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Peter D'Elia, piano

Department of Music, University of Richmond

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University of Richmond
Department of Music

**Fall 2022-Spring 2023
Concert Series**

Peter D'Elia, piano

Thursday, March 16, 2023

7:30 p.m.

Camp Concert Hall



music.richmond.edu

PROGRAM

Etudes, op. 25
No. 1 in A-flat Major (“Aeolian Harp”) Frederic Chopin
(1810-1849)

Etudes, op. 10
No. 3 in E Major (“Tristesse”)

Preludes, op. 23
No. 5 in G Minor Sergei Rachmaninoff
No. 4 in D Major (1873-1943)
No. 2 in B-flat Major

INTERMISSION

Sonata No. 23 in F Minor, op. 57 (“Appassionata”) Ludwig van Beethoven
Allegro assai (1770-1827)
Andante con moto
Allegro ma non troppo - Presto

Pianist, teacher, researcher, and software engineer **Peter D’Elia** grew up on Cape Cod in Massachusetts, and gave his first performance, at the annual meeting of the Chatham Music Society, when he was ten years old. Since then, he has played with the Cape Cod Symphony Orchestra, the Tufts Symphony Orchestra, in concert halls at Harvard University, the University of Virginia, and the University of Richmond, both solo and chamber music. He received his B.A. in music from Harvard, his M.A. in music from Tufts, and his Ph.D. in music from the University of Virginia. His dissertation focused on the interactions between music — the piano sonatas, the songs, and the oratorio of Beethoven — and

the various strains of thought within the philosophy of pre- and post-Revolutionary France and Germany. He found that with Beethoven, music itself became heard as philosophical, essentially interpretable, and developed the ability to contain meaning beyond its surface aesthetics. Over time, his music developed a plethora of interpretations. Peter traced the political content of these interpretations as they shifted according to the nationality and the politics of the various interpreters.

Since receiving his Ph.D., Peter has taught private and class piano, as well as academic courses, at the University of Virginia, serving on the performance and musicology faculties. He originated and participated in several concerts at UVA, including two as part of the “synergy” concert series — one focused on the resonances between Mozart and nature, the other on similarities between musical and literary interpretation, centering on the music of Beethoven.

With the onset of Covid, Peter went on hiatus from performing and from most teaching. With his extra time, he learned to design and write software, an endeavor in which he finds similar qualities of logical structure, creativity, and actualization which he finds to be so appealing in music, and became a professional engineer. He is excited to resume playing for audiences again after this break, which has only deepened his appreciation of the power and necessity of live, in-person music performance.



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