

## **Review:** Soloist Sergej Krylov plays with "amazing brilliance" backed by ASO under Abbado

May 16, 2015 BY MARK GRESHAM

On Thursday evening at Symphony Hall the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra performed an Italian-themed concert of music by Berlioz, Paganini, Berio and Mendelssohn led by guest conductor Roberto Abbado and featuring violin soloist Sergej Krylov. The program will be reprized this evening at Symphony Hall. (...)

Unlike the frequent flyer status of Abbado, violinist Sergej Krylov has performed with the ASO only once before, making his ASO debut in April 2011 to considerable acclaim with Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto.

This time, Krylov performed Niccolò Paganini's Violin Concerto No. 5, a curious work of which only the essential original solo violin part is extant. An orchestral part was constructed in 1958 by Federico Mompellio, based on clues from Paganini's orchestral cues in the violin part and some of the composer's notes about it.

Mompellio's orchestral part is no great shake — essentially a backdrop against which **Paganini's virtuosic solo violin part is displayed, and which Krylov performed with an amazing brilliance.** 

There was also opportunity aplenty for lyricism, particularly in the slow second movement, but Krylov's approach retained a sense of an inner tensile strength, never allowing the lyricism to become languid or sentimental. Krylov took multiple bows for his exceptional performance, then played Paganini's "Caprice No. 24" as encore, with even more personal musical investment than the concerto.

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