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Richard Becker, piano

Department of Music, University of Richmond

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DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

FACULTY ARTIST RECITAL

RICHARD BECKER, pianist

Sunday, February 5, 2006 at 3:00 PM

Camp Concert Hall

PROGRAM

Rondo in A Minor, K. 511 (1787)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756 – 1791)

Sonata in F Minor, Opus 57 (1804)

Ludwig van Beethoven
(1770 – 1827)

Allegro assai

Andante con moto

Allegro ma non troppo

INTERMISSION

Fantasia in C Major, Opus 17 (1836)

Robert Schumann
(1810 – 1856)

Durchaus phantastisch und leidenschaftlich vorzutragen

Mäßig

Langsam getragen

Richard Becker, pianist

Richard Becker is an acclaimed piano recitalist who has performed in such major venues as Alice Tully Hall, Town Hall, at the Library of Congress, National Gallery, and French Embassy of Washington, D.C., and at Salle Cortot and Salle Michelet of Paris, France. Other venues include Williams College, New England Conservatory, Longy School of Music, Brattleboro Music Center, Middlebury College, Bucknell University, College of William and Mary, Virginia Museum, Carpenter Center, The Landmark Theater of Richmond Virginia, St. Cecilia Society of Grand Rapids, University of Texas, University of Oklahoma, Marshall University, and dozens of other colleges and concert venues around the country. His performances have been heard on NPR, Voice of America, WNYC, WETA, and WGMS, and are forthcoming on Albany Records.

Becker's repertoire is made up of masterworks of standard repertoire, which he often presents side by side with the finest art music by contemporary composers. His musicianship, molded in the tradition of Arthur Schnabel, was first acquired during his years as a student of, and later assistant to Leonard Shure at Boston University. His pianism, technique, and teaching are equally influenced by the methods of Tobias Matthay, as taught by Becker's mentor, Cecile Staub Genhart, at the Eastman School of Music, where Becker received the prestigious Performer's Certificate. Richard Becker, Associate Professor of Music, taught at the University of Texas and Boston University before joining the music faculty and coordinating piano study at the University of Richmond in 1975.

BECKER SUMMED UP DEBUSSY'S EYES, EARS, AND TEMPERAMENT
(Richmond Times Dispatch, 1999).

**A STELLAR PERFORMANCE...NO OBSTACLE INTRUDED BETWEEN ARTIST
AND AUDIENCE...LEFT HIS AUDIENCE GASPING**
(Bennington Banner).

POWERFUL INTERPRETATIONS.
(Washington Post).

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

**BRILLIANT PIANIST....SEAMLESS PASSAGE WORK....ELEGANT PHRASING....
CRYSTALLINE TECHNIQUE.**
(Richmond Times Dispatch, 2001).