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THE UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Presents in Concert

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Richard Becker, piano

Sunday, February 3, 2013 3:00 p.m. Camp Concert Hall Booker Hall of Music



About the Artist



RICHARD BECKER, Head of Piano at the University of Richmond, is a pianist and composer whose playing has been acclaimed in Europe and America. Performing on many college campuses over the years and frequently touring the eastern United States, he has also performed at venues such as New York's Alice Tully Hall; National Gallery of Art; the American French Embassy; Library of Congress; and Hudson River, Kemper, Virginia, and

Spencer Museums. He has also played at the Salle Cortot, as Laureate of the French Piano Institute, and Salle Michelet in Paris, where six times he has been artist-in-residence at Cité Internationale des Arts.

Becker's music has been commissioned by grants from Meet the Composer, CRS Records, and he has been a MacDowell Colony Fellow and a nominee for an American Academy of Arts and Letters award. His performances and his own music have been heard on NPR, Voice of America, WNYC, WETA, WGMS, and WCVE, and at the American Music Festival of the National Gallery of Art. They have also been featured during residencies at Marshall University, James Madison University, Eastern Mennonite University, the Longy School of Music, Peabody Conservatory, New England Conservatory, and Brattleboro Music Center's Summer Chamber Festival and Concert Series, where he coached alongside the late Blanche Moyse, and at CMS and MTNA conferences over the years.

Richard Becker's playing has been cited for its "powerful interpretations" by the Washington Post, for being "admirable in taste and technique" by The New York Times, and for being "brilliant with seamless passagework and elegant phrasing" by the Richmond Times-Dispatch. Becker's playing is grounded in the tradition of Arthur Schnabel, acquired during his study with the late Leonard Shure while earning the M. Mus. degree at Boston University. His teaching owes much to the relaxation methods of Tobias Matthay, learned from Cecile Staub Genhart at the Eastman School of Music, where he earned the B. Mus. and Performer's Certificate. Becker taught at the University of Texas and Boston University prior to joining the faculty at the University of Richmond in 1975.

In recent years, Richard Becker's poetry has been published in *America, Columbia Magazine, Visions-International, Cold Mountain,* and *Poetica Magazine: Contemporary Literary Review.* His poetic sequence, "FATES," was a 2009 chapbook of *The Literary Review.* His musical compositions have been recorded on CRS Records, with piano performances available on Albany Records.

Program

Richard Becker, piano

Kreisleriana, Op.16

Robert Schumann (1810-1856)

- 1. Äußerst bewegt (Fast as possible)
- 2. Sehr innig (Very introspective)
- 3. Sehr aufgeregt (Very excited)
- 4. Sehr langsam (Very slowly)
- 5. Sehr lebhaft (Very lively)
- 6. Sehr langsam (Very slowly)
- 7. Sehr rasch (Very rapidly)
- 8. Schnell und spielend (Quick and playfully)

Intermission

Sonata in B-flat, Op. Posthumous

Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

- I. Molto moderato
- II. Andante sostenuto
- III. Scherzo: Allegro vivace con delicatezza
- IV. Allegro ma non troppo



SPRING 2013 DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC CONCERT SERIES FREE—No Ticket Required. CAMP Concert Hall *Unless otherwise noted. See richmond.music.edu

Wed., January 23—7:30p PAUL HANSON, piano

Sun., February 3—3:00p RICHARD BECKER, piano

Mon., February 4—7:30p Schubert's WINTERREISE James Weaver, baritone Joanne Kong, piano

Mon., February 18—7:30p NEUMANN LECTURE ON MUSIC: MUSIC AND THE BRAIN Dr. Craig Wright

Thurs., March 21—7:30p
JOHN CAGE CENTENNIAL CONCERT I
Faculty, students, eighth blackbird

Sun., March 24—3:00p DUO PIANO RECITAL Richard Becker & Doris Wylee-Becker

Wed., March 27—7:30p
JOHN CAGE CENTENNIAL CONCERT II
PAUL HANSON, piano

Wed., April 10—7:30p UNIVERSITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Sat., April 13—3:00p *
GLOBAL SOUNDS CONCERT
*Jenkins Greek Theatre;
rain, Camp Concert Hall

Sun., April 14—3:00p SCHOLA CANTORUM & WOMEN'S CHORALE

Mon., April 15—7:30p
JAZZ & CONTEMPORARY COMBOS

WED., APRIL 17—7:30P UNIVERSITY WIND ENSEMBLE

Sun., April 21—4:00p *
EARTH DAY CELEBRATION:
John Luther Adams' Inuksuit
*Jenkins Greek Theatre—outdoor
amphitheatre; handicap access available.
Rain: Robins Center

Mon., April 22—7:30p University Chamber Ensembles

