EAST-WEST
Chamber Orchestra
ROSTISLAV KRIMER
MUSIC & ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



WE BUILD BRIDGES

EAST-WEST CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

The-Orchestra-For-Peace

Music & Artistic Director
Rostislav Krimer

Honorary Members – Curatorium:

Sofia Gubaidulina, Evgeny Kissin, Erkki-Sven Tüür, John Axelrod, Mihai Constantinescu, Julian Rachlin among others.

Soloists from more than 20 Countries are united in the Orchestra-For-Peace.

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Austria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Australia, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, China, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, France, Georgia, Germany, Great Britain, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, Ukraine, USA.

Nomination
OPUS KLASSIK
NOMINEE

★★★★★

Erik Levi
BBC Music Magazine, October 2021

CLASSICSTODAY.COM 9/9

David Hurwitz
ClassicsToday.com, December 2021

MusicWeb INTERNATIONAL
RECORDING OF THE MONTH

★★★★★

Jérémie Cahen
Classica, February 2022

"...Their virtuosity is a given, but musicianship goes much more deeply, in feeling, sensitivity and concentration. It is difficult to think these performances will be surpassed..."
Michael Wilkinson, **MusicWeb International**

The East-West Chamber Orchestra translates the poignant emotions expressed by the composer with infinite respect, and perhaps goes a step further than the Kremerata Baltica and Gidon Kremer in conveying this dramatic and touching message."
– **Crescendo Magazine**

…Rostislav Krimer has a fine instinct for both works, finding nuances and idiomatic expressive shades that are as persuasive in their way as the marginally more solid Kremerata Baltica.
– **Gramophone**

"Unique sound, phrase, brilliant forte and dazzled, almost as a breath, pianissimo, perfect ensemble..."
– **"Culture Magazine", Bulgaria**

"The East-West Chamber Orchestra is excellent..."
– **Paul Badura-Skoda**

★★★★★

Norman Lebrecht
'Lebrecht Album of the Week'
Slippedisc,, MyScena, Scherzo January 2022

"I wish to the East-West Chamber Orchestra great future..."
– **Frank-Walter Steinmeier**
The President of the Federal Republic of Germany –

"I wish to congratulate you on this projects and events, which are highly commendable and make an important contribution to intercultural dialogue..." – **Michael Møller**
The Director - General of the United Nations Office at Geneva –

Member ot the International Artist Managers' Assosiation

WE BUILD BRIDGES.

The Orchestra-For-Peace East-West Chamber Orchestra brings together outstanding performers in their own right – winners of the most prestigious competitions worldwide, including the Tchaikovsky, ARD, Queen Elisabeth, Long-Thibaud, Paganini and concertmasters and leaders of renowned orchestras, who hold in their hands most rare instruments including Stradivari, Guarneri-del-Gesu, Guadagnini and Goffriller. This rare combination gives the East-West Chamber Orchestra its distinguished sound.

Residing in the Beethoven-City Bonn in Germany it was founded by Rostislav Krimer in 2015 and was until 2022 an orchestra-in-residence of the Yuri Bashmet International Music Festival. The Orchestra understands itself as an ambassador for transnational collaboration, peace and cultural interaction across Europe and beyond. Since 2023 it is the orchestra-in-residence at the own East-West-Festival in Germany.

The East-West Chamber Orchestra include best soloists from Germany, Italy, France, Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Spain, Croatia, UK, USA as well as Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Ukraine, Russia, Moldova, Israel, Japan, China, Turkey, Australia and many others in order to strengthen the bonds and cultural co-operations between Eastern- and Western Europe and all over the world.

East-West Chamber Orchestra takes part regularly in charity events for children, collecting funds for medical equipment in hospitals, working closely with UNICEF and since 2023 with Save The Children. It was the first orchestra in the history to play by Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople, who admitted the work of the orchestra as Ambassador of Peace.

Patrons of the orchestra include such great names as Sofia Gubaidulina, Evgeny Kissin, Erkki-Sven Tüür, Julian Rachlin, John Axelrod, Mihai Constantinescu among others.

The East-West Chamber Orchestra is an active promoter of contemporary music and new repertoire. Recently, the releases of M. Weinberg all 4 Chamber Symphonies by Naxos collected best critics from all over the world as well as was nominated among others for International Classical Music Awards and Opus Klassik. EWCO also committed pieces by renowned composers for world premieres. So, one of the most famous composers of today Erkki-Sven Tüür has written and dedicated his piece for piano and strings "Leaving behind..." to Rostislav Krimer and East-West Chamber Orchestra and it will be premiered in 2024. Their performances were broadcasted by Medici.TV as well as numerous TV channels and radio around the globe.

The orchestra collaborated with best soloists like Paul Badura-Skoda, Fazil Say, David Geringas, Julian Rachlin, Yuri Bashmet, Dmitry Sitkovetsky, Sergey Krylov, Alexander Knyazev, Ksenija Sidorova, Vivian Hagner, Leticia Moreno among many others. In 2021 EWCO also made debut at the Enescu Festival in Bucharest what resulted re-invitation for 2023.

They are also experts in creating new exceptional projects such as for example “The Classical Night in Underground”, when a metro station transforming into a real concert hall with stage, lights, lasers and projection only in couple of hours which became an annual event crossing with fashion, sport, art, ballet on one stage. Also, regular collaboration of the orchestra with winners of World- and Europe- Championships of rhythmic gymnastics is an example of such exclusive activities.

Chief-Conductor and Artistic Director Rostislav Krimer was also grounder and Artistic Director of the Yuri Bashmet International Music Festival which he was leading for 15 years. Founding the Orchestra was the natural next step for the highly acclaimed pianist who was for many years a duo partner of legendary Paul Badura-Skoda, worked closely with Krzysztof Penderecki, Maxim Vengerov, Gidon Kremer and Julian Rachlin. He is a Star-Ambassador of 2nd European Games as well as Friend of UNICEF.











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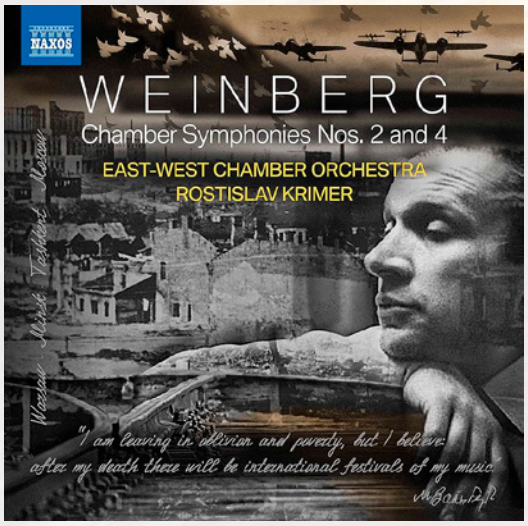






CRITICS excerpts from Press

SEE TRAILER here... *https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F9tp6ZAxSYQ&feature=youtu.be*



NAXOS Classical

Nomination OPUS KLASSIK
NOMINEE

MusicWeb INTERNATIONAL
RECORDING OF THE MONTH

Your Online Guide to Classical Music CLASSICS TODAY .com

★★★★★

Erik Levi
BBC Music Magazine, October 2021

Rostislav Krimer and the East-West Chamber Orchestra...deliver exceptionally fine performances of these two works. I was particularly impressed by the quality of string playing in the extremely taxing Second Chamber Symphony, not least the capacity of these performers to create a real sense of mystery in the many passages which Weinberg marks to be played treble pianissimo.
© 2021 ***BBC Music Magazine*** Read complete review

Guy Rickards
Gramophone, December 2021

...I rather like Krimer's way with the music, his slightly reined-in interpretation of the Second Chamber Symphony (1987, based on the Third String Quartet of 1944) emphasising the 'chamber' aspect and finding the music between the notes.

"The East-West Chamber Orchestra translates the poignant emotions expressed by the composer with infinite respect, and perhaps goes a step further than the Kremerata Baltica and Gidon Kremer in conveying this dramatic and touching message." – ***Crescendo Magazine***

"Their virtuosity is a given, but musicianship goes much more deeply, in feeling, sensitivity and concentration. It is difficult to think these performances will be surpassed...

...If you are unfamiliar with the world of Weinberg, this recording would be a great place to begin, but it is a major contribution to the Weinberg discography, to be sought out – with its companion – by any music lover."
Michael Wilkinson. MusicWeb International

"The East-West Chamber Orchestra from Belarus, with its founding conductor Rostislav Krimer, has now also recorded these two symphonies. Since the slow final movement in the second symphony and the two slow movements in the fourth are the focal points, above all a sensitive music-making is called for in these two works. Here it is already apparent that the young orchestra is gaining in stature and convinces with a refined playing. The In the fourth symphony, the music is given thoughtful and fresh touches of color by the clarinet solo of Igor Fedorov."
© 2021 ***Pizzicato***

The Fourth Chamber Symphony might be Weinberg's last completed piece but I am sure it won't be the end of our Weinberg explorations ...a terrific disc
© 2021 ***Classical Explorer***

Das East-West Chamber Orchestra nimmt sich dieser endzeitlichen Preziosen mit dunkel fundiertem Streicherklang auf das Intensivste an. Rostislav Krimer modelliert aus der Partitur Klanglandschaften, die zur schmerzhaften wie heilenden Erinnerung an einen versunkenen Kosmos einladen und dennoch jede politische Wirklichkeit sich anverwandelnd überwinden.
© 2021 ***Online Merker***

★★★★★

Norman Lebrecht
Ludwig van Toronto, January 2022

The 2nd and 4th chamber symphonies, urgently performed here by Rotislav Krimer's East-West Chamber Orchestra of Minsk, judder with nervous energy and frustrated ambition. The second, dated 1987, smokes with anxieties of disintegration. The 4th, from 1992, is damn-near irresistible. Written for string orchestra, clarinet and triangle, it is a klezmer-like half-dance, half-lament, on the collapse of the Soviet Union.
© 2022 ***Ludwig van Toronto***

In my review of their first Weinberg release, I said it was just about the best-sounding string orchestra in the Naxos stable. This release reinforces that opinion.
January, 2022 ***WTJU, Ralph Graves***



NAXOS Classical

Nomination OPUS KLASSIK NOMINEE

特 筆者の「今月の特選盤」
広くお薦めしたい優秀盤
RECORD GEIJUTSU
SPECIAL RECOMMENDATION OF THE MONTH

international classical music awards ICMA NOMINEE

★★★★★

Jérémie Cahen
Classica, February 2020

...se montre partout vibrant, intense, bénéficiant, des choix de tempos parfaits de son chef et fondateur...

David Fanning
Gramophone, January 2020
...Rostislav Krimer has a fine instinct for both works, finding nuances and idiomatic expressive shades that are as persuasive in their way as the marginally more solid Kremerata Baltica... The recording–made in Minsk, where Weinberg lived for two years and composed the quartet that eventually mutated into the First Chamber Symphony–is spacious but clear.
© 2020 *Gramophone*

Jim Svejda
Fanfare, March 2020

...Rostislav Krimer and the East-West Chamber Orchestra play the music with utter commitment and devotion, while the recorded sound–
captured in the Grand Hall of the Belarus State Philharmonic, Minsk, where the young refugee first settled–is warm, transparent, and life-like.
© 2020 *Fanfare*

Jean-Christophe Le Toquin
ResMusica.com, January 2020

...Ce disque de Weinberg est le premier jamais enregistré à Minsk, là où il acheva ses études. Sur le plan interprétatif, la comparaison qui s'impose est–encore–avec Gidon Kremer et sa Kremerata Baltica (ECM), mais le résultat est inverse aux enregistrements évoqués précédemment. Cette fois, c'est l'East-West Chamber Orchestra qui adopte une lecture plus raffinée là où la Kremeratica Baltica opte pour une interprétation davantage immédiate et moins policée. Kremer capte plus l'attention en première lecture, mais la finesse poétique de l'ensemble biélorusse (composé de musiciens russes, biélorusses, polonais, allemands et des pays baltes pour l'essentiel) est convaincante et pourra être préférée pour des écoutes renouvelées. © 2020 ResMusica.com

Kevin Filipski
The Flip Side, October 2019

...The East-West Chamber Orchestra–under conductor Rostislave Krimer–gives explosive performances of Weinberg's Chamber Symphonies Nos. 1 and 3, which both originated as string quartets that also addressed the dramatic world war era.
© 2019 *The Flip Side*

Gerhard Eckels
Opera Lounge, December 2019

...Dies wird in der Wiedergabe durch die internationalen Musiker des 2015 gegründeten East-West Chamber Orchestra besonders deutlich, die unter dem souveränen Dirigat von Rostislav Krimer diese Stimmungen gekonnt nachzeichnen.
© 2019 *Opera Lounge*

Félix de Azúa
Scherzo, December 2019

...Las dos sinfonías de cámara forman parte de la etapa final de Weinberg, quien las compuso en 1987 y 1990. Ambas son arreglos de cuartetos anteriores, del Segundo cuarteto (1940) la Primera, y del Tercero y Quinto (1945) la Tercera. Fue como si Weinberg reconsiderara la época más dura de su vida, cuando su madre y su hermana fueron asesinadas por los nazis. Muy buena versión.
© 2019 *Scherzo*

PROGRAMS

East-West Chamber Orchestra. Conductor – Rostislav Krimer

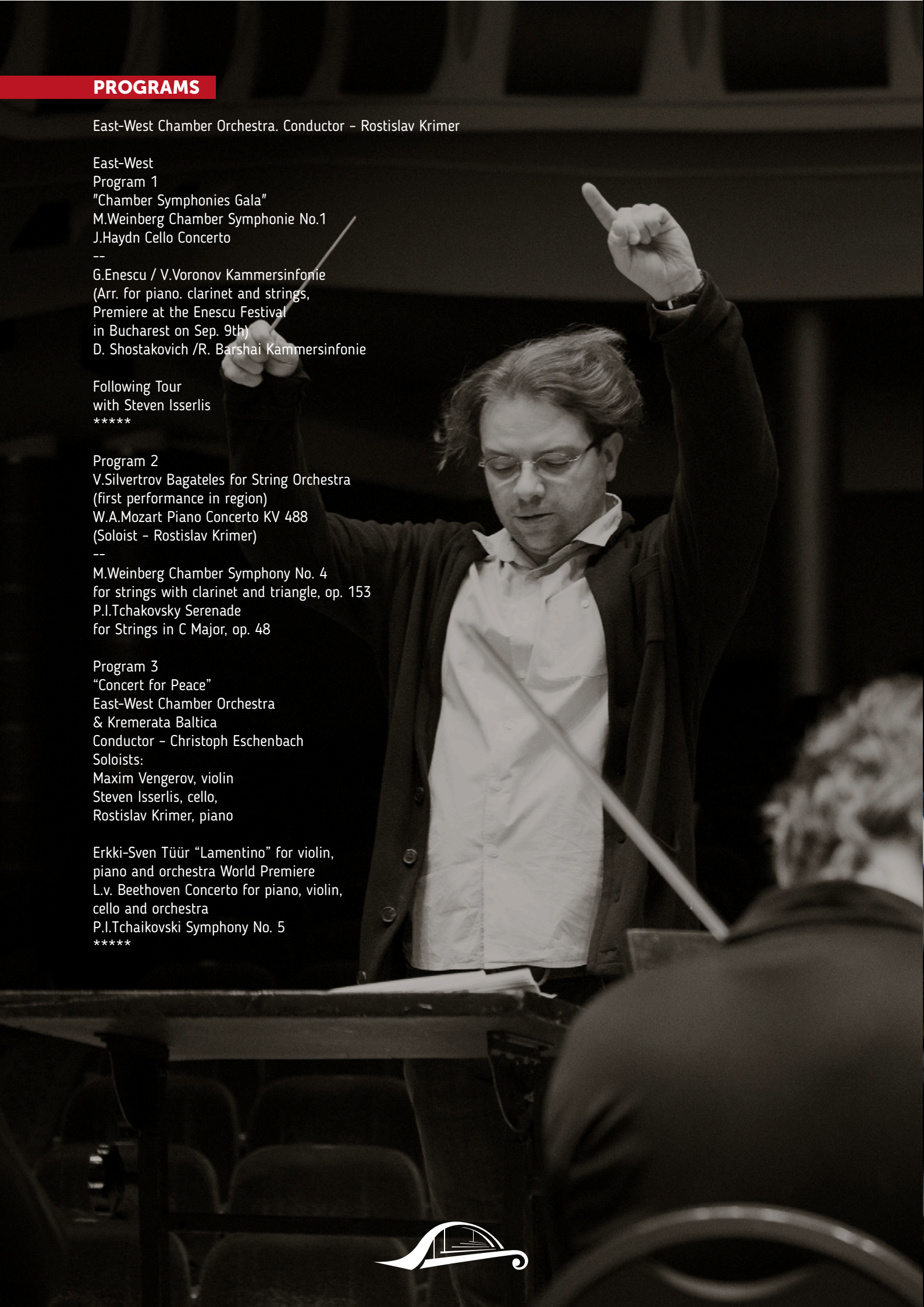
East-West
Program 1
"Chamber Symphonies Gala"
M.Weinberg Chamber Symphonie No.1
J.Haydn Cello Concerto
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G.Enescu / V.Voronov Kammersinfonie
(Arr. for piano. clarinet and strings,
Premiere at the Enescu Festival
in Bucharest on Sep. 9th)
D. Shostakovich /R. Barshai Kammersinfonie

Following Tour
with Steven Isserlis
*****

Program 2
V.Silvertrov Bagateles for String Orchestra
(first performance in region)
W.A.Mozart Piano Concerto KV 488
(Soloist – Rostislav Krimer)
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M.Weinberg Chamber Symphony No. 4
for strings with clarinet and triangle, op. 153
P.I.Tchakovsky Serenade
for Strings in C Major, op. 48

Program 3
"Concert for Peace"
East-West Chamber Orchestra
& Kremerata Baltica
Conductor – Christoph Eschenbach
Soloists:
Maxim Vengerov, violin
Steven Isserlis, cello,
Rostislav Krimer, piano

Erkki-Sven Tüür "Lamentino" for violin,
piano and orchestra World Premiere
L.v. Beethoven Concerto for piano, violin,
cello and orchestra
P.I.Tchaikovski Symphony No. 5
*****





Program 4
F.Chopin Arrangements for String Orchestra
F.Chopin Piano Concerto No 1 in E Minor
(Soloist - Alexei Volodin)
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M.Weinberg Chamber Symphony No 2, op. 147
D.Shostakovich /R.Barshai Chamber Symphony

Program 5
East-West Chamber Orchestra
Soloist - Mikhail Pletnev

East-West
Program 5
Visualization
A. Piazzolla/L.Desyyatnikov 4 Seasons in Buenos Aires
(Soloist - Julian Rachlin or Leticia Moreno)
*****
Presentation of new East-West Chamber Orchestra
CD which was nominated for Opus Klassik 2022
M.Weinberg Chamber Symphony No 2
G.Kancheli Premiere of pieces for string orchestra
(with prima ballerina of Vienna Ballet
Ludmila Konovalova)

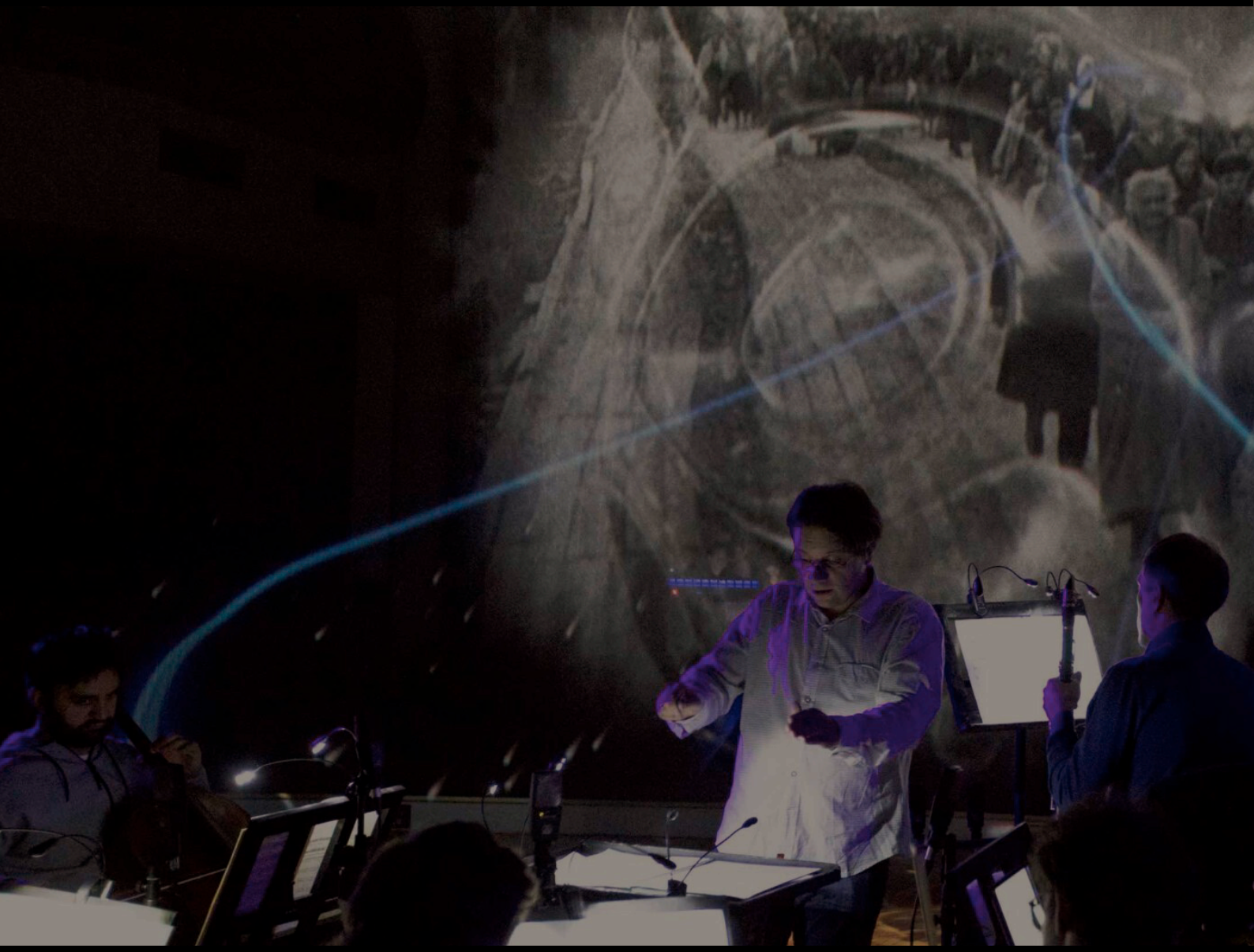
Program 6
Concert of Viennese Classic

W.A.Mozart Sinfomia-Concertante
(Soloists - Julian Rachlin - Sarah McElravy)
W.A.Mozart Violin Concerto (Julian Rachlin)
*****
W.A.Mozart Symphony No 40 in G Minor K. 550

Programs with Fazil Say, Sergej Krylov among others

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