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UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

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UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND ORCHESTRA

Fred Cohen, conductor Sean Linfors, guest conductor



April 10, 2002, 7:30 pm Camp Concert Hall Booker Hall of Music $\cdots P_{ROGRAM} \cdots$

Concerto for Piano and Orchestra in A, KV 488 I. Allegro W.A. Mozart

Jenny Bernard piano

Violin Concerto No.3

Camille Saint-Saëns

III. Molto moderato e maestoso—Allegro non troppo Ilan McNamara violin Sean Linfors guest conductor

 \cdots Brief Intermission \cdots

Symphony No. 9 "Great" D944

Franz Schubert

I. Andante—Allegro ma non troppo II. Andanta con moto III. Scherzo: Allegro vivace IV. Finale: Allegro vivace

· · · PROGRAM NOTES · · ·

Franz Schubert wrote his final Symphony in C Major in 1825-26, two years he died at the age of 31 in 1828. One Viennese obituary stated that Schubert had "lived solely for art and for a small circle of friends." There's certainly truth to that, but this powerful notion has evolved in large part because Schubert's own surviving words are discouragingly few. Unlike Wagner, Mozart or Schumann, who left behind copious written correspondence for scholars to provide commentary and narration, Schubert left no journals, essays, memoirs, or criticisms. Indeed, Schumann observed that "what a diary is to others, in which their momentary emotions and so forth are recorded, so to Schubert was music paper." Schubert's life is simply missing from the historical record.

From official, government documents, we know that Schubert's father was a school teacher whose first wife had 14 children, of whom only five survived childhood. Schubert began to study music at home and then attended an excellent private school. He studied briefly with Antonio Salieri, who mentored Schubert in experiments in all musical genres. When Schubert was 17 he entered the family business teaching—and began to write his first masterpieces, including *Erlkönig* and *Gretchen am Spinnrade*. Within a few years he stopped teaching, left home, and moved in with friends as he began to pursue a strictly musical career. By the age of 24 his music was being published, widely performed, and praised in the local and foreign press.

Schubert's most important concert—the only public one during his lifetime devoted entirely to his music—took place in 1828 on the first anniversary of Beethoven's death. Working with the musicians of the Society of the Friends of Music—musicians long associated with Beethoven—Schubert presented his latest compositions. He planned to present similar concerts on an annual basis, but died unexpectedly from typhoid fever the same year.

Schubert never hear his Great C-Major Symphony, in part because the Viennese musicians considered it unplayable. It received its first performance in 1839 with the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra, under the direction of Felix Mendelssohn. The Symphony is sometimes considered the first Romantic symphony.

(Note by Fred Cohen)

· · · Personnel · · ·

Violin I

Ilan McNamara, concertmaster Lauren Kim Nicole Casey Jane Hoffman Chung-In Park

Violin II Naomi Wightman, principal Laura Alstrom Alanna Rice David Gouldin Wren Elhai Susannah Anderson

Viola Jenny Bernand, principal Shannon Bittman Dick Stone Heather Fairbanks

Cello Elyssa L. Covieo, principal Thomas Rivituso John Garth Hillary Hackman

Contrabass Delbert Williams, principal Joe LaPaglia

Flute Jamie Paulson, principal Elizabeth Markle *Oboe* Kelly Lauren Speiran, principal Tara Williford

Clarinet Mindy Christensen, principal Emily Avesian

Bassoon Stephanie Allen, principal Sheri Adams

French Horn Robert Gabler, principal Kathy Hulin

Trumpet Sean Linfors

Trombone Meghan Cooper, principal William Franklin Dave Davis

Timpani Rob Wright

Music Director Fred Cohen