

1-21-2001

Richard Becker, piano

Department of Music, University of Richmond

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Richard Becker, *piano*



JANUARY 21, 2001, 3:00 P.M.
CAMP CONCERT HALL
BOOKER HALL OF MUSIC

Richard Becker has performed solo recitals at over sixty colleges and at such venues as Tully Hall (of Lincoln Center), Town Hall (N.Y.), the Library of Congress, the National Gallery and the French Embassy (Washington, D.C.), at Cité Internationale des Arts, and in Salle Cortot (Paris). His playing has been broadcast over NPR, Voice of America, WNYC, and WETA. The following excerpts of critical acclaim are selected from over twenty-five years of solo recitals:

"A STELLAR PERFORMANCE" "NO OBSTACLE INTRUDED BETWEEN ARTIST AND AUDIENCE...HAD HIS AUDIENCE GASPING." Bennington Banner.

"ADMIRABLE IN TASTE AND TECHNIQUE." Donal Henahan, New York Times.

"POWERFUL INTERPRETATIONS." Washington Post.

"BECKER SUMMED UP DEBUSSY'S MUSICAL EYES, EARS, AND TEMPERAMENT." Richmond Times Dispatch.

Pianist Richard Becker holds degrees from the University of Rochester's Eastman School of Music, where he studied piano with Cecile Staub Genhart and from Boston University, where he was assistant to Leonard Shure. He also had lessons with Adele Marcus, Leon Fleisher, and Rudolf Serkin. His composition studies were with Samuel Adler at Eastman and with Allan Schindler at Boston University's School for the Arts.

Becker's compositions have been performed by the Peabody Piano Trio, pianist Nancy Burton Garrett, the University of Richmond Vocal Quartet, by cellist James Wilson and pianist Joanne Kong, by the composer, and others at the American Music Festival (at the National Gallery of Art), Tanglewood Music Festival, Peabody Conservatory, the Gardner Museum (Boston), James Madison University, Williams College, Bennington College, the Eastman School of Music and frequently at the University of Richmond.

Richard Becker has long been a chamber performer and has appeared as such at Carnegie Hall, Kaufmann Hall (of the 92nd St. Y, New York City), Washington University of St. Louis, Brattleboro Music Center (Vermont), and at Harvard (Chamber Music Summer Seminar). Some of the artists with whom he has collaborated are the Shanghai Quartet, Richmond Sinfonia, Currents (the New Music Ensemble of the University of Richmond), violinists, Phil Lewis and Weigong Li, violist, Zheng Wang, and cellists James Wilson and Andor Toth Jr.

Poetry by Richard Becker has recently appeared in such journals as *Cold Mountain Review*, *Columbia*, and *Visions International*.

••• PROGRAM •••

Rondo in A Minor, K. 511
(March 11, 1787)

Mozart

Sonata, Opus 53 in C major (Waldstein)
(1803-1804)

Beethoven

Allegro con brio
Introduzione: Adagio molto
RONDO: Allegretto moderato

••• INTERMISSION •••

Preludes from Book One:
(1909-1910)

Debussy

...(Le vent dans la plaine)
... ("Le sons et les parfums tournent dans l'air du soir")
... (Ce qu'a vu le Vent d'Ouest)

Gaspard de la nuit: Three Poems for Piano
After Aloysius Bertrand
(September, 1908)

Ravel

I. Ondine
II. Le gibet
III. Scarbo

Modlin Center Events

**Events are free, no tickets required,
unless otherwise noted**

David FeBland: Twist and Shout

January 16 - July 28, 2001
Marsh Art Gallery

Lewis Wickes Hine: The Final Years

January 19 - March 9, 2001
March Art Gallery

Shanghai Quartet with Todd Crow, *pianist*

Monday, January 22, 2001, 7:30 pm
Camp Concert Hall
Booker Hall of Music
Tickets: \$21 adults, \$19 seniors. Call 289-8980

The Cradle Will Rock

A Play in Music by Marc Blitzstein

Friday, February 2, 2001, 7:30 pm
Camp Concert Hall
Booker Hall of Music
Sponsored in part by the Christian A. Johnson Endeavor Foundation
Tickets are required for this free event. Call 289-8980

Kol Simcha

Wednesday, February 7, 2001, 7:30 pm
Camp Concert Hall
Booker Hall of Music
Tickets: \$18 adults, \$16 seniors. Call 289-8980

Waiting for Godot

Written by Samuel Beckett

Directed by Jim Hillgartner, Equity Guest Artist

February 8-10, 2001, 7:30 pm
February 11, 2001, 2 pm
February 14-17, 2001, 7:30 pm
Cousins Studio Theatre
Tickets: \$8 adults, \$7 seniors. Call 289-8980