

#### BBC MUSIC MAGAZINE

January 2010 \*Music Choice\* \*\*\*\*\*

#### "Romantic Epics"

...this may be the first recording by a pianist who outright believes in it. The remarkable Yevgeny Sudbin, in a passionately-argued liner note, thinks Rachmaninov 'should have stuck to his guns' [with the original version]...If his exhilarating, barnstorming, spine-tingling performance still doesn't quite convince...he manages to show it is a very different, altogether wilder conception than the tidied-up 1941 revision...Sudbin's pianism comes into its own in a breathtaking encore, his own solo transcription of 'Spring Waters'." – Calum McDonald

#### AUDIOPHILE AUDITION

December 24, 2009

Sudbin is one of the most exciting of the younger Russian pianists, and this new recording encores his SACD of the Medtner Concerto No. 1 which he did earlier for BIS. - John Sunier  
"This is a CD to be heard and marveled at..." - James H. North

#### MUSICWEB INTERNATIONAL

January 2010

"...his fame is spreading very swiftly. Both his playing and the liner-notes that he wrote for this issue show us a brilliant musician with a very perceptive and intelligent mind. His playing is healthy and lean: not for him the excesses that Volodos or Lang-Lang seem to enjoy so much. He lets the composer speak with his natural voice. At the same time, there is no limit to his technical prowess and his range of dynamic shading is very impressive and immensely poetic. A great career in the making." - Siebe Riedstra