

E-Program Notes :

Little Prelude in C minor, BWV 934 (J.S.Bach)

This piece is one of The **Six Little Preludes (BWV 933-938)**, a group of preludes written by the composer Johann Sebastian Bach for harpsichord. They are all short, pedagogical pieces written in the period of 1717–1720, but they were not published until 1802.

This C minor prelude is short but requires a strong understanding of technique. It is similar to a minuet. It features a lively angular theme. The theme and second subject are played through twice and vary considerably on their third appearance. This piece generally lasts just over a minute.

Waltz in C-sharp minor, Op.64, No.2 (F.Chopin)

The **Waltz in C# minor** is the second work of Chopin's Opus 64. It was composed in 1847. Chopin dedicated this Waltz to Madame Nathaniel de Rothschild.

It consists of three main themes :

- Theme A, *tempo giusto*, is chordal with a walking pace feel;
- Theme B, *più mosso* (faster) — theme stated in running eighth notes, with all harmony in the left hand.
- Theme C, *più lento* (slower) — a sostenuto in the parallel key of C# minor

The overall layout of the piece is A B C B A B. In an orchestrated version, it forms part of the ballet *Les Sylphides*.