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Senior Recital: Xipeng Ke, piano

Department of Music, University of Richmond

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SENIOR RECITAL

XIPENG KE KE
PIANO

FROM THE STUDIO OF
RICHARD BECKER

PERKINSON RECITAL HALL
FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2024
3:00 PM
PROGRAM

Piano Sonata No. 23 in F minor, op. 57, Ludwig Van Beethoven (1770 –1827)
("Appasionata")

Allegro assai
Andante con moto
Allegro ma non troppo – Presto

--Intermission (10 Minutes)--

Eight Memories in Watercolor (1978) Tan Dun (b. 1957)
2. Staccato Beans
4. Blue Nun
7. Floating Clouds
8. Sunrain

The piano suite Eight Memories in Watercolor was created by Chinese-American composer Tan Dun, inspired by a watercolor painting titled “The Seashore” that deeply attracted him. He felt that the painting evoked memories of his hometown. He chose eight watercolor paintings as the sources, expressing his feelings and emotions for these paintings in eight varied musical forms. In this representative work combining music and painting, he overlaps both classical and modern, Eastern and Western musical elements.
“In That Place Wholly Faraway” is a traditional Chinese folk song that was transcribed in a modern way. The song is inspired by the beautiful Qinghai grasslands, depicting a touching romantic love story where a man meets a beautiful woman, and they fall in love. However, the woman mysteriously disappears one day, and the man searches everywhere for a long time but never finds her. This song has been widely sung and was included in the music textbooks by the Paris Conservatory of Music. Since the 1940s, it has been performed by many world-famous singers, including American jazz singer Diana Ross, and Spanish tenors José Carreras and Plácido Domingo. In 2011, the song was adapted as a piano piece by famous pianist Zhang Zhao. This piano work expresses the emotions and artistic conception of the original song in a more profound and vivid manner through the piano’s timbres, a variety of textures and melodic figurations.