Sergei Prokofiev (1891–1953)

Violin Concerto No. 1 in D major, Op. 19

Composed between 1915 and 1917, Sergei Prokofiev's Violin Concerto No. 1 is one of the most distinctive works in the violin repertoire. Written during a period of great artistic and political change in Russia, the concerto reflects Prokofiev's imaginative musical language, combining lyrical beauty, playful wit, and unexpected harmonic and rhythmic colors.

Unlike the traditional concerto structure, the work opens with a gentle and dreamlike *Andantino*, introducing a flowing melody that seems to emerge and dissolve almost effortlessly. The second movement, a brilliant *Scherzo: Vivacissimo*, brings a striking contrast through its restless energy, rhythmic sharpness, and mischievous character. The final *Moderato* returns to a more reflective atmosphere, weaving together moments of lyricism, mystery, and subtle intensity before recalling the ethereal quality of the opening.

Rather than relying on conventional virtuosity alone, Prokofiev creates a musical world in which technical brilliance and poetic expression coexist. The concerto ultimately leaves the listener with an impression of something both vivid and elusive, balancing youthful imagination with profound emotional depth.