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Russell Wilson, piano

Department of Music, University of Richmond

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Russell Wilson, piano



SEPTEMBER 7, 2003, 3:00 PM
CAMP CONCERT HALL
BOOKER HALL OF MUSIC



RUSSELL WILSON, a native of Memphis, Tennessee, is an outstanding classical and jazz pianist who received his bachelor and master of music degrees from Memphis State University. Formerly a member of Virginia Union University's faculty, he now teaches at the University of Richmond and at Virginia Commonwealth University and performs regularly with the Russell Wilson Quartet and Joe Kennedy Quartet, and the Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Orchestra.

Wilson enjoys a distinguished career as a solo and chamber music performer. He is the principal pianist of the Richmond Symphony Orchestra and the Richmond Sinfonia, where he has performed as a soloist and has accompanied world class artists including Mel Torme, Richard

Hyman, Cab Calloway, Chet Atkins, Steve Allen, and Carol Lawrence. Wilson's performances over the years have been numerous and varied: as pianist with the Joe Kennedy Quartet at the National Association of Jazz Educators Conference in Atlanta; with the Louisville Symphony Orchestra as accompanist for flautist Leslie Burrs; at the Smithsonian Institution as pianist with Trio Pro Viva, a chamber ensemble devoted to the performance of music by Black composers. As soloist, he has performed Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 1 in C major with the Petersburg Symphony Orchestra; Duke Ellington's New World a' Comin' with the New River Valley and the Richmond Symphony orchestras, and Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 23 in A-major. Wilson was selected to perform in master classes conducted by Earl Wild and Leon Fleisher.

In addition to his performances, Wilson has conducted improvisational workshops for the Richmond Music Teachers Association, Richmond Jazz Society (Bach, Bop and Beyond), Virginia Polytechnic Institute and Virginia State University with violinist Joe Kennedy, Jr. He has presented benefit concerts for American Field Services and Richmond Area Retarded Citizens.

As a recording artist, he is featured as soloist on *Moonlight Piano*, and *The Memphis Convention*. Both releases have enjoyed frequent airplay. During the summer of 1995 he became pianist for the Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Orchestra conducted by David Baker and Gunther Schuller, then began touring with the S.J.M.O. in January 1996, in celebration of the Smithsonian's 150th year. The group has since traveled throughout the United States, Canada, Istanbul, Spain, Italy, France, London, Helsinki, and the Hague performing the Cotton Club Revue featuring the music of Duke Ellington. During July, 2002, in conjunction with the Smithsonian Associates and RAICES Latin Music Museum, Wilson presented a lecture/performance at the Museum of the City of New York. His program traced the development of Latin jazz and its influence on American jazz.

Recently he was selected as a recipient of the Theresa Pollak Award for excellence in the arts. The presentation will occur on September 24, 2002, at the Grace Street Theatre.

· · · PROGRAM · · ·

Partita no. 3 in A minor

Fantasia
Allemande
Corrente
Sarabande
Burlesca
Scherzo
Gigue

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

Barcarolle, op. 60

Frédéric Chopin
(1810-1849)

From The Southland

Through the Moanin' Pines
The Frolic
In de Col' Moonlight
A Jubilee
On Bended Knees
A New Hiding-Place

Harry T. Burleigh
(1866-1949)

· · · INTERMISSION · · ·

Rhapsody, op 79, no. 1

Johannes Brahms
(1837-1897)

Sonata, op. 26

Allegro energico (1910-
Allegro vivace e lettero
Adagio mesto
Fuga

Samuel Barber

2003-2004 Performance Schedule - Partial Listing

Richard Becker, piano
Wednesday, Sept. 10, 2003, 7:30 pm
Perkinson Recital Hall
Free and open to the public.

Stefon Harris Quartet
Monday, Sept. 15, 2003, 7:30 pm
Camp Concert Hall
Call 289-8980 for ticket information.

Shanghai Quartet
Friday, Sept. 19, 2003, 7:30 pm
Camp Concert Hall
Call 289-8980 for ticket information.

Cory Blake, guitar
Tuesday, Sept. 23, 2003, 7:30 pm
Camp Concert Hall
Free and open to the public.

Department of Music Family Weekend Concert
Friday, Sept. 26, 2003, 7:30 pm
Camp Concert Hall
Free and open to the public.

Everybody's Ruby: Story of a Murder in Florida
Thursday, Oct. 2, 2003, 7:30 pm
Friday, Oct. 3, 2003, 7:30 pm
Saturday, Oct. 4, 2003, 7:30 pm
Sunday, Oct. 5, 2003, 2 pm
Alice Jepson Theatre
Call 289-8980 for ticket information.