



artists: Antonio Meneses, cello
 Claudio Cruz, Royal Northern Sinfonia

title: Saint-Saëns Cello Concerto No. 1
 Schumann Cello Concerto
 Tchaikovsky Variations on a Rococo Theme

price: Full price

release date: 18 August 2017

selection number: AV 2373

bar code: 822252237320

about the release

In celebration of the 35th anniversary of winning First Prize and the Gold Medal at the International Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, as well as his 60th birthday in August, **Antonio Meneses** adds to his distinguished discography with three works with orchestra he has not

previously recorded: Schumann’s *Cello Concerto in A minor*, Saint-Saëns’ *Cello Concerto No. 1*, and Tchaikovsky’s *Variations on a Rococo Theme*. Early, seminal recordings with Herbert von Karajan led to further, phenomenal success and recognition of Antonio’s beguiling combination of virtuoso élan and thoughtful introspection. His tenth recording for AVIE, these first concertante recordings form a vital part of his series for the label that includes several cornerstones of the cello repertoire, including Bach’s Six Cello Suites, the complete cello music by Beethoven (with pianist Menahem Pressler), the two Haydn concertos, and the Grammy-nominated pairing of concertos by Hans Gál and Edward Elgar for which he was joined by Claudio Cruz and the Royal Northern Sinfonia, as he is on this new release.

critical acclaim for Antonio Meneses

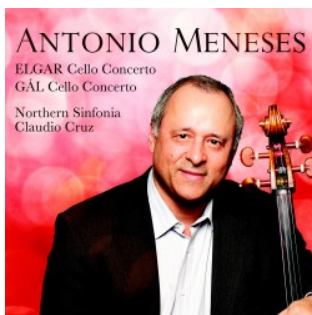
“His many facets as a musician have been emblazoned across his commanding recording of the Bach Suites and the poetic phrasing in his Haydn ... he manages to maintain a thoughtful elegance and unfussy control that brings out the innate beauty of the music at the same time as displaying the multifarious elements of his own artistry.” – *Gramophone*

“Antonio Meneses is truly the *bel canto* hero of the cello world: no matter how virtuosic or gnarly the music, he sings it with a sonorous beauty of tone and uncompromised resonance only achieved by a chosen few.” – *BBC Music Magazine*

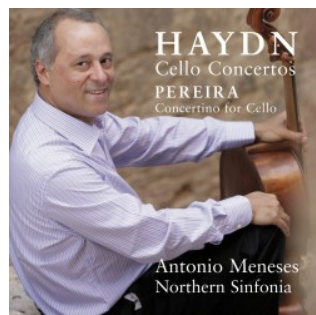
summary

Antonio Meneses celebrates the 35th anniversary of winning First Prize and the Gold Medal at the International Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, as well as his 60th birthday in August, with his first recordings of three cornerstones of the cello concertante repertoire: Schumann’s *Cello Concerto in A minor*, Saint-Saëns’ *Cello Concerto No. 1*, and Tchaikovsky’s *Variations on a Rococo Theme*.

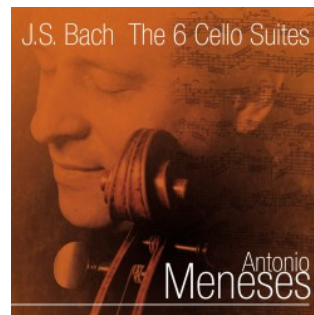
also available



Edward Elgar, Hans Gál
 Cello Concertos
 AV 2237



Haydn Cello Concertos
 Pereira Concertino for Cello
 AV 2176



J. S. Bach Six Suites for
 Solo Cello
 AV 0052 (2 CDs)

tracklist

Robert Schumann (1810 – 1856)

Cello Concerto in A minor, Op. 129

1. I. Nicht schnell (11.13)

2. II. Langsam (3.54)

3. III. Sehr lebhaft (7.36)

Camille Saint-Saëns (1835 – 1921)

Cello Concerto No. 1 in A minor, Op. 33

4. Allegro non troppo – (5.35)

5. Allegretto con moto – (4.49)

6. Allegro non troppo (8.41)

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840 – 1893)

Variations on a Rococo Theme, Op. 33

7. Introduction: Moderato quasi andante – Thema: Moderato semplice – (2.28)

8. Variation I: Tempo della thema – (0.51)

9. Variation II: Tempo della thema – (1.13)

10. Variation III: Andante sostenuto – (3.34)

11. Variation IV: Andante grazioso – Un poco animato – (1.57)

12. Variation V: Allegro moderato – Cadenza – (3.22)

13. Variation VI: Andante – (2.21)

14. Variation VII & Coda: Allegro vivo (2.21)

Total time: 60.29

Recording: 3–4 January 2017, Hall One, Sage Gateshead, England

Producer, balance engineer and editing: Simon Fox-Gál

MARKETING AND PROMOTION

media targets

Classical, Strings

advertising

Print: Gramophone, BBC Music Magazine

Online: Facebook, Twitter

digital

Spotify playlisting

features

Classical Music magazine, August 2017

reviews

Magazines: Gramophone, BBC Music Magazine, Listen, Fanfare, American Record Guide, Strings, The Strad

Newspapers: Sunday Times, Financial Times, Daily Telegraph, Guardian, Observer

airplay

BBC Radio 3 – Record Review; Classic FM (target Album of the Week); NPR

key territories

Brazil, Japan, Switzerland, UK, USA

listening link

<https://soundcloud.com/usicompanyinternationaltd/sets/antonio-meneses-schumann-saint-saens-and-tchaikovsky>

lead / instant grat tracks

Track 3 – Schumann Cello Concerto: III. Sehr lebhaft

Track 4 – Saint-Saëns Cello Concerto No. 1: I. Allegro non troppo

Track 14 – Tchaikovsky Variations on a Rococo Theme: Variation VII & Coda: Allegro vivo

social media

Antonio Meneses: Facebook – 285; Twitter – 1,075

AVIE Records: Facebook – 800; Twitter – 1,415

independent pr

n/a