Kozue Ebina
piano

Masters Recital

with

Crystal Cho, piano

Saturday, November 7, 2009
5:30pm
Beam Music Center
Doc Rando Recital Hall
Thank you for attending today's recital.

Due to the fact that noise can be very distracting to performers on stage, we ask your assistance in maintaining as quiet an atmosphere as possible. Please turn off all electronic devices, and, if you find it necessary to leave during the performance, wait until the end of a movement or during applause. We kindly request that applause to be withheld until the end of each instrumental piece.

Thank you and enjoy the performance!
~ Program ~

Festival, Vision and Scherzo
from Suite for Piano, Op. 13

Robert Muczynski
(b. 1929)

Oiseaux tristes
Une barque sur l'océan
La vallée des cloches
from Miroirs

Maurice Ravel
(1875-1937)

Intermission

Drei Fantasiestücke, Op. 111

Robert Schumann
(1810-1856)

Sehr rasch, mit leidenschaftlichem Vortrag
Ziemlich langsam
Kräftig und sehr markiert

Rhapsody in Blue

Crystal Cho, second piano

George Gershwin
(1898-1937)

Kozue Ebina is a student of Dr. Mykola Suk. This performance is offered in partial fulfillment for the requirements of the Master of Music Degree in Piano Performance.
Program Notes:

Robert Muczynski is Russian-American, a distinguished contemporary composer who became an internationally recognized musician. His works have been performed and admired all over the world, especially those for the saxophone, flute, clarinet, and piano. *Suite for Piano, Op. 13*, was composed in 1960. This work displays a sense of modernism. The first piece is “Festival”, having a use of dissonance and energetic asymmetries of rhythm. The second piece, “Vision”, creates bazaar and horrific visualization. The last piece is “Scherzo”, a playful dance-like rhythm with some dramatic intensity of dissonances. This contemporary work is in a unique form which follows none of the past traditional musical form, and also it is a freely chromatic composition.

*Miroirs* (“Mirrors”) was written between 1904 to 1905 by French composer, Maurice Ravel. Ravel is recognized as a French Impressionist composer. *Miroirs* displays characteristics similar to those of Impressionistic painters. The music focuses on suggestion, mood and atmosphere rather than strong emotion. Three pieces from *Miroirs* are selected for today’s performance: *Oiseaux tristes* (“Sad Birds”), *Une barque sur l’océan* (“A Boat on the Ocean”), and *La vallée des cloches* (“The Valley of Bells”).

Robert Schumann is known as a “true Romantic”, one of the most important composers of 19th century. *Drei Fantasiestücke, Op. 111*, (“Three Fantasies”, Op. 111) is one of Schumann’s late works, and is enigmatic and personal. This work is dense in texture, and has a mixture of characteristics such as agitation and forceful movements with lyrical and dreamy song-like melody. This work represents “Romanticism” in its character and emotion.

*Rhapsody in Blue* was written for solo piano and orchestra in 1924 by George Gershwin. Gershwin was a leading American composer and pianist. Most of his compositions remain as Jazz standards and Broadway show tunes. This work combines both elements of Classical and Jazz; having Jazz idioms within Romantic Piano Concerto form. The orchestral reduction (2nd piano) will be performed by Crystal Cho.

Messages from Performer:

When an artist paints, he typically does not limit himself to one color of paint, but instead uses many colors, shades and textures. Most painters will use multiple brushes for painting different strokes and varying sizes of canvases to display the paintings. When I was choosing the pieces to play for my recital, I used the same type of reasoning. I did not want to limit myself, or my audience, to one style of music. I wanted to paint various pictures with my instrument, with a wide range of colors and textures.

As seen in the description of the program notes, each performing work was chosen from composers with different nationalities and backgrounds. The program represents various styles written in musical history from the 19th century to the present. Hopefully, my recital program allows us to appreciate how versatile the piano is as an instrument. I hope that the audience is exposed to a variety of piano music, so that the recital will be a quick musical journey through the world of piano. Thank you for all of your support.