Katie Moyer, flute. Senior Recital

Department of Music, University of Richmond

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KATIE MOYER
flute

Senior Recital

ASSISTED BY
Dr. Joanne Kong, piano
Jennifer Lawson, flute

Saturday, April 16, 2011
12:30 p.m.
UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND
Perkinson Recital Hall
I would first like to thank Jennifer Lawson and Dr. Kong for their boundless assistance and encouragement over the past year in preparation for this event. Jen—without your guidance over the past four years this truly could not have been possible.

Sincere thanks to Dr. Anderson and Dr. Davison for their continued support of my musical involvement at the University, and to Barbara Melton for making this recital possible.

David Niethamer, thank you for providing me the opportunity and voice within your ensemble to propose concerto ideas and your making them happen!

Cindy LeBlanc, I owe my musical passion and nearly everything else to you.

Finally, of course, to my parents for your never-ending support and to my friends who have sat through the concerts.

Jennifer Lawson, flute

Paul Hindemith (1895-1963)

Astor Piazzolla (1921-1992)

Francis Poulenc (1899-1963)

Gary Schocker (1959- )
Johann Sebastian Bach’s flute sonatas are among the most recognizable of the flute literature. The German composer was an accomplished organist, harpsichordist, violist, and violinist. His sacred and secular works for choir, orchestra, and solo instruments represent the maturity of the Baroque period. As a keyboardist, Bach wrote many solo and chamber pieces for harpsichord. In the first movement of Sonata II one can hear driving lines of the harpsichord accompany the more lyrical passages of the flute. In the second movement, an effect of the harpsichord dampens its sound as it becomes more of an accompaniment to the flute’s haunting melody. In the final movement, both instruments are equally featured as the harpsichord returns to its original dynamic.

Paul Hindemith was a German composer who wrote a variety of orchestral, chamber, and solo works. His musical style can be described as neo-classical, incorporating elements of classical music such as dissonance resolving to consonance. His Eight Pieces for Solo Flute is representative of 20th-century German composition, providing a contrasting style to other pieces on the program.

Astor Piazzolla’s compositions became of personal interest to me in high school when I heard his recording, Tango Zero Hour. The album features Piazzolla on the bandoneon, a button squeeze box similar to a small accordion and the central instrument to tango music. The Argentina-born composer’s music has been described as a fusion of tango, classical, and jazz, creating a unique style called “new tango.” His six technical etudes for flute were written later in his career when he returned to many of his classical roots without abandoning his connection to tango music. While etudes are usually considered highly technical pieces used primarily for practicing purposes to perfect technique, Piazzolla’s etudes contain dance and lyrical qualities that make them effective performance pieces as well.

Francis Poulenc’s Sonata for Flute has become a classic in any flutist’s repertoire. Poulenc was a French composer and part of “Les Six,” a group of six composers working in Montparnasse whose music is often seen as a reaction against the musical style of Richard Wagner and impressionist music. He composed a variety of orchestral, chamber, solo, and ballet music. The four woodwind sonatas he completed, including his Sonata for Flute, were composed during his later life. He had the intention of writing a sonata for each of the woodwinds, but died after only completing sonatas for the flute, oboe, clarinet, and horn.

Gary Schocker is an American musician who is currently active in composition and performance. He is the only composer on the program who is also an accomplished flutist. He has composed numerous orchestral and chamber pieces and several musicals. Schocker holds multiple performance and composition awards including the National Flute Association’s annual Newly Published Music Award. His Three Dances for Two Flutes is a fun and energetic piece, with the two flutes continually complementing each other in rhythm and melody throughout the three movements.

—Katie Moyer