Rachmaninov's final work – and the only one composed fully in the United States – was the *Symphonic Dances*. It embraces jazz elements and ecstatic expressiveness and is both a valediction and a summation of his creativity. *The Isle of the Dead* is a lamentation utilising a variant of the *Dies irae* – it is a stirring, transformative work that begins and ends in stillness. The early *Caprice bohémien* and *Scherzo in D minor* complete this programme of Leonard Slatkin's admired Rachmaninov recordings on Vox, heard here newly remastered from the original tapes.

The Elite Recordings for Vox by legendary producers Marc Aubort and Joanna Nickrenz are considered by audiophiles to be amongst the finest sounding examples of orchestral recordings

Sergey RACHMANINOV (1873–1943)

Symphonic Dances, Op. 45 (1940)	33:59
1 I. Non allegro	11:35
2 II. Andante con moto (Tempo di valse)	9:13
3 III. Lento assai – Allegro vivace – Lento assai – C	ome prima
 Allegro vivace 	13:10

 4
 Capriccio on Gypsy Themes 'Caprice bohémien', Op. 12 (1892–94)
 17:44

 5
 Scherzo in D minor (1888)
 4:49

 6
 The Isle of the Dead, Op. 29 (1909)
 20:27

St. Louis Symphony Orchestra Leonard Slatkin

New 192 kHz / 24-bit high definition transfers of the original Elite Recordings analogue master tapes

Recorded: 1979 1-46 and October 1980 5 at Powell Hall, St. Louis, Missouri, USA Producers: Marc Aubort and Joanna Nickrenz • Engineering: Elite Recordings Tape transfers: Mike Clements • Re-mastering engineer: Andrew Walton Booklet notes: Richard Freed Cover photograph: *Iguazu Falls dramatic landscape, South America* (www.istockphoto.com)



S.

RACHMANINOV: Symphonic Dances