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UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND

Department of Music

Camp Memorial Theatre April 24, 1985 8:15 pm

THE UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND ORCHESTRA

Steven Errante, conductor
Richard Becker, pianist

Ma mère l'Oye

Maurice Ravel (1875-1937)

Pavane de la Belle au bois dormant
(Sleeping Beauty Pavane)
Petit Poucet
(Tom Thumb)
Laideronetté, Impératrice des Pagodes
(Little Ugly, Empress of the Pagodas)
Les entretiens de la Belle et de la Bête
(Dialogue of Beauty and the Beast)
Le jardin féerique
(The Enchanted Garden)

Piano Concerto #5 in E-flat, op. 73, Emperor

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

Allegro Adagio un poco mosso Rondo: allegro

Richard Becker, piano

ushers are members of the University Lake Society

THE UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND ORCHESTRA

Violin I

Althoa Levick

concertmistress

Charles A. Bosher

Sara Parker

Valli Anne Trusler

Violin II

Julia Hayes

Elizabeth Bostwick

Patricia Knoop

Hao Zhang

Viola

Bryan Starke

David Berry

David Freier

Violoncello

Sharon Heth

Laura Geer

Carolyn Ostar

David Romaine

Double-bass

Leslie Rose

Robert Wendell

Flute

Nancy Peters

Kate Kunkelman

Oboe

Richard Whicker

Clarinet

Gene Anderson

Keith Raker

Bassoon

Jay Snider

Horn

William Spears

Stewart White

Trumpet

Barbara Anderson

Thomas Mingone

Celeste

Elizabeth Welsh

Percussion

Beryl Sandler

Sandra Dickerson

Kathryn Fessler

Eric Harrison

Acknowledgements: Sharon Heth, Sandra Dickerson, Clyde Hughes

NOTES

Ma mère l'Oye (Mother Goose) was originally written as a set of children's pieces for piano duet, later orchestrated by the composer. Modest in their expression, they explore the magic world of the child through five exquisite miniatures. Behind the simplicity of the pieces is refined grace and a sense of wonder, all communicated through delicately colored harmonies and a shimmering orchestration.

Beethoven's Piano Concerto #5 (Emperor) is his mightiest effort in this genre. Despite the well-known story of Beethoven's distillusionment with Napoleon and the resulting rededication of the Third Symphony, the composer's fascination with the French leader seems to have continued. The present work, in the same key as the Third Symphony (the "heroic" key of E-flat), is written on a truly heroic scale, the first movement being one of Beethoven's longest. The solo part calls for a robust virtuosity unmatched in Beethoven's (or anyone else's) previous concertos. The second movement, a wonderfully tender Adagio, leads through a transition into the joyous Rondo which closes the work.