

Sunday Times, 4th August 2019

Schumann

Fantasie, Faschingsschwank aus Wien

Joseph Tong (piano)

Quartz QTZ2134

Schumann's C major Fantasie, Op 17, and his Faschingsschwank aus Wien, Op 26, are huge works, infused with autobiographical reference, radical in form and varied in mood, embracing drama, poetry and spectacular virtuosity.

Tong's readings intelligently balance impulse and discipline, offering wide tonal variety, but never at the expense of textural clarity. His sensitive playing of the Op 18 Arabeske and the dozen short pieces of Papillons, Op 2, works beautifully. *Stephen Pettitt*