



PRESS CONFERENCE

Ice Dance, after Rhythm Dance

Gabriella Papadakis/Guillaume Cizeron (FRA), 1st after the Rhythm Dance

Papadakis: (On coming back to Minsk after the ISU World Junior Championships 2012) We remember coming here 7 years ago for Junior Worlds. It was very important competition for us because it was our last year at the junior level and we were trying to get a medal. We were second (on the fact that they were fifth in 2012 and that 2013 was their last junior year when they finished second behind Stepanova/Bukin). So I don't really remember. (On skating the Tango so smoothly) First, Tango is a style we really like, we didn't have a lot of experience with it, only skated it once in Juniors but it already a long time ago. We were really happy when we found out that the Tango was the style for this year. We took lot of pleasure when putting together the choreography. I think it's a style that works well in skating with the speed and the glide. It also gives lot of room to express ourselves with the dance and the mood but also doing it with lot of speed and fluidity. That's how we like to skate. We always keep working in those two directions that work well together.

Cizeron: (On not hitting all the key points in the Tango Romantica pattern dance) This year, the key points are really tricky to get. I think that skating well, we could have realized that. It wasn't 100% clean on the first pattern. But we've been working a lot on them. It's pretty hard to do it with full speed and the passion and expression and get the key points at the time. I think that is not what we really focus on when we perform. When we're at a competition, we try to keep the feeling and go 100% with the dance and sometimes this makes it a little harder to get the key points. But we'll definitely work on this for Worlds.

Alexandra Stepanova/Ivan Bukin (RUS), 2nd after the Rhythm Dance

Stepanova: (Coming back to Minsk again) It's a higher level of competition now at European Championships. Many things have changed since then, we have changed ourself. It's already our third European Championships. We are really happy of how the audience received us here. We remember this venue. (On their goals for this event) We already have two bronze medals from the European Championships, so we are very happy today to have gotten a small silver. Our coaches are happy with the marks, we are happy to have got over 80 points. Today is a good day and it's a great result. (On getting level 4 on one of the tango sequences for the first time this season) it is quite obvious that we wanted to get the level 4 from beginning of season. We just kept working on it with our coaches and watched the top couples how they do it. So we found a more optimal technical version for us.

Charlene Guignard/Marco Fabbri (ITA), 3rd after the Rhythm Dance

Fabbri: (On being in third after the Rhythm Dance) It's a very worthy feeling for us, because we have worked a lot throughout our career to get to this point. The season is going really well for us and we will definitely continue. It motivates us a lot for the free dance, we'll enjoy tomorrow even more.

