

INSTRUMENTAL NOMINEES



BEETHOVEN

Piano Sonatas: No. 28 in A, Op. 101; No. 29 in B flat, Op. 106 (Hammerklavier)

Mitsuko Uchida (piano)
Philips 475 8662

THE JURY SAYS... Refinement, intelligence, eloquence and intensity: everything you'd expect

from Uchida. The opening fanfare of the *Hammerklavier* commands your attention, and you'll be unable to drag your ears away even during the slow *Adagio*, where the bass sings like a cello, and Beethoven becomes your entire world.

Andrew McGregor

THE REVIEW, NOVEMBER 2007

'Uchida (right) is the first pianist I have heard who rises to every one of the *Hammerklavier's* challenges, producing an interpretation which is as profound as it is impeccable. This is Beethoven revealed with shattering directness.'

Michael Tanner



UCHIDA: profound interpretation

JS BACH

Cello Suites; plus The Song of the Birds (an. Beamish)

Steven Isserlis (cello)
Hyperion CDA 67541-2

THE JURY SAYS... No recording of the Suites better captures the nature of the preludes and retains the functional heritage of the

dances. Isserlis's (below) technique creates a sense of ease in this cellist's tour de force, matched by fine recording from Hyperion. **George Pratt**

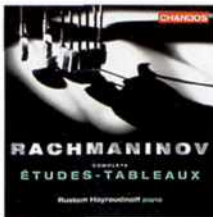
THE REVIEW, JUNE 2007

'There are over 50 current recordings of cellists aiming to stamp their musical personalities on JS Bach's six suites for solo cello. Steven Isserlis doesn't even try. Rather, he simply lets Bach say it all. A completely new and inspiring benchmark.' **George Pratt**

TOUR DE FORCE:
Isserlis creates a sense of mastery ease



RUSTEM HAYROUDINOFF:
brilliantly characterised
Rachmaninov



RACHMANINOV

Études-Tableaux, Op. 33 & 39

Rustem Hayroudinoff (piano)
Chandos CHAN 10391

THE JURY SAYS... These forthright, beautifully weighted performances keep the emotion in check but never at bay. With Hayroudinoff's playing equal even to the greatness of Richter, Op. 39 No. 7 emerges as one of Rachmaninov's greatest creations in a drama of life and death. **David Nice**

THE REVIEW, JANUARY 2007 'Hayroudinoff's (above) warmly recorded interpretations are not only brilliantly characterised and absolutely masterful in terms of technique, the variety of colour and timbre enables him to extract the maximum degree of impact throughout each piece- an extra dimension that makes these performances more vibrant and imaginative than any in the catalogue.' **Erik Levi**