

Summer Piano Recital



June 10, 2017

Hillman Performance Hall
Westminster Choir College

Title in Green-Baroque Style

Title in Blue-Classical Style

Title in Red-Romantic Style

Title in Purple-Impressionistic Style

Title in Orange-Contemporary Style

Holden Chang

Electronic Game Lynn Freeman Olson (1938-1987)

It sounds like me playing the arcade Pac-Man. My brother is the ghosts and I am the Pac-Man. He goes and then I go and then he goes and then I go and then he goes and then I win. I like this piece because it sounds like a real electronic game and it is fun.



Owl in the Night Catherine Rollin

Owl in the Night makes me feel sleepy. I like it because it is soft and smooth and it is fun. And, at the end it sounds like he's not saying who- whooo anymore.



Erin Yoon

Sunset Glow Jennifer Lin

Sunset Glow is a soothing piece and it is written in A minor. When I play this piece I imagine a rainbow of colors in the sky. At first, the composer is admiring a sunset. As the sun fades, she asks the sun where it is going. But at the end, she is just happy to be able to see such a beautiful sunset.

Juggler Nancy Faber

A juggler is juggling everything from fruits to plates to bowling pins to rubber balls and never drops one onto the ground. To show the items being tossed from his hand, the composer uses staccato. However, there is some legato to show how the items are tossed gracefully in a circle. I chose this piece because my favorite articulation is staccato.

Sophie Shin

First Sonatina.....Lynn Freeman Olson (1938-1987)

Movement I

It is a beautiful day in the playground.
It is nice outside. I see my friends, and I play with them.

Movement II

I see a swing, and I go up and down, up and down.
I sail really high and then low.

Kylan Tatum

Sonata in B minor No. 47, Hob XVI:32 Menuet..... Franz Joseph Haydn(1732-1809)

Franz Joseph Haydn, born March 31, 1732, died May 31, 1809, was an Austrian composer of the Classical period. His contributions to musical form have earned him the epithets "Father of the Symphony" and "Father of the Quartet".

Haydn spent much of his career as a court musician for the wealthy Esterhazy family at their remote estate. Until the later part of his life, he was isolated from other composers and different trends in music so that he was forced to become original, yet his music spread widely, and for a large portion of his career he was the most celebrated composer in Europe.

He was a friend and mentor of Mozart. He taught Beethoven, and the older brother of the composer Michael Haydn. Sonata in B Minor, Minuet, is one of three stylistic movements known as *Sturm und Drang* (Storm and Stress): *Sturm und Drang* is a period when music and literature was composed with a notion of agitation or stress from the early 1760s to the 1780's. This particular piece was composed in 1776. The second movement illustrates a strong Mozart influence and use of syncopated rhythms. The piece is played in *tiempo di minuet*, and it contains many trills, both long and short, which are referred to as Haydn ornaments.

Pauline and PoeAn Lu

Eine Klein Nachtmusik.....Wolfgang Mozart (1756-1791)

Eine Kleine Nachtmusik was written by Mozart in 1787. This is a very joyful piece that is also very jumpy, particularly in the A section, as the piece begins. The B section is more quiet and peaceful, though. The piece ultimately ends with a stronger version of the A section, the notes being pounded out to a strong conclusion. Mozart is a VERY famous Classical composer, who started composing at the very young age of 5. His music is loved by young and old alike, and he himself has been revered for centuries.

Tai Tatum

Entertainer..... Scott Joplin (1868-1917)

The Entertainer, also known as Ragtime in Two Step, was written by Scott Joplin, in 1902. Joplin was known as the "King of Ragtime" and his The Maple Leaf Rag was the most successful ragtime song in history. Joplin was born in Texarkana to two musician parents. He left home as a teen to pursue a career as a traveling musician. The late 1800's were a challenging time for African-American musicians and he eventually migrated north to Chicago and Missouri. In Missouri, he not only began to compose waltzes but he also became a piano teacher to students including Arthur Marshall, Scott Hayden and Brun Campbell. He eventually moved to New York and began composing operas without much success. He died in New York City on April 1, 1917 after a bout with mental illness. He would not receive the recognition for his talent and contributions to shaping other genres such as jazz until well past his death. In 1976, he was posthumously awarded a Pulitzer Prize.

The Entertainer became popular in 1973 as the theme song to The Sting starring Robert Redford. The song is ranked #10 on the RIAA Songs of the Century list. "Songs of the Century" list.

Air Show Acrobatic.....Kevin Olson

Air Show Acrobatics is part of the Sonatina in Flight collection composed in 2011. The piece is characterized by a series of rapid repeats and dramatic and quick dynamic changes. It is an exhilarating piece.

Kevin Olson is a modern day composer and professor at Elmhurst College, where he teaches classical and jazz piano. He has a Bachelor and Masters degree in Composition and Theory from Brigham Young University, and a doctorate degree from National-Louis University. He was born in Utah and began composing at a very early age. He has been a Composer in Residence at the National Conference on Piano Pedagogy and has published over forty books through FJH Music Company.

Sanya Iyer

Prelude in C minor BWV 999 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Prelude in C Minor is a fast paced baroque composition written by J.S. Bach. Bach was a German composer and musician who was also born into a great musical family. Bach is most famously known for his plethora of compositions but is not recognized as well for his talents or skills and talents. In his life he wrote almost 1128 compositions and 23 were found unfinished. This piece is in C Minor as stated in the title and mostly consists of triads on the left hand and the melody on the right hand. The tension grows as the piece continues and then resolves by the end of the composition.

Sonatina in A minorGeorge Anton Benda (1722-1795)

This one-movement Sonatina written in a classical style which consists of broken chords and short sections following an ABA pattern. It has a variety of dynamics used to emphasize a similar pattern throughout the piece. It also consists of a left hand reaching over the right which can make the composition somewhat difficult but entertaining to play. George Anton Benda was born during the classical period into a family of musicians. Along with this composition being his most well-known work he also composed ten operas, multiple sonatas and concertos for the violin and keyboard.

Danica Bajaj

Paradise.....Coldplay

Paradise is a song by the Alternative Rock band, Coldplay. This is their most well known song, and it is from their fifth album, *Mylo Xyloto*. *Paradise* won a grammy, an MTV music award, an Academy award, and gave Coldplay the opportunity to perform at the 50th Super Bowl. The song lyrics are about a young girl's dashed hopes and dreams of paradise. Written in D minor, the piece gives off feelings of nostalgia. It begins with a long introduction filled with broken chords, light use of the pedals, and bits of the melody scattered throughout. As the piece progresses, the melody moves up to a higher octave and comes back down gradually. Finally, the piece wraps up with a slow, pianissimo, graceful ending.

*When she was just a girl she expected the world.
But it flew away from her reach.
So she ran away in her sleep and dreamed of Para-para-paradise, para-para-paradise, para-para-paradise
Every time she closed her eyes.
When she was just a girl she expected the world.
But it flew away from her reach and the bullets catch in her teeth
Life goes on, it gets so heavy. The wheel breaks the butterfly every tear a waterfall.
In the night the stormy night she'll close her eyes
In the night the stormy night away she'd fly
And dream of para-para-paradise Para-para-paradise Para-para-paradise
She'd dream of para-para-paradise Para-para-paradise Para-para-paradise
This could be para-para-paradise Para-para-paradise
This could be para-para-paradise Oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh*

Erin Chiang

Sonata in F minor Op. 2 No.1, 1st movement.....Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

Ludwig van Beethoven was a prodigious German composer and pianist. During the transitional period between the Classical and early Romantic eras, he played a crucial part when it came to altering the style of music. Beethoven moved to Vienna in his early 20's, studying music with another world renowned composer, Joseph Haydn. In his lifetime, Beethoven had composed 5 piano concertos, 9 symphonies, 32 piano sonatas, string quartets, masses, lieder, one opera, and other instrumental sonatas. Even though his hearing began to degenerate in the late 1790s, he continued to compose, perform, and conduct, even during the time he had gone completely deaf.

Op.2 contains 3 sonatas, each with their own style and characteristics. These sonatas were considered as his early compositions. Op.2 No.1 contains four movements, including Allegro, Adagio, Menuetto-Allegretto, and Prestissimo. Beethoven was inspired by Mozart at the time, with his music reflecting this recognition as people noticed the similarities of this piece and the finale of Mozart's Symphony No.40.

This piece is in sonata form, which is a type of composition that consists of three musical structures: the exposition, development, and recapitulation. A pattern of this piece is the *Mannheim Rocket*, meaning a rising scale or arpeggio, growing louder and faster as it continues higher. In this case, it is the repetitive F minor arpeggiation which rises with each note, building the excitement in the audience. The character of this piece is shown as tactile, yet with a masculine sound, emphasizing how it was composed by Beethoven.

Lauren Kim

Rigadoon in A minor.....William Babell (1689-1723)

Rigadoon is written in ABA form and was composed during the Baroque Period. It was also composed during the harpsichord era in the late 1600's. More composers began to write dynamic markings as forte pianos became popular; it can now be played with much more character and expression. Although written in the key of A minor, the piece ends on A major key. It is to be played *Vivo* which means lively and spirited as well as at a brisk pace. As previously mentioned, William Babell was a composer for the harpsichord and was most well known for his vocal arrangements

Sonatian in C major II: Rondo.....Johann Anton André (1775-1842)

This piece has an over all very bright and crisp sound and is written in ABACA form. the dynamics truly make the piece come together and sound complete. This piece is moderately fast and quite lively. This is the II Rondo in André's series and one of many of his pieces. André is most commonly known for his op. 34, and composed many pieces, this being one of them, in the Romantic Period.

Intermission (10 minutes)

Clara Shin

Prelude in D major.....J. S Bach(1685-1750)

A prelude is played at the beginning of a suite. This piece has many tied notes while the other fingers play trills. It is played *andante cantabile*, which means 'in a slow singing voice.' The beginning of the piece starts in D major but changes to A major toward the end of the first section. When I play this piece, I am reminded of people walking down a hallway in an orderly fashion while singing a pretty tune.

J. S. Bach was born on March 31, 1685. He died on July 28, 1750. He lived 65 years and was a German composer during the Baroque period.

Mazurka in B flat Major, Op. 7 No. 1.....Frederic Chopin (1810-1849)

A mazurka is a Polish dance which features triple time, a moderate tempo, and an accent on the third beat. This piece is played in a lively and playful manner. I imagine people dancing happily with energy in the first section. In a later section, the dancers slow down. I can almost hear the bagpipes and drums from far away. See if you can hear them the way I do

Chopin was born on March 1, 1810. He died on October 17, 1849. He lived for 39 years only. Through most of his life, he suffered from poor health because of tuberculosis. He was a Polish composer and a pianist of the Romantic era.

Jayden Shah

Sonatina No. 1 in C Major..... Theodore Latour (1766-1837)

Sonatina is a very energetic piece. In the beginning of the piece it is mf than it is f. Next it is piano then it crescendos to mf. Then it becomes f. I find this piece very energetic because when I play it fast I feel happy and full of life. The composer of this piece is Thomas Attwood. Attwood was born in London Thomas Attwood lived from 1765 to 1838. He was in a royal band and he has created a lot of pieces.

Left Alone Joyce Grill

Left Alone is an emotional piece by Joyce Grill. The piece starts out with mp than ends with pp. The scale of this piece is D minor. *Left Alone* is only played with left hand and it is slow with feeling. Joyce Grill was an American teacher conductor and composer. She received training from the Fontainebleau School of Fine Arts. This fierce got published on 1995. Joyce grill has made many other pieces before.

Pauline Lu

Air Hendry Purcell (1659-1695)

This piece was written by Henry Purcell. Henry Purcell was an English composer, who composed for many things, for example he composed for the stage, for the church, and for private entertainment. An air is a genre of songs in the late 16th and early 17th century. Airs are graceful and elegant pieces.

Windchimes..... Catherine Rollin

In the beginning of this piece it sounds like a light and calm breeze is blowing on the windchimes, then the wind starts getting stronger and stronger until there's a storm finally the wind calms down and then it goes away. Catherine Rollin, the composer of Windchimes, is a modern day composer and music teacher. She wrote over 200 pieces for children.

Joshua Jen

Blue Boogie.....Dennis Alexander

Dennis Alexander is a modern composer. This fun jazzy piece is very bouncy and fun. Most of this piece is played with staccato, however there are a couple of legato parts. I really enjoy it when it makes my hands jump around the keys.

Sonatina in C major..... Friedrich Kuhlau (1786-1832)

Kuhlau was a German-born Danish composer during the Classical and Romantic periods. He was a central figure of the Danish Golden Age and is given the credit in Danish cultural history because of his music for *Elves' Hill*, the first true work of Danish National Romanticism. Sadly, Kuhlau's house burned down and destroyed his unpublished work, but he still left more than 200 beautiful pieces.

Composed by Friedrich Kuhlau, this piece is very playful and exciting in the beginning then turning into a dolce e espressivo song, as Kuhlau puts it. Dolce means sweet and soft, and espressivo means with expression or feeling. This piece has very contrasting dynamics. The dynamics of this piece ranges from pp to ff, which gives this piece a very special feeling.

Claire Chiang

Intermezzo in A Major Op. 118 No.2.....Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

Born in Hamburg, Germany, Johannes Brahms is often included within the "Three B's" consisting of himself, Bach, and Beethoven. He was known as being unable to express his emotions towards others and was often considered as unsympathetic, since these hidden sentiments were woven into his music.

An intermezzo is a piece inserted between two longer movements in an extended composition or independent performance. *Intermezzo in A Major* is the most famous of six pieces in Op. 118 composed in the year 1893. Brahms dedicated this piece to Robert Schumann's wife. The serene melody is regularly heard throughout the piece in various forms and thus helps to develop the thematic material of the work. Brahms wrote this piece in the form of ABA, starting and ending in A major along with a central section containing its minor key of F# minor. There is a different range of "p" sound that adds tenderness and loveliness as the piece progresses. Giving a profound and sullen feeling, *Intermezzo in A Major* displays Brahms's romantic lyricism style through its structure and style.

Sanya Tejwani

Thunder on the Plains Jennifer Linn

Thunder on the Plains is a French piece by composer Jennifer Linn. It captures the image of rolling fields and a shepherd, playing the flute over the clear skies. However, as his playing continues it is interrupted by a sudden thunderstorm. The storm progresses, the thunder growing louder and louder, followed by a shower of rain, which leads into a rainbow. Finally, the rainbow signifies the end of the thunder and the shepherd resumes his peaceful playing as all is well once again.

Minuet Jean-Philippe Rameau (1683-1764)

Minuet is a piece by Jean-Philippe Rameau. Rameau was a famous French composer who is well known for his many pieces of the Baroque era. Minuet is one of them that is quite famous. The piece uses transposition, as the same melody is found across two different keys. The piece also has a contrasting melody and harmony, the melody being played legato and the harmony slightly detached.

Simran Buddhadev

Sonatina in G major, 1st Movement Theodore Latour (1766-1837)

Jean Theodore Latour, was a French pianist and composer. He was appointed official pianist of King George IV in the United Kingdom. Latour is known for his sonatinas and enjoyed composing sonatinas with theme and variation. *Sonatina in G major* is composed with the theme and two variations. The theme is light and simple. Meter changes, rhythmic variations are added to each variation, evoking a cheerful and exciting character.

Benjamin Lo

Sonata No. 17 Op. 31 No. 2 (Tempest) 1st movement Ludwig von Beethoven (1770-1827)

Beethoven, inspired by Shakespeare's play *The Tempest*, composed the *Tempest* sonata, during his so-called "middle period" of his life. During this time, Beethoven also composed great works such as the *Symphony No. 3 (Eroica)*, the *Symphony No. 5*, and the *piano sonata No. 23 (Appassionata)*. Set in the key of D minor, the *Tempest* sonata begins in a unique way. The piece begins with the tempo marking *Largo*. Beethoven gives his listeners a false sense of peace and suddenly changes the tempo marking to *Allegro*; a whirlwind of notes ensues. In less than 5 measures, Beethoven already changed the tempo marking 3 times. Beethoven also frequently uses drastic dynamic changes such as from piano to *sforzando* which creates a breathtaking and turbulent atmosphere.

Tyler Kimm

Black CanyonJennifer Linn
Black Canyon is by Jennifer Linn, who is a modern composer. Jennifer Linn was inspired by Black Canyon in Colorado. Black Canyon has a lot of changes in tempo and dynamics. This is a modern piece because the time signature changes unexpectedly several times throughout, which makes the piece exciting and dramatic. This piece is sort of dark in the beginning, but then it goes back and forth from light to dark sounds, often surprising the listener.

Homage to Chopin..... William Gillock (1917-1993)
Homage to Chopin is by William Gillock, who is famous for his solo piano compositions. The piece is similar to Chopin's piano waltzes in the way it crescendos dynamically. The piece begins flowing and graceful, then the tempo becomes faster and the sound brighter and more energetic as you get farther in. This piece starts as if you are walking peacefully, then the piece gets a little more energetic as if you are at a party. By the end of the piece, everyone is having a good time and suddenly the party ends.

Molly Chang

ElegieNiels M. Gade (1817-1890)
Niels Wilhelm Gade was born in Copenhagen, Denmark. He was a composer, conductor, organist, and a teacher. He was married to Emma Sophie Amalie Hartman who died after their marriage. Later he moved to Leipzig and taught at the conservatory there. He became friends with Cornelius Gurlitt there and Schumann and Mendelssohn were his close friends. Mendelssohn even conducted one of Gade's symphonies. As a result of the war in Prussia and Denmark in 1848 he had to move back to Copenhagen. In Copenhagen he became the director of the Copenhagen Musical Society. He became the most important musician in Denmark.

An elegie is a song or poem that describes of sorrow or lamentation for the dead. "Elegie" is from a collection called *Aquarelle*. Written in E minor, the piece has the form of ABA. The melody is beautifully constructed with subtle anguish and lonesome feeling. It is further developed throughout the piece with rubato and thicker textures.

Sonatina..... Cornelius Gurlitt (1820-1901)
Cornelius Gurlitt was a German composer born in Alton, Schleswig-lolstein. His first public appearance was when he was 17 and it was a success. As a person result he decided to go to Copenhagen to continue his studies. He studied organ, piano, and composition in Copenhagen. He also met Niels Gade and became friends. In 1842, Cornelius Gurlitt moved to Hørsholm where he became an organist and a music teacher for four years. Then he moved to Leipzig. Next he traveled to Rome. In Rome he graduated as a Professor of Music in 1855.

Sonatina is a lively and vivid piece. It is written in A minor. The first theme in A minor is majestic and bright. In contrast, the second theme in F major is light and carefree. It sounds like a circus full of people with a lot of excitements.

Sally Jung

Divertimento in G Major, 1st movement.....Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

Franz Joseph Haydn was an 18th century Austrian composer from the Classical period. He was one of the most prominent composers of his time, fondly referred as the “Father of the symphony” or “Father of the string Quartet” in recognition of his immense contribution to musical form. On top of that, another interesting nickname of him is “Papa” Haydn because he was not the inventor of the symphony or quartet but rather respected for perfecting them. Joseph Haydn has influenced so many other young pianists.

Divertimento in G major, also known as Sonata is written in G major and was published in 1766. The piece start with the upbeat rhythm and the cheerful melody shows the humor in Haydn’s composition. Playing fast trills and dealing with quick dynamic changes over various rhythmic patterns were a quite challenge. The energy and excitement in the music continues until the end of the piece.

Sonatina Op.36, No.4.....Muzio Clementi (1752-1832)

Muzio Clementi was an 18th century British composer who wrote sonatas that created techniques of early piano age that he is still considered “the father of piano.” As he traveled around Europe meeting musicians such as Mozart, he spent more of his time composing symphonies. He positively influenced a lot of other composers not only because of his famous travels and pieces he had composed but also because of his outstanding techniques that he had developed.

This sonatina is written in Sonata-Allegro form with Exposition, Development and Recapitulation. Written in the classical period, this upbeat and energetic piece is one of the six in Opus No. 36. Fast 16th note passages and quick exchanges between slurs and staccato articulations make this piece exciting to perform.

Zoë Chang

Nocturne in F minor, Op. 55 No. 1..... Frederic Chopin (1810-1849)

Composed in 1842-1844, Deux Nocturnes was dedicated to one of Chopin’s pupils, Jane Stirling. This mournful piece is written in the key of F minor and has an *ABA* form like many of other nocturnes. The piece starts off with the main theme with a desolate tone and an *andante* (slow) tempo. The *A* part of the piece consists of this repeating main theme. It is slightly altered each time it is repeated, forming different variations (such as adding different ornamentation). Suddenly, the stormy and flashy character in the *B* section emerges. Chopin adds speed to the volcanic triplet-runs and intense chorals to thrust the tension. Finally, the main theme comes back briefly, only to be followed with a stream of triplet with *stretto* (hurried) marking. When there seems to no resolution, an F major arpeggio rolls in to bring a hopeful and peaceful conclusion.

Though Chopin is thought to be the pioneer for writing nocturnes, he is not. John Field, an Irish pianist, composer, and teacher actually was, though most people give credit to Chopin, as he did write many nocturnes. He wrote eighteen nocturnes, to be exact, and certainly popularized and expanded onto nocturnes. Frédéric Francois Chopin, born to the name Fryderyk Franciszek Chopin, was born on the first of March, 1810. He was a famous Polish composer in the Romantic Era who mostly wrote for the solo piano. He grew up in the Duchy of Warsaw in Warsaw, and settled in Paris at age 21. He never married, but did fall in love a few times, only to be left heartbroken. During the last 18 years of his life, he gave about 30 performances, then died at the age 39, most likely by tuberculosis.

Mia Kimm

Sonatina in D major Op. 35, No. 6.....Muzio Clementi (1752-1832)

Sonatina in D major was composed by Muzio Clementi, who was a famous composer from the Classical Period, and is still known today for his studies and sonatas. The *Sonatina* has two main themes present in the exposition. Within this piece, are contrasting dynamics, different rhythmic patterns, and varying tempos. It starts out with a very sweet and serene theme, but as it goes on, brighter and somewhat faster parts come in. Then it eventually drops back down into a pleasant, melodious tune. These sections alternate throughout the piece, creating an expressive melody. Throughout this piece, the tune builds up multiple times, creating drama and tension. This often leads to chords which capture the audience's attention for the quieter sections.

Polonaise in G minor.....Frederic Chopin (1810-1849)

Polonaise in G minor was composed by Frédéric Chopin, who was a famous composer from the Romantic Period. He is extremely well known today for his solo pieces for piano and piano concerti. He wrote this piece when he was only 7 years old, after listening to another polonaise, *Polonaise in B flat major*. A polonaise is a slow dance of the Polish origin. Within this piece are varying dynamics and contrasting styles. Different notes must be played in certain styles to bring out the intention of the piece. The intention is to create drama to make it sound more interesting for the dancers. The piece starts out with an explosion to grab the audience's attention. Then, it moves onto a quieter section, which eventually builds up to a crescendo.

Mark Santamaria

Water Lilies Catherine Rollin

Water Lilies is a flowing piece. It is impressionistic style and sounds beautiful. It sounds smooth and is supposed to be played moderately and delicately. It is written in 4/4 time and has a key of D flat major. It is formatted as an ABA song. In the beginning there is a flowing peaceful tone to the song. Later it sounds like you are drifting. It is peaceful and it seems like if you play a note too loud it the music will shatter.

Catherine Rollin is a teacher, composer, and smart pianist. She is still alive today, and still composing. Catherine was taught by Mischa Kottler, a former student of von Sauer and Cortot. She went to U. of Michigan and has a BMA degree. Her students have won plenty of awards and she is one of the most famous modern composers today.

Barcarolle..... William Gillock (1917-1993)

Barcarolle is a soft, slow, drifting piece. *Barcarolle* is a song typically sung by Venetian gondoliers. That is why it is slow and steady. It is written in 6/4 time meaning every measure there are six beats, and a quarter note is a beat. It is written by William Gillock, who is a wonderful composer from the 20th century. This piece sounds like you are in a daydream thinking about something you want or love. It is supposed to be played *Andantino Cantabile* or singing walking pace. The ending of the piece is so peaceful it could probably put one to sleep.

PoeAn Lu & Ms. Lee

String Quartet Op. 18, No. 4 1st movement.....Ludwig von Beethoven (1770-1827)

Beethoven worked for two years to complete his first string quartets and published all six pieces, *Op. 18* in 1801. As the last to be composed in the set, No. 4 is the most popular and dramatic in writing. This piece, as well as the *Pathétique* piano sonata, the *Fifth Symphony*, and *Piano Sonata Op. 111*, are all written in C minor which suggests that C minor was his favorite choice among the minor keys. The stormy opening is catchy, and its vibrant and brilliant character is prevalent throughout the movement.

Erin Chiang

Sonata in C Sharp Minor, 1st movement Hob. XVI/36..... Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

Many of Haydn's earlier pieces were intended for the harpsichord, however as the musical era matured and grew, his later pieces became more designated for the hammer-action fortepiano. This led to the composition of his piece *Sonata in C Sharp Minor*, one of his first pieces made for the piano. The composition was dedicated to two sisters, Marianna Auenbrugger and Caterina Franziska, who were both students of Haydn. She was also a well known composer of their time, and Haydn dedicated 6 sonatas to them in 1780.

Very few of Haydn's sonatas were written in the minor key and his choice of C sharp made it even more uncommon. This piece is the first movement of the three, Moderato & Scherzando, Allegro con brio, and Menuetto & Trio. The piece begins with the C sharp minor chord and is amplified with a turn that is then pursued by a broken C# minor chord. This pattern is the overall theme of the piece and is repeated multiple times throughout.

The Sonata in C sharp minor includes multiple turn ornaments that show character and displays its sanguine style. It is written in sonata form, which includes three sections: Exposition, Development, and Recapitulation. *Sforzando* and *staccatissimo* are two of the most commonly used articulations in this piece. *Sforzando* is to make a relentless accent on a single sound, and it gives the piece more volume and action. *Staccatissimo* is to play with an exaggerated staccato, and helps produce suspense and keeps the piece flowing.

The Cat and the Mouse.....Aaron Copland (1900-1990)

Aaron Copland is famous today for integrating popular forms of American music into his compositions. Because of this ingenious concept, his music still galvanizes many young composers today. As he wrote a wide variety of pieces, which includes piano and orchestral arrangements, ballets, and Hollywood film scores, he was well known in all genres. He leaned towards composing, conducting, and teaching for the remainder of his life, dedicating himself to music. Little did he know he would influence the style of the next generation of American composers.

Copland's first performance of "The Cat and the Mouse" was held at the Salle Gaveau, Paris, in September 1921. The French publisher Jacques Durand was so moved by the performance that he offered Copland a contract for the score, and it soon became Copland's first published work as "Scherzo Humoristique". The piece was originally inspired by Jean de la Fontaine's poem, "Le Vieux Chat et la Jeune Souris" ("The Old Cat and the Young Mouse").

The Cat and The Mouse tells a story of them. The cat is sneaking up on his prey, the mouse. The cat stops in the middles and arches his/her back and then continues sneaking up. As you hear a cascade of downward notes and the chase begins. A series of dissonant clusters and rapid tempo changes all contribute the exciting and thrilling character of the piece. The wide dynamic ranges and distinct parts in the piece give us a hint how the story unfolds. Silence represents suspense in this piece and adds to the surprise of what is ahead. What happens in the end, is all upto your imagination.

Aneeqah Kamani-Ahmed

Sonatina in C major.....Giovanni Benedetto Platti (1692-1763)

Sonata in C Major is a Baroque-era piece written by Giovanni Benedetto Platti. It is a regal, graceful piece, yet you can also detect hints of playfulness in the piece at times. It is played at a fast tempo, and is upbeat. A recurring theme appears in G major and C major, which is the key of the piece. *Sonata in C Major* also features alternating triplets between both hands at the end of each A section, with the other hand playing detached quarter notes which contribute to the Baroque feel of this piece.

Giovanni Benedetto Platti was an Italian composer who lived during the 1700s. He played the oboe and the violin and was a singer. The fortepiano, or modern piano, had just been invented, and he learned to play it and composed many sonatas for it. In 1722, he was called to work as a musician for the Prince-Bishop of Wurzburg, which is in modern day Germany. He met his wife there, and lived in Wurzburg for the rest of his life.

Waltz.....Viktor Kosenko (1896-1938)

Waltz is a romantic piece written by Viktor Kosenko. A waltz is a type of dance for which the music is usually written in 3/4 meter, like this one. The A theme of this piece repeats twice in the beginning, and then returns at the end in a different key-B major, which signifies positivity and hope since the rest of the piece, written in B minor, is rather melancholy. The A theme also returns for the soft finale. The idea of *rubato* is also used throughout the piece. In music, *rubato* is the idea that the tempo is flexible which allows for speed changes, and adds to the overall expressiveness of the piece.

Viktor Kosenko was a Ukrainian composer who was also a concert pianist. His compositions for piano included waltzes, preludes, nocturnes, sonatas, and mazurkas, and Western European influences are evident in his music. In 1919, he became director of the Zhytomyr Music School in Ukraine. In 1920 he married his wife Angelina and his love for her inspired many of his pieces in the following years. In 1938 he died of kidney cancer, but his music continued to be promoted and shared by his wife.

Claire Chiang

Le Vent dans les Ruines..... Jacques Ibert (1890-1962)

Studying at the Paris Conservatory, Jacques Ibert was a prodigious composer known for writing colorful and technical pieces of nearly every genre available. Using Romantic, Impressionistic, and Neo-classic styles, Ibert creates a character of humor, clarity, and wittiness in his music. Influenced by World War I and II which took place at that time, Ibert would be called to participate in the navy and his travels would result in the inspiration for one of his most famous works, *Escales* ("Ports of Calls").

Translated to "The Wind Over the Ruins", "*Le Vent dans les Ruines*" in F minor is a fast-paced work written in 1915 during Ibert's time spent working at the Amiens hospital at the time of World War I. Consisting of many drastic dynamic and tempo changes, the piece comes to represent the sound of a brisk wind soaring through devastated buildings. With a time signature of $\frac{3}{4}$, it opens with the tempo marking of "agitato assai", meaning "very agitated" and later evolves into "stringendo molto", meaning "gradually getting very much faster", which makes the piece seem more alive. To conclude the piece, the tone suddenly changes for a lurid and dramatic finish.

Benjamin Lo

The Lark Mikhail Glinka (1804-1857)

Mikhail Glinka, born in a village near Smolensk, Russia, studied music in St. Petersburg with the Irish pianist and composer John Field before going abroad from 1830 to 1834. Probably best known for his operas, *A Life for the Tsar* and *Ruslan and Ludmilla*, Glinka also knew many poets of his day and often wrote songs to their lyric verses. One such poet, Nestor Kukolnik, partnered with Glinka and made a collection of twelve songs titled *A Farewell to St. Petersburg* (1840). *The Lark*, originally for voice and piano, is based on a poem in which a singer wishes his song to be carried by the wind to his beloved.

The Lark begins with a simple motif that will be repeated many times throughout the piece. One of the characteristics of a lark is that they sing while they fly unlike other songbirds. This is characterized in the piece by the flowing scales and arpeggios that decorate the piece. Although the beginning sounds mournful, the middle section becomes glorious and seems reminiscent of a former past as the piece continues to repeat the motif in varying dynamics. Towards the end of the piece, you can hear the lark slowly flying away as a similar melody from the beginning ascends. Below is the poem that *The Lark* is based on.

Between the sky and the earth a song is heard.
An unending stream of sound pours louder, louder.
Unseen is the singer in the field where sings so loudly
Above his mate the sonorous skylark.
The wind carries the song, to whom, it does not know.
She to whom it is sung, she will understand who it is from.
Pour on, my song of sweet hope Someone remembers me and sighs furtively.

PoeAn Lu

Mazurka Op. 59 No. 2 in A flat major Frederic Chopin (1810-1849)

Chopin's Mazurka in Ab Major was composed in 1845. The mazurka is a traditional Polish folk dance, usually played at a lively tempo, with strong accents placed unsystematically on the second or third beats. Chopin started composing mazurkas in 1825, but he put a little twist on them, adding elements from classical music like counterpoint, fugue, chromaticism, and more harmony. By doing this, he distanced his mazurkas from the traditional ones.

Mazurka in Ab Major is a piece with a very carefree quality. The A section starts with a lyrical melody but gradually intensifies, quieting down promptly after, trailing into a softer, dreamier B section. Like the previous section, however, this B section also gradually builds into a louder transition back into the A section where the melody, still retaining its carefree quality, oscillates dynamically between piano and forte, yet gradually slowing down until the very end, where it increases its tempo drastically and rushes up the keyboard, decreasing in dynamics. It is like a person running off a cliff into the water, ending with two small splashes."

Ellie Shin

Bajo La mesa Jacques Ibert (1890-1962)

Bajo la Mesa (under the table) is the seventh piece in a set of ten called *Histoires*, composed in 1922 by Jacques Ibert. This is the only piece in the collection with a Spanish name, which was possibly influenced by his visit to Valencia, Spain two years prior. This piece is considered to show a drunk and a dancer dancing a traditional Andalusian dance called the *zapateado*. Ibert had a specific format of his publications, where the name of the piece appears at the end of the music. He made it like this so that the pianist playing could interpret the music for themselves, and would not play based on his naming. The time signature of 5/4 create a suspenseful and eerie feeling.

Jacques Ibert was a French composer of the early 1900s. He studied music at the Paris Conservatoire and won their highest prize. He also served in the military in World War I, but he continued to learn music throughout. As a composer, he was considered very unusual in that his music did not reflect the music of any other composers of his era. Along with being a composer, Ibert also held administrative positions at a few different musical academies, and became the French cultural ambassador in Italy.

Prelude I George Gershwin (1898-1937)

Prelude I was the first in a set of three preludes Gershwin composed. They were all considered early-20th-century American classical music, and each had a bit of a jazz motif. In this piece, the jazz appears in the very beginning, and continues throughout the piece with a syncopated rhythm in the left hand. The piece continues to add bits and pieces of new ideas, all the while keeping this rhythm. In the second theme, the left hand crosses over the right hand, becoming the melody. The end of the piece finishes out strong, with B flat Dorian scale.

George Gershwin was an American composer of the early 1900s. He who created *Rhapsody in Blue*, which is probably his most well-known composition of all time. Starting his career writing Broadway theater, he soon partnered with his brother Ira Gershwin and wrote many more works. Although he wanted to study under musical tutors, many rejected him due to fear their classical style would influence his jazz style. Maurice Ravel told him, "Why become a second-rate Ravel when you're already a first-rate Gershwin?"

Congratulations on your performance on these wonderful music.
This is a start and I hope you play more and treasure this wonderful music
by practicing efficiently and perform more in public.
I have been very blessed to get to know each one of you and help you to love music making.
I won't forget all the love you have shown me and I will take it with me.

Ms. Lee