



Frokostkoncert i Kantine 4, Syddansk Universitet i Odense
kl. 12:00 - 13:00 torsdag den 12. april 2012



JANUS ARAGHIPOUR

Piano

PROGRAM

Program:

C. Debussy (1862 – 1918)

Études (1915), Prèmier Livre (25 min)

Étude 1 pour les cinq doigts d'après Monsieur Czerny

Étude 2 pour les tierces

Étude 3 pour les quartes

Étude 4 pour les sixtes

Étude 5 pour les octaves

Étude 6 pour les huit doigts

F. Liszt (1811 – 1886)

From *Années de Pèlerinage*, Italie (20 min)

Après une lecture de Dante: Fantasia Quasi Sonata (1849)

PROGRAM NOTES

Janus refers us to two online sources for information about today's program:

<http://pianosociety.com/cms/index.php?section=156>

Together with the Chopin and Liszt etudes, the 12 Etudes of Debussy, composed in 1915, belong to the absolute top of the Etude repertoire. Besides being musical tone poems, with moods varying from tenderly introspective to ferocious, these Etudes deal with a variety of technical problems like scales, arpeggios, thirds, quarts, sixths, and so on. Debussy was very aware these pieces were to occupy a place of their own, and gleefully intended them as 'a warning to pianists not to take up the musical profession unless they have remarkable hands'.

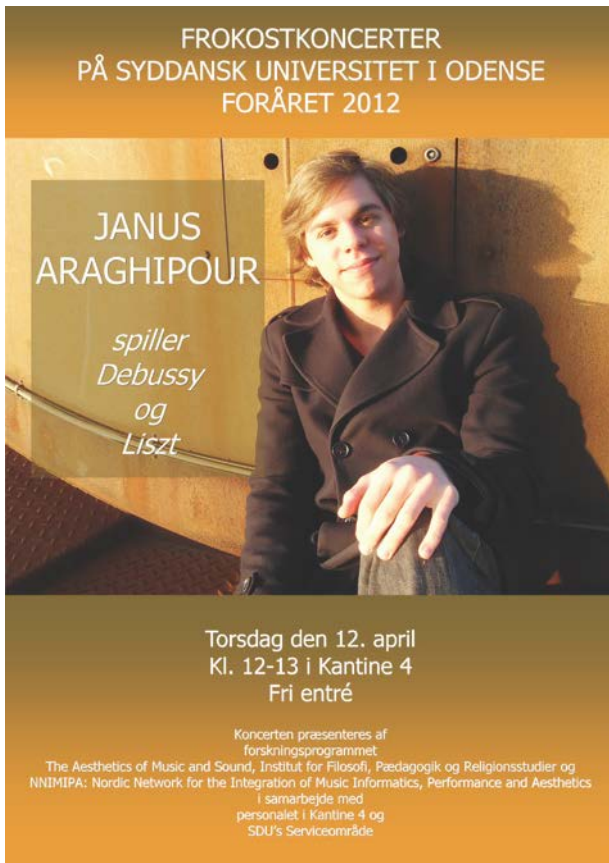
Indeed the unusual combination of musical and technical problems make these Etudes, which are fittingly dedicated to the memory of Frédéric Chopin, the realm of the greatest of pianists only.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dante_Sonata

Après une Lecture de Dante: Fantasia quasi Sonata (French for *After a Reading of Dante: Fantasia quasi Sonata*; also **Dante Sonata**) is a piano sonata in one movement, completed by Hungarian composer Franz Liszt in 1849. It was first published in 1856 as part of the second volume of *Années de Pèlerinage* (Years of Pilgrimage). This work of program music was inspired by the reading of Dante Alighieri's most famous epic poem, *The Divine Comedy*. It is considered to be one of the most difficult pieces in the standard repertoire.

Called "the crowning achievement" of the group and "one of Liszt's more formidable compositions".

The *Dante Sonata* was originally a small piece entitled *Fragment after Dante*, divided into two thematically related movements, which Liszt composed in the late 1830s.[3] He gave the first public performance in Vienna, during November 1839.[4] When he settled in Weimar in 1849, he revised the work along with others in the volume, and gave it its present title derived from Victor Hugo's own work entitled the same.[5] It was published in 1858 as part of *Years of Pilgrimage*.



Janus Høgfeldt Araghipour (f. 1990) began to play the piano at nine years of age and played his first concert – at *Messiaskirken* in Copenhagen – after having played for only four months. In 2000 he began studying with Judit Szankowska. Their focused and goal-oriented work together from 2001 to 2006 resulted in many prizes and noteworthy events in Janus' career culminating in 2006-2007, when Janus was awarded the prestigious gold medal in the classical music competition sponsored by the national Danish newspaper *Berlingske Tidende* (*Berlingske Tidendes* Klassiske Musikkonkurrence), Jacob Gade's *Talentlegat* in the amount of 45,000 Danish Crowns, as well as the title *Verdensborger i Danmark 2007* ("Citizen of the World in Denmark 2007"). After a successful concert tour in Hungary, Janus continued his piano studies with Docent Amalie Malling at the Royal Danish Academy of Music. Even though he was still a student in the first year of his *gymnasium* (high school) education, in 2007 Janus decided to seek admission to conservatory. He was admitted to *Det Fynske Musikkonservatorium* (Carl Nielsen Academy of Music, now renamed The Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts, Southern Denmark (AMDA), beginning his studies in 2008. This marked the beginning of an intensive course of study with Docent Christina Bjørkøe and concert pianist Julian Thurber, Copenhagen. The situation with two piano teachers is atypical, but very rewarding, and Janus is resolutely pursuing his goal of becoming an internationally known concert pianist. Janus has been awarded the Bachelor of Fine Arts from AMDA and is currently enrolled in the Master's Program in Performance there.

Almost two years have passed since Janus helped to launch the Lunchtime Concert Series here at SDU, when he played a program April 29, 2010 on the occasion of *Dansens Dage 2010* ("Days of Dance 2010"). Today's concert is the 17th concert within this series, and the fifth one in which Janus has participated as a performer.

It is a pleasure for the personnel in Cafeteria 4, SDU's Service Department and the research program *The Aesthetics of Music and Sound* at the Institute of Philosophy, Education and the Study of Religions (IFPR) together with NNIMIPA: *Nordic Network for the Integration of Music Informatics, Performance and Aesthetics* to present today's Lunchtime Concert with Janus Araghipour. It is just one of the many activities related to music research involving practicing musicians from the conservatory milieu in Odense and Esbjerg and researchers and students from SDU, where conservatory and university have been able to meet and enrich each other's areas of interest under the sponsorship of NTSMB: *Netværk for Tværvideenskabelige Studier af Musik og Betydning/Network for Cross-Disciplinary Studies of Music and Meaning* www.ntsmb.dk; NNIMIPA: *Nordic Network for the Integration of Music Informatics, Performance and Aesthetics* www.nnimipa.org; and the IFPR research program *The Aesthetics of Music and Sound* www.soundmusicresearch.org.

We hope that you enjoy today's concert and that you will watch <http://www.soundmusicresearch.org/Events.html> for news, details and updates regarding upcoming activities during the year. The next Lunchtime Concert will take place in Cafeteria 4, 12 noon to 1 p.m. on May 3 and features the piano quartet PAÏAN with Peter Andreas Nielsen, violin; Josefine Weber Hansen, viola; Josefine Opsahl, cello; og Matias Vestergård Hansen, piano.

Jane Bonne and Carsten Sjødahl on behalf of the personnel in Cafeteria 4

Leif Jensen on behalf of SDU's Service Department

Cynthia M. Grund on behalf of The Aesthetics of Music and Sound www.soundmusicresearch.org and NNIMIPA: *Nordic Network for the Integration of Music Informatics, Performance and Aesthetics* www.nnimipa.org.



Seminars in the series *Topics in the Aesthetics of Music and Sound* are held every Thursday 2:15 p.m. – 4 p.m. in U73 through and including May 3. Please see <http://www.soundmusicresearch.org/seminarsspring2012.html> Today's seminar features **Janus Araghipour**: In an informal discussion with examples demonstrated at the Steinway,

Janus Araghipour provides insight into aspects of preparing the repertoire which he performed at today's Lunchtime Concert in Cafeteria 4 to mark the 150th anniversary year of Debussy's birth.