

NOON CONCERT

of

HARPSICHORD MUSIC

Wednesday, May 24, 1967

12:30 p.m.

Music Auditorium

William Beyers, Harpsichordist

R# 4680

PROGRAM

I. J.S. Bach
(1685-1750)

Italian Concerto
Allegro
Andante
Presto

In the early stages of its development (1670-1750), a concerto in Italian style might feature a single violin as a cantabile solo voice supported by an ensemble of other string instruments and harpsichord. This is the effect created in the second movement of the Italian Concerto for a Harpsichord with Two Manuals. Or a group of solo instruments could be alternated with or be set against the full orchestra, which is the effect sought after in the first and second movements.

II. J.S. Bach

Fantasia in C minor

III. Francois Couperin
(1668-1733)

Les Folies Francaises

The twelve pieces of Les Folies Francaises are from the 18th Ordre of Couperin's harpsichord works. They bear programmatic titles which suggest a succession of masqueraders each in a cloak and masque of a color symbolic of a different human passion. The set of pieces is actually a series of variations upon a chaconne bass which can be described in scale-tones as: 8-7-8-5-3-4-5-1. This fixed bass constrains the harmonies to be essentially the same for each piece while the melody expressed by the right hand is free to be different. Les Folies Francaises have been described as "a microcosm of Couperin's art: its tragic passion, its witty urbanity, its sensuous charm."

1. La Virginité sous le Domino couleur d'invisible. (Innocence in a white mask.)
2. La Pudeur (Modesty) sous le Domino couleur de rose.
3. L'Ardeur sous le Domino incarnat. (Ardor in a crimson mask.)
4. L'Espérance sous le Domino vert. (Hope in a green mask.)
5. La Fidélité sous le Domino bleu.
6. La Persévérance sous le Domino gris de lin. (Flaxen gray.)
7. La Langueur sous le Domino violet.
8. La Coquetterie sous diferens Dominos. (a vari-colored mask.)
9. Les Vieux Galans et les trésorieres surannées sous des Dominos pourpres et feuilles mortes. (Ancient galants ... under Roman-red masks and dead leaves.)
10. Les Coucoucs bénévoles sous des Dominos jaunes (yellow.)
11. La Jalousie taciturne sous le Domino gris de maure. (Silent jealousy in a mask of Moorish gray.)
12. La Frenésie, ou le Désespoir sous le Domino noir. (Frenzy or Despair in a black mask.)

IV. Francois Couperin

Le Tic-Toc-Choc

(18th Ordre)

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