

J. S. Bach

(1685-1750)

Sonata for Violin and Piano No.4 in C-minor BWV 1017

Period: Baroque

This is one of six authentic sonatas for violin and keyboard (BWV 1014-1019) written in 1720. They represent the real beginnings of the duo sonata as the term is understood today. Sonata in C-minor, stylistically speaking, is the most unusual and progressive. The second movement (Allegro) is the “weightiest” of all the violin/harpsichord (the early type of piano) sonata quick movements.

Johannes Brahms

(1833-1897)

Sonata for Violin and Piano No.3 in D-minor Op.108

Period: Romanticism

Sonata in D-minor is the last in a triptych of violin and piano sonatas composed between 1878-1887. and perhaps the most impressive of the three. This energetic and rather symphonic sonata is memorable for the relentless power of the first movement and for the tragic dimensions of the final Presto agitato.

Niccolo Paganini

(1782-1840)

La Campanella

Period: Romanticism

The La Campanella theme belongs to the final, third movement of Paganini’s Violin Concerto No.2 in B-minor, *Rondo a la clochette* (“The Handbell” or “The Little Bell”).

This musical theme is one of the most popular in the history of music. Paganini’s themes are used many times by his fellow composers. La Campanella is immortalized by famous composer and pianist Franz Liszt (1811-1886), who composed a piano etude as part of a series of six Grandes Etudes de Paganini.

P. I. Tchaikovsky

(1840-1893)

Meditation

Period: Late Romanticism

Tchaikovsky is one of the most popular composers among the American public. He composed a lot of chamber music. Meditation is a first part of his *Souvenir d’un lieu cher* (“Memory of a Cherished Place”) for violin and piano, Op.42 (Meditation, Scherzo and Melody), composed 1878. Brimming with melody, color and passion, they are what most people think of when they hear the name “Tchaikovsky”.

Maurice Ravel

(1875-1937)

Tzigane

Period: Impressionism

Tzigane is a rhapsodic composition by the French composer Maurice Ravel. The name of the piece is derived from generic term for “gypsy”, although it does not use any authentic Gypsy melodies. The “gypsy” style of the work was a popular musical exoticism, comparable to the Spanish exoticism in Ravel’s day. The piece demonstrates Ravel’s ability to imitate the late Romantic style of violin showmanship promoted by such virtuosi as Paganini and Sarasate (1844-1908).



THE ORFELIN CIRCLE PRESENTS:

STEFAN MILENKOVICH
Violin

ERI KANG
Piano

8 pm, Saturday, June 7, 2008

Harold and Sylvia Greenberg Theatre
American University College of Arts and Sciences
4200 Wisconsin Ave, NW
Washington, D.C., 20016



Stefan Milenkovich came to international attention at age 10 as a child prodigy violinist. He was invited to perform for the president Reagan, Pope John Paul II, and the president Gorbachev.

Mr. Milenkovich's international orchestral appearances include many world-renowned orchestras such as the Berlin Symphony Orchestra, the Orchestra of Radio France, and the Bolshoi Theatre Orchestra. He worked with such renowned conductors as Lorin Maazel, Daniel Oren, and Vladimir Fedoseyev.

Mr. Milenkovich is deeply committed to international humanitarian activities. He gave numerous charity performances for the benefit of the children of the war-torn Yugoslavia. He also participated in a number of gala concerts under the auspices of UNESCO. In 2002 he was proclaimed "Artist of the 20th Century" in Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

Mr. Milenkovich's 2007-08 season includes the release of two major projects: the "Sarabande" project as well as the recording of the 2 Violin Concertos by Karol Szymanowski. An avid chamber musician, he performs regularly at the Jupiter Chamber Music Series in New York City, and with the Corinthian Trio. Mr. Milenkovich's discography includes 4 commercial releases on the Italian label Dynamic, and numerous recordings for the Yugoslavian label, PGP. He has recently assumed the position of Associate Professor of Violin at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Mr. Milenkovich continues to be part of the violin faculty at Juilliard School's Pre-College division.



Eri Kang is Japanese-born Korean pianist, soloist, and renowned collaborative pianist and chamber musician. She has performed throughout the United States, Europe and Far East. She has had many highly acclaimed Piano Duo Recitals with Akira Eguchi. Ms. Kang has recorded for CD "Dear America" performing Gershwin's "Fantasy on Porgy and Bess for two pianos" and this CD has been selected as the best new-released CD by Japanese Recording Arts Magazine. Eri Kang received her bachelor's degree from Toho School of Music, and her Master's degree from the Juilliard School.

Program

J. S. Bach

Sonata for Violin & Piano No.4 in C minor BWV 1017

Largo

Allegro

Adagio

Allegro

J. Brahms

Sonata for Violin & Piano No.3 in D minor Op.108

Allegro (Moderato)

Adagio

Un poco presto e con sentimento

Presto agitato

~ Intermission ~

N. Paganini

"La Campanella"

P. I. Tchaikovsky

"Meditation"

M. Ravel

"Tzigane"