



The Music Department of Wagner College presents

Katherine Liu, violin
with
Joyce Chung, piano

May 5, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.
Campus Hall Performance Center

Katherine Liu is a student of Ms. Sally Thomas

Program

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| Sonata No. 4 in A minor, Op. 23
Presto
Andante scherzoso, più allegretto
Allegro molto | Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827) |
| Souvenir d'un lieu cher, Op. 42
(Memory of a dear place)
Méditation
Scherzo
Mélodie | Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840-1893) |
| Intermission | |
| Partita No. 2 in D minor for solo violin
Ciaccona | Johannes Sebastian Bach (1685-1750) |
| Theme from <i>Schindler's List</i> | John Williams (b. 1932) |
| Banjo and Fiddle | William Kroll (1901-1980) |

Ludwig van Beethoven – Sonata No. 4 in A minor, Op. 23

Beethoven began taking piano lessons from his father, later studying with Christian Gottlob Neefe in 1779, from whom he eventually took over the court organist position. This teacher influenced him to travel to Vienna, though Beethoven returned to Bonn weeks later.

This sonata was composed in Vienna in 1801 and dedicated to Count Moritz von Fries, for whom Beethoven also composed several following works. It was during this year that Beethoven began to acknowledge his hearing impairment to others. Although he realized that doctors would be aiding him, he knew that his future was in danger.

Unlike most three movement works which include a slow second movement, Beethoven's fourth sonata has a swift middle movement. The sonata opens and closes with stormy movements whose contrasting moods are in minor keys with dashes of major themes, although the second movement, designated "scherzoso," is jocular and a nice distinction to its surrounding movements.

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky – Souvenir d'un lieu cher, Op. 42

Tchaikovsky lived in St. Petersburg, Russia, where he studied piano when 5 years old. He began composing after his mother's death, at age 14. Tchaikovsky completed this work in May 1878 on the estate of his benefactress, Nadezhda von Meck, in Brailovo, Ukraine (which is the place for which he titled this work, "memories of a dear place"). By the time this work was published, Tchaikovsky had dealt with his divorce after being married for just a year. He expressed some of his sore emotions in this work while projecting an indifferent façade to the public.

The first movement titled "Meditation" was originally planned to be the second movement of his renowned violin concerto, but he hesitated to keep it as such because of its minuscule structure in comparison to the monumental first and final movements of the concerto. He writes this work largely in the style of Russian folk song. The bookend movements are expressive and melodic, while the middle movement is quick and stirring as well as charming and flowing in the trio section.

Johann Sebastian Bach – Partita No. 2 in D Minor, BWV 1004, Ciaccona

J.S. Bach is well known as a Baroque master, as he was an active organist in several places in Germany as well as composing a vast number of pieces, especially for keyboard. Bach wrote three sonatas and three partitas for unaccompanied violin. Unusual when composed, these are now standard repertoire for violinists everywhere. A partita is a work consisting of several dance-like movements, and a ciaccona is a dance where techniques of variation are used in a triple metered setting. The ciaccona tends to be a final movement primarily because it consists of numerous varied repetitions of a single short phrase, sustaining the character of the piece for a long period of time.

This work was completed by 1720 while Bach was Kapellmeister in Anhalt-Cöthen for Prince Leopold. In this fifth movement of his second partita, J.S. Bach masterfully writes multiple variations of the main theme which is first introduced right at the start. There are many textures within this movement as he varies the initial progression multiple times throughout the piece.

John Williams – Theme from *Schindler's List*

This famous film composer had his beginnings in Floral Park, NY. He moved to Los Angeles with his family in 1948, later studying composition at the University of California at Los Angeles. Williams enlisted in the Air Force but found his passion in music, coming back to New York to attend The Juilliard School, where he studied piano while performing as a jazz pianist in clubs and on recordings. Returning to Los Angeles, he began his career in the film industry. He conducted the Boston Pops Orchestra and remains Artist-In-Residence at Tanglewood. This theme was written specifically for the award-winning movie *Schindler's List*, produced by Steven Spielberg in 1993. The film score is performed by Itzhak Perlman and the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

William Kroll – Banjo and Fiddle

Originally from New York City, Kroll was well known as a violinist and a teacher. He first studied with his father, later moving to Berlin to study with Henri Marteau. After World War I, he returned to New York, where he attended Juilliard with Franz Kneisel. He was a very active soloist and chamber musician as he toured as a member of three chamber groups: the Elshuco Trio, the Coolidge Quartet, and the Kroll Quartet. Later in life, he taught at conservatories such as Juilliard, Mannes, the Peabody Institute, the Cleveland Institute of Music, and Queens College.

This piece alternates between plucking and bowing, resembling banjo and fiddle respectively.

Katherine Liu is a dual major in Childhood Education and Music. She is a member of The Education Honor Society (Kappa Delta Pi) and The National Leadership Honor Society (Omicron Delta Kappa) at Wagner College.

Since her senior year at the LaGuardia High School of Performing Arts and the Preparatory Division of Mannes College of Music, Katherine has been studying violin with Sally Thomas. Katherine is a recipient of numerous awards and has attended and performed at the Interlochen Arts Camp, Boston University's Tanglewood Institute, and the Meadowmount School of Music, where she was teaching assistant for Ms. Sally Thomas in 2013. Throughout her undergraduate years, Katherine has been a member of the New York Youth Symphony Orchestra and its Chamber Music Program, in the course of which she has performed in master classes with Joel Krosnick, Fred Sherry, Alan Kay, David Krakauer, Ani Kavafian and Daniel Phillips (the mentor for the 2013 Weill Recital Hall performance by her string quartet, Casadesus).

In 2012 and 2013, her chamber groups, Piavioclarello and Casadesus Quartet, were the recipients of the New York Youth Symphony Chamber Music Program Director's Award. She was the Apprentice Coach Intern of the NYYS CMP in 2013, and is currently assistant manager of the program. In June 2013, she received highest accolades as guest soloist in Samuel Barber's Violin Concerto with the Symphony Orchestra of the National Taiwan Normal University for Teachers in Taipei.

Katherine has been accepted to The Juilliard School and will begin pursuing her Master of Music degree this 2014 fall.