

Compact disc

M3234

2013

11-17

School of Music

University of Washington Seattle, Washington

The McCabe/Larionoff Duo

Maria Larionoff, *violin* / Robin McCabe, *piano*

presents

THE BEETHOVEN PROJECT

Sonatas for Violin and Piano by

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN

(1770-1827)

Part II

with commentary by

Stephen Rumph

2:00 PM

November 17, 2013

Brechemin Auditorium

noncirc cds # 16,763
16,764

CD1-#16,765 PROGRAM

1 - S. Rumph 24:20

SONATA IN A MAJOR, Opus 30, no.1 25:22

2 Allegro

3 Adagio molto espressivo

4 Allegretto con Variazioni

5 remarks

SONATA IN E^b MAJOR, Opus 12, no. 3 18:59

6 Allegro con spirito

7 Adagio con molto espressione

8 Rondo: Allegro molto

INTERMISSION

CD2-#16,766

1 - remarks

SONATA IN C MINOR, Opus 30, no. 2 29:31

2 Allegro con brio

3 Adagio cantabile

4 Scherzo: Allegro

5 Finale: Allegro

CLASSICAL

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Celebrated American pianist ROBIN MCCABE has established herself as one of America's most communicative and persuasive artists. McCabe's involvement and musical sensibilities have delighted audiences across the United States, Europe, Canada, and in seven concert tours of the Far East. The United States Department of State sponsored her two South American tours, which were triumphs artistically and diplomatically.

As noted by the New York Times, "What Ms. McCabe has that raises her playing to such a special level is a strong lyric instinct and confidence in its ability to reach and touch the listener." The Tokyo Press declared her a "pianistic powerhouse," and a reviewer in Prague declared, "Her musicianship is a magnet for the listener." Richard Dyer, the eminent critic of the Boston Globe, wrote: "Her brilliant, natural piano playing shows as much independence of mind as of fingers."

Her recordings have received universal acclaim. Her debut album for Vanguard Records featured the premiere recording of Guido Agosti's transcription of Stravinsky's *Firebird Suite*. Critics praised it as "mightily impressive." Stereo Review described her disc of Bartók as "all that we have come to expect from this artist, a first-rate performance!" She was commissioned to record four albums for the award-winning company Grammofon AB BIS in Stockholm, which remain distributed internationally, including the CD "Robin McCabe Plays Liszt" (AB BIS No. 185).

McCabe, a Puyallup native, earned her bachelor of music degree *summa cum laude* at the University of Washington School of Music, where she studied with Béla Siki, and her master's and doctorate degrees at The Juilliard School of Music, where she studied with Rudolf Firkušny. She joined the Juilliard faculty in 1978 then returned to the UW in 1987 to accept a position on the piano faculty. In 1994 McCabe was appointed Director of the School of Music, a position she held until 2009. She has held a Ruth Sutton Waters Professorship and a Donald Petersen Professorship in the School of Music. In addition, McCabe is a dedicated arts ambassador and advocate for arts audience development, frequently addressing arts organizations across the country.

McCabe is a teacher in high demand, with gifted students from throughout the US and abroad seeking admittance to her studio class. With colleague Craig Sheppard, she has created the highly successful *Seattle Piano Institute*, an intense summer "immersion experience" for gifted and aspiring classical pianists that enters its fourth season in 2013.

The winner of numerous prizes and awards, including the International Concert Artists Guild Competition and a Rockefeller Foundation

“An outstanding talent intoxicating in its brilliance” raved the San Francisco Chronicle at MARIA LARIONOFF’s solo debut. Since then, she has appeared with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Seattle Symphony, and the Orquestra Sinfónica Carlos Chavez in Mexico City, the Oakland Symphony, the University of Washington Orchestra, the Yakima Symphony, the Port Angeles Symphony and the San Francisco Chamber Orchestra.

A Loomis Scholarship Award winner at The Juilliard School, Ms. Larionoff was a student of Dorothy DeLay, and, upon graduating was invited by the esteemed Maestro Carlo Maria Giulini to join the violin section of the Los Angeles Philharmonic. Ms. Larionoff was then appointed Concertmaster of the Seattle Symphony, where she has been featured as a soloist and leader on numerous occasions, including her critically acclaimed solo performances in the 2011 release of “Scheherazade.” Her 2012 performance of the Vasks Violin Concerto received praise from the New York Times: ...the elegant violinist Maria Larionoff was stunning, incisive and radiant”.

Her unusual versatility as a violist as well as a violinist has led to invitations at many chamber music festivals, including the Seattle Chamber Music Society, Chamber Music Northwest, The International Music Festival, the Marrowstone Festival, the Mostly Mozart Festival and the Vetta Series in Vancouver, B.C.

Ms. Larionoff has collaborated in chamber music concerts with many distinguished artists including Emanuel Ax, Itzhak Perlman, Lynn Harrell, Steven Staryk, Dmitri Sitkovetsky and Glenn Dicterow. She has worked with some of the world’s leading conductors, among them Sir Simon Rattle, Zubin Mehta, Pierre Boulez, Andre Previn, Kurt Sanderling, Erich Leinsdorf and Kurt Masur.

Ms. Larionoff has served on the faculty of the University of Washington and was the head violin coach for the Seattle Youth Symphony for many years. She maintains a busy private teaching studio in addition to her performing schedule. Her CD of the Barber concerto won praise from renowned critic Byron Belt of the Newhouse News: “Miss Larionoff’s solo performance matches the recently deservedly acclaimed Sony Classical recording by Hilary Hahn, with Hugh Wolff and the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra.”

In 2001 Ms. Larionoff and her husband Barry Lieberman founded the American String Project, a conductorless string orchestra made up of Concertmasters and soloists from around the world. The group performs annually in May at Benaroya Hall, and is currently forming an education and mentoring program for advanced students in conservatories and music schools.

grant, McCabe was the subject of a lengthy New Yorker magazine profile, "Pianist's Progress," later expanded into a book of the same title.

McCabe has collaborated in concert with many distinguished artists, and toured the United States for several years as the recital partner of the renowned violinist Ruggiero Ricci, who died last year at age 94. In the past three years she has presented duo recitals with violinist Maria Larionoff, and in February of 2013 their concert launched a two-season project in which they will perform the violin and piano sonatas of Beethoven.

In 1995 McCabe presented the annual faculty lecture—a concert with commentary—at the University of Washington. She is the first professor of music in the history of the University to be awarded this lectureship. Seattle magazine selected McCabe as one of 17 current and past University of Washington professors who have had an impact on life in the Pacific Northwest. In 2005, to celebrate its 100th year as an institution, The Juilliard School selected McCabe as one of 100 alumni from 20,000 currently living to be profiled in its centenary publication recognizing distinction and accomplishments in the international world of music, dance, and theater.

McCabe performs regularly throughout the United States, and in September of 2011 she made her first visit to South Korea. She appears often as an invited jurist for international piano competitions, most recently in New Orleans, San Antonio, and Vancouver, Canada.

STEPHEN RUMPH teaches courses on Mozart, Beethoven, Fauré, Bach, Verdi, Wagner, music and politics, opera, rhetoric, and semiotics. He earned his Ph.D. at the University of California, Berkeley, writing a Beethoven dissertation with Joseph Kerman. He joined the UW School of Music faculty in 2002.

Rumph's book *Beethoven After Napoleon: Political Romanticism in the Late Works* (University of California Press, 2004) offers a political interpretation of late Beethoven illuminated by the writings of the German Romantics. A new book, *Mozart and Enlightenment Semiotics*, is in production with UC Press. It pioneers a "historically-informed" semiotics of music for Mozart, based upon eighteenth-century sign and language theory. His next project will be a study of Gabriel Fauré's melodies.

Rumph has published articles in the *Journal of the Royal Music Association*, *Music and Letters*, *Beethoven Forum*, *19th-Century Music*, *Eighteenth-Century Music*, and *The Journal of Musicology*, as well as reviews in *JAMS*, *JRMA*, *Beethoven Forum*, the *Cambridge Opera Journal*, and *Journal of Musicological Research*. He has given invited papers

at Oxford, Cambridge, Stanford, Duke, University of British Columbia, University of Nottingham, and various conferences and music festivals. He served as Reviews Editor for Beethoven Forum (2005-2008).

Rumph also sings professionally as a lyric tenor. He has sung with the Seattle Symphony, Spokane Symphony, Walla Walla Symphony, Northwest Sinfonietta, Tacoma Symphony Orchestra, Tacoma Opera, Skagit Valley Opera, Berkeley Opera, and other opera companies and orchestras through the Puget Sound and San Francisco Bay Area.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS: The close artistic and personal friendships of Clara and Robert Schumann, Felix and Fanny Mendelssohn, and Johannes Brahms constitute one of the most remarkable orbits of interactions in musical history. This series, produced by Professor Robin McCabe, features samplings from their rich and prolific repertoires, with historical context offered in commentary and narration.

December 1, 4:30 PM, Brechemin Auditorium: Music of Johannes Brahms, Robert Schumann, and Felix Mendelssohn.

March 9, 4:30 PM, Brechemin Auditorium: Music of Johannes Brahms, Robert Schumann, and Felix Mendelssohn. Pre-concert illustrated slide lecture by George Bozarth on art and romanticism in music at 4:00 PM.

May 4, 4:30 PM, Brechemin Auditorium: Focus on Fanny Mendelssohn and Clara Schumann. Pre-concert lecture by Judy Tsou: "To *Lied* or not to *Lied*? That is the Woman Composer's Question" at 4:00 PM.

THE BEETHOVEN PROJECT, Part III: Maria Larionoff, *violin*, and Robin McCabe, *piano*, conclude their traversal of the complete Beethoven Sonatas for Violin and Piano.

April 27, 2:00 PM, Brechemin Auditorium. Pre-concert lecture by Stephen Rumph at 1:30 PM.