

Compact disc

P477

2017

3-26

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MINA PERSON



PROGRAM

Sunday, March 26, 2017

2:00 pm

Brechemin Auditorium

School of Music

University of Washington

CD #17,722

1 **Sonja Myklebust**

Brechemin Foundation Scholar, UW School of Music

Bach: *Suite for solo cello in G Major*) 22:16
Tchaikovsky: *Andante Cantabile*

2 **Robin McCabe**

Professor, UW School of Music

Welcome Address 10:33

3 **Marsha Wright**

Chopin: *Mazurka in a minor, Op. 17, No. 4* 5:37

4 **Thomas Bayley**

Family Friend 4:01

6 **Elizabeth Duffell** and **Matthew Krashan** 4:35

Director of Artistic Engagement and Emeritus Artistic Director,
Meany Center for the Performing Arts

7 **Robin McCabe**

Schumann: *Widmung (Dedication)*, transcribed for piano by Franz Liszt 4:15
& prerecorded EXIT music

Please join us for a reception in the Music Fishbowl following the program

Obituary

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Mina Bloedel (Brechemin) Person, of Seattle, who died peacefully on the morning of Feb. 10, 2017, following a recent struggle with lung cancer.

Born in Manhattan on May 18, 1946, to Louis Brechemin and Charlotte Van Alstyne (Bloedel) Brechemin, Mina had been a Seattle resident since the early 1950s. She attended the Bush School and Smith College before ultimately graduating from the University of Washington after studying Classics. Mina married Phillip A Person in 1965. The couple was divorced in 1985 and Mina married Bruce Swartz in 1993.

Everyone who knew Mina soon saw the breadth that her love of life encompassed. She was as comfortable attending a gala in one of the great concert houses of Europe as she was cheering on her beloved Huskies. She was also a woman of remarkable strength, resilience, sensitivity, and fierce love and devotion to the people and causes she held dear, who took great joy in providing lifelong support to numerous arts and culture organizations in the Seattle area and the Pacific Northwest.

Mina especially loved listening to music, of all periods and types. You could always tell when a piece moved her, as she would tilt her head back slightly, almost close her eyes, form a subtle smile, and nod along approvingly, completely immersed in waves of melody, harmony, and rhythm. She found several outlets for this love, notably as president of the Brechemin Foundation, founded by her parents, through which she continued that organization's long history of patronage of the University of Washington School of Music, including funding for renovations to Brechemin Auditorium and the Brechemin Scholarship, which has provided significant financial assistance to UW music students for over 50 years.

Mina was also instrumental in providing funding for free admission to the UW community and general public to dozens of

concerts and performances at Brechemin Auditorium and the Walker-Ames Room of Kane Hall. As the School of Music's director, Richard Karpen, said, Mina and her family's contributions, "Have made an indelible impact on the School of Music and the greater Seattle community. All of us—students, faculty, and staff of the School of Music—are saddened by Mina's passing and deeply grateful for all that she and her family have made possible here."

In addition to UW's School of Music, Mina was deeply involved in the university's Meany Center for the Performing Arts. She was a longtime member of the Meany Center (UW World Series) Advisory Board and as a dedicated member of Meany's Education Committee, her work supported funding, planning, and implementing artist-in-residence programs for Seattle K-12 schools that, in the words of the Meany Center's artistic director, Michelle Witt, "Touched the lives of thousands of children each year. Her passion and dedication will continue to inspire the lives of many, and she will be very dearly missed."

As a part-time resident of Orcas Island, Mina was also an established patron of arts and culture there, in particular the Orcas Island Chamber Music Festival. In the words of her friend and island neighbor, Janet Ketcham, "Mina's passion and love of music, like her father's, made her a great contributor to life on Orcas."

Mina was preceded in death by her first husband, Phillip, in 1990, and her second, Bruce, in 2016. She is survived by her beloved children, Deborah Person and Phillip B. Person, her cherished daughter-in-law, Katie Person, and two of the greatest joys she ever knew, her treasured grandsons, Phillip Clair and Luke.

In lieu of flowers, remembrances may be sent to the Friends of Meany Center for the Performing Arts, University of Washington, Box 351150, Seattle, WA 98195-1150, or visit www.meanycenter.org/donate.