

2-3-2019

Richard Becker, piano

Department of Music, University of Richmond

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University of Richmond DEPARTMENT of

MUSIC
FREE CONCERT
SERIES

SPRING 2019

Richard Becker, piano

Sunday, February 3, 2019

3:00 p.m.

Camp Concert Hall
Booker Hall of Music



RICHMOND
School of Arts & Sciences

music.richmond.edu

PROGRAM

Sonata in B-flat Major, K. 570

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756 – 1791)

Allegro
Adagio
Allegretto

from Nine Piano Pieces

Richard Becker
(b. 1943)

I. Meditation
II. Inversions and Return
III. Capriccio

INTERMISSION

Kreisleriana, op. 16

Robert Schumann
(1810 – 1856)

Äußerst bewegt (extremely animated), D Minor
Sehr innig und nicht zu rasch (very inwardly and not too quickly), B-flat Major
Sehr aufgeregt (very agitated), G Minor
Sehr langsam (very slowly), B-flat Major/G Minor
Sehr lebhaft (very lively), G Minor
Sehr langsam (very slowly), B-flat Major
Sehr rasch (very fast), C Minor/E-flat Major
Schnell und spielend (vast and playful), G Minor

Barcarolle in F-Sharp Major, op. 60

Frédéric François Chopin
(1810 – 1849)

Reception to follow in the lobby of Booker Hall of Music

*Please silence all electronic devices before the performance begins.
Recording of any kind and photography are strictly prohibited.*



Coordinator of piano studies at the University of Richmond, **Richard Becker** is a pianist, composer, and chamber musician whose playing has been acclaimed in Europe and America. Playing on college campuses, he has frequently toured the eastern United States, having performed recitals at New York's Alice Tully Hall and Town Hall; Washington DC's Library

of Congress, National Gallery of Art, and the French Embassy; and Salle Cortot in Paris, as First Prize Laureate of the French Piano Institute (1996); and Salle Edmund Michelet (1997, 2006), a venue of the Cité Internationale des Arts, where he was for many years a frequent summer artist-in-residence. As a composer, and a nominee for an American Academy of Arts and Letters award, he has been a MacDowell Colony Fellow, and as a poet he has been a Scholarship Fellow of the Bread Loaf Writers Conference of Middlebury College, and a Fellow of the Vermont Studio Center.

His performances and his own music have been broadcast on NPR, Voice of America, WNYC, WETA, WGMS, and WCVE, and have been featured during a Marshall University Artist Residency, at National Conferences of the Music Teachers National Association, at CMS-Mid-Atlantic, at Brattleboro Chamber Festival, at the American Music Festival of the National Gallery, and at the James Madison University Contemporary Music and the Roxbury (NY) Music Festivals. He has received Meet the Composer grants, Contemporary Music Studio grants, and critical acclaim in the press. Becker's playing has been described as "powerful" by the *Washington Post*, "admirable in taste and technique" by the *New York Times*, and "brilliant with seamless passagework and elegant phrasing" by the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*.

Becker's playing is grounded in the tradition of Arthur Schnabel, acquired during his study with Leonard Shure while at Boston University (M. Mus.). His teaching owes much to the methods of Tobias Matthay, learned from Cecile Staub Genhart during his years at the Eastman School of Music (B.Mus. and Performers Certificate). Becker taught at the University of Texas and Boston University prior to joining the faculty at University of Richmond.

Continued...

In recent years, his poetry has been published in journals such as *America*, *Columbia*, *Cold Mountain*, and *Baltimore Review*, and online at *ucity review*; his poetic sequence, *FATES*, is a chapbook of *The Literary Review*. Becker's compositions have been recorded on CRS and his piano performances on Albany Records.