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Lisa Samuels, piano

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UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC CONCERT SERIES

Senior Recital

Lisa Samuels, piano

March 29, 1996, 8:15 PM
Byrd and William Perkinson Recital Hall
Sonata in F major, K. 332
Allegro
Adagio
Allegro assai

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756-1791)

This sonata was written in Vienna between 1781 and 1783, one of Mozart’s busiest and most successful periods. The three movements fit the standard sonata style of the day: the first movement is in sonata allegro form, the second is in ABA form and the third is in rondo form.

Fantasy Pieces, op. 12
Des Abends
Aufschwung
Warum?
Grillen

Robert Schumann
(1810-1856)

Op. 12 consists of eight pieces, each with characteristic titles. The set was composed in 1837, at a time in which Schumann was resigned to the loss of his love, Clara. Amongst periods of despair he spent much time with Scottish pianist Robena Laidlaw, to whom this work is dedicated. These pieces are highly contrasting in mood. “Des Abends” is a glimpse of Schumann’s introspective tendencies, while “Aufschwung” is a release of soaring emotion. The hint of melancholy in “Warum?” is chased away by the whims of “Grillen,” making for a wonderful combination of emotions.
La fille aux cheveux de lin
from Preludes

Claude Debussy
(1862-1918)

“La fille aux cheveux de lin” (The girl with flaxen hair) was published in 1910 as the eighth prelude of Book One. Book Two was published in 1913. These sets are Debussy’s last homage to the descriptive writing genre which began with Schumann. In each of these preludes Debussy establishes a unique identity at the start; in this piece it is the opening melody which captures the essence of the work.

Etudes Tableaux, op. 33
No. 7 in E-flat major
No. 8 in G minor

Sergei Rachmaninoff
(1873-1943)

Op. 33 was written the summer after Rachmaninoff’s first American tour in 1909. A stellar pianist, he used his own skills to explore fully the expressive possibilities of the instrument. Each of these “study-pictures” was designed to create a story. No. 7 is said to represent a fair, and No. 8 is a musical representation of a Bocklin painting.

Gnomenreigen
from Two Concert Etudes

Franz Liszt
(1811-1886)

One of the 19th century’s leading virtuosos, Liszt’s own works are technically strenuous and brilliant in character. “Gnomenreigen” is one of two concert etudes written in 1862. Together these pieces are the only non-religious piano works written during this decade of Liszt’s career. This “Dance of the Gnomes” is a wonderfully animated work both in texture and mood.
Next:
Faculty Recital:
Richard Becker, piano
March 31, 1996, 3:00 PM
Byrd and William Perkinson Recital Hall