MY FAVORITES

Bojidara Kouzmanova
There are few words that can describe what the violin means to me. She is like a friend, though friendships change, so she is more than a friend. She is a faithful companion; a partner, with whom one has intense discussions. She has known me my whole life, and we have shared everything. Often, I have said that she is the only one who can always tolerate me. However, as much as I love her, it is not about her, but about the music. It is about what music expresses and conveys.

Music can understand, console, support, touch, unburden and delight. It can be thought-provoking, when we allow it to be. Music accompanies daily life, the thoughts of it occurring occasionally as an unwanted, persistent guest – but its presence has impact in our lives. In the moments when music cannot help – cannot offer consolation, nor understanding, nor relief – it is a faithful companion. Sometimes full of emotion, other times very calm and quiet; music is a partner for life.
Music and making music can lead one to doubt and even despair – but also always to grow. Music allows us to engage ourselves in a dimension that is as substantive and necessary as the air that we breathe, but it's not tangible. All that is the reason why I make music. For me, music is a direct path to the human soul. Music can affect realms where far more important things matter than appearances and success.

With this CD, I would like to give you an in-depth look into my musical treasure chest, so that we may share diverse and wonderful moments with each other.

Bojidara Kouzmanova
A native Bulgarian, Bojidara Kouzmanova began playing violin at the age of five. She finished her studies at the University of Music and Arts in Vienna with Prof. Günter Pichler and completed both her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in violin performance with distinction.

She has performed as a soloist with many different orchestras, such as the Brandenburg Symphony Orchestra, Prague Radio Symphony Orchestra, Montevideo Symphony Orchestra, Sofia Philharmonic Orchestra, Plovdiv Philharmonic Orchestra, Rousse Philharmonic Orchestra, Bohuslav Martinu Philharmonic, Bach Soloists Vienna, Kottmann String Players Frankfurt, New Basel Symphony Orchestra and Recreation Orchestra Graz.

Bojidara Kouzmanova regularly gives concerts and teaches master classes all over the world. Her discography comprises more than 15 CDs recorded for different labels in America, Bulgaria and Austria. Kouzmanova has a passion for old, precious instruments and owns more than 15 different Stradivarius and Guarneri violins as well as violins from other violin-makers.

Many composers have dedicated pieces to Kouzmanova, including Perikles Liakakis (Tune for solo violin), Peter Richter (the violin concerto Bojidara), Florian Meyer (Vienna Waltz Caprise), Julia Purgina (Frederick for solo violin), Sergio Navata (Tangara for Violin and Piano). She is also a member of the Kreisler String Trio, Ensemble Quasars, Ensemble of the XX Century, Ensemble Collage and Reconsil, Vienna.

Ms. Kouzmanova currently plays a Postiglione violin (1890), which was kindly loaned to her by a private sponsor.

www.bojidarakouzmanova.com
Recording dates: March, May, June 2017 | Recording venue: Tonzauber Studio in Konzerthaus Vienna, Austria (1–10), Rousse Philharmonic Concert Hall, Bulgaria (11) | Producer, Engineer: Georg Burdicek (1–10), Ivaylo Yanev (11) | Arrangements: Ivan Buffa (1), Bojidara Kouzmanova-Vладar (5), Fredo Jung (6), Dmitry Sitkovetsky (8) | Photos: Maria Frodl, jarolas.sk, Atanas Peev, Rudy Bezhev | Translation: Mara Achleitner | Graphic design: paladino media

Violin
Bojidara Kouzmanova (1, 5, 7, 11)

Piano
Magda Amara (1, 5, 10)

Viola
Axel Kircher

Horn
Wolfgang Vladar (1, 9, 10)

Kreisler Trio
Bojidara Kouzmanova, Axel Kircher, Luis Zorita (2, 4, 6, 8)

Piano
Ivan Buffa (3)

Viola
Julia Purgina (7)

Cello
Luis Zorita

Rousse Philharmonic Orchestra
(11, conductor: Nayden Todorov)
Johannes Brahms (1833–1897)
»Guten Abend, gut’ Nacht« (1868) lullaby
For our son Daniel
2:19

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–1791)
Andante from Divertimento in E-flat major KV 563
7:08

Johannes Brahms (1833–1897)
Intermezzo (Andante teneramente) op. 118 Nr. 2 (1892)
5:37

Franz Schubert (1797–1828)
String Trio in B Flat major D 471 (Allegro)
7:55

Franz Lehar (1870–1948)
»Lippen schweigen«, arrangement for violin and piano from the operette The marry widow (1905)
For my Wolfgang
2:26

Fritz Kreisler (1875–1962)
Marche miniature viennoise
3:26

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–1791)
Andante cantabile from Duo in B Flat major for Violin and Viola KV 424 (1783 in Salzburg)
3:07

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1759)
Adagio (Variation 25) from Goldberg Variations
6:42

Engelbert Humperdinck (1854–1921)
»Abendsegen« from the opera Hänsel and Gretel
2:29

Karl Pilss (1902–1979)
Sinfonia (allegro energico) from Tre pezzi in forma di sonata
9:24

Pantscho Wladigerov (1899–1978)
»Song« from the bulgarian Suite op. 21
6:50

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