



Edgar Moreau, cellist

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L'Orchestre du Théâtre Marinsky: a magnificent backdrop for the new star of the bow, cellist Edgar Moreau

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At the very age when Shostakovich wrote his first symphony- he was not even 19 years old-, our young Parisian-born musician had the audacity to take on the *Second concerto for cello* by the very same Dmitry Shostakovich. The audience was left speechless. A resounding success!

As for the concert, I will talk about the other artists and the program later. For now, however, let me share my admiration for this tour de force performance. Under the fingers of the young artist, the cello (a David Techler from 1711) was able to communicate the composer's intentions,

particularly in the most arduous passage for the soloist.

Written when Shostakovich was 60 and weighed down by despair, the concerto contains not a breath of optimism, and Edgar Moreau took it on with all the determination, all the ardor necessary to accomplish such a daring task. Of course, there was also the orchestra, which, under the watchful eye and the baton of a certain Valery Gergiev couldn't help but participate in the success of the whole. Like a Bentley *Mulsanne* with its many cylinders, the eyes, the breath, and the fingers of all the musicians were there to serve but one purpose, to illustrate these few words from the composer: "The right to suffering is truly a right." And, further: "... the great contours of this lyrical narrative which culminates in an intensely dramatic climax- where the cello tears apart the soul." Mission accomplished.



Edgar Moreau and Valery Gergiev