

*Four Generations of
Norwegian Cello Music*

*in celebration of the
100th anniversary of the birth
of Harald Sæverud*

*Darrett Adkins, Cello
Ju-Ying Song, Piano*

*presented by the
Royal Norwegian Consulate Generals
of New York and Houston,
the Edward Grieg Society of New York,
and the Shepherd School of Music*

Sunday, May 3, 1998

8:00 p.m.

Lillian H. Duncan Recital Hall

RICE UNIVERSITY

the
Shepherd
School
of Music

PROGRAM

Suite, Op. 24

Fantasia

Aria

Danza

Elegi

Finale

David Monrad Johansen

(1888-1974)

Russkaya: Sonata for Violoncello and Pianoforte, in Memory of Dmitri Shostakovich, Op. 6 (1982)

Allegro ben marcato

Meditation

Moderato con moto

Wolfgang Plagge

(b. 1960)

INTERMISSION

Andante Funebre, Op. 44

Harald Sæverud

(1897-1992)

Sonata in A Major, Op. 36

Allegro agitato

Andante molto tranquillo

Allegro

Edvard Grieg

(1843-1907)

DARRETT ADKINS is rapidly gaining a reputation as one of the most versatile and sought after young cellists in America, appearing frequently as soloist with orchestra, recitalist, chamber musician, and teacher of cello. The musicianship and intensity that he brings to his unusually broad repertoire have made him popular with critics, audiences, and students.

*He has been described by critics as "fiery" (Boston Globe), a "daredevil" (Spokane Spokesman), and "heroic" and "stunning" (The New York Times). As a regular soloist with orchestras in the U.S., he has performed concertos ranging from Tartini and Vivaldi to Birtwhistle and Britten. His solo activities have included a television production of Dvořák's concerto called "Concert State" and an appearance with Oliver Knussen in Birtwhistle's **Meridian** at the Tanglewood Festival of Contemporary Music. He was the featured soloist for the American Symphony Orchestra League's Young Conductor's Symposium, performing with the many young conductors participating. His particular interest in the contemporary recital repertoire has led to recitals for New York's Summergarden series, Houston's SYZYGY - New Music at Rice series, Art Norway, and Spokane's Zephyr. In addition to tonight's concert, he performs recitals this season in New York, Minneapolis, Richmond, Manchester, Spokane, Champagne, and other cities. His debut appearance in Oslo, Norway, was honored by the attendance of the King.*

Equally in demand as a chamber musician, Mr. Adkins has won the Coleman competition and third prize at the Fischhoff Competition. He has appeared with such leading ensembles as the Cassatt Quartet, the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, and the Goliard Ensemble. He performs frequently as a member of the Broyhill Chamber Ensemble in Boone, North Carolina, at Des Moines' Summer Music, and at Monadnock Music in New Hampshire. Mr. Adkins has performed in many prestigious festivals, including those of Aspen (as a member of the Aspen Contemporary Ensemble), Ravinia, Tanglewood, and the Summergarden Series in New York. His recording of duos for violin and cello by Ravel, Kodály, and Sessions will be released in the fall of 1998.

He is the winner of the prestigious Presser Music Award which provided for study in London with William Pleeth, as well as prizes from the Washington International Competition, National Society of Arts and Letters, and the Chicago Cello Society Competitions. He also won the concerto competitions at Oberlin and the Shepherd School, where he received his bachelor's and master's degrees, respectively. At the Shepherd School he was the teaching assistant of Norman Fischer. Darrett Adkins is now attending Juilliard for his doctorate, where he serves as Joel Krosnick's teaching assistant. This summer, Mr. Adkins joins the faculty of the Encore School for Strings.

JU-YING SONG was born in Taiwan and raised in Geneva, Switzerland. A seasoned performer since age twelve, Ms. Song has concertized in Europe and the U.S. She began her piano studies with her mother at the age of four, and later enrolled in the Conservatoire de Genève. Her teachers included Alexei Golovine and Jean-François Antonioli. Ms. Song graduated from Stanford University in 1991 with distinction and honors as a Bachelor of Arts in Music and a Bachelor of Science in Microbiology and Immunology. Her scientific studies included three years of laboratory research on malaria, and she co-authored a paper which appeared in *Molecular and Biochemical Parasitology*. As a piano student of Adolph Baller, she was the recipient of numerous awards, including the Daniel V. Robinson Award and the Robert Golden Medal for excellence in performance, and the prestigious Sudler Prize for outstanding achievement in the creative arts.

She is completing her doctoral studies at the Juilliard School with Jerome Lowenthal, having won the American Pianists Association Fellowship in Indianapolis (formerly the Beethoven Fellowship) and the top prize in the Palm Beach Invitational International Piano Competition. In 1994, she was named ProPiano Artist of the Year, which resulted in recitals at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall. In 1996, she performed at Alice Tully Hall as a result of receiving Juilliard's highest honor given a pianist, the Petschek Recital Award. In a review of the concert, Harris Goldsmith proclaimed, "[she] is obviously on the threshold of a major career... [The Haydn] was played in an incredibly subtle, sophisticated manner, reminding the listener of Geiseking's patrician style... an exquisite rendition."

An avid performer of twentieth-century music, Ms. Song has established a large following among audiences at contemporary music festivals. She has recorded on ProPiano Records the complete *Etudes* by Debussy, the **Improvisations, Op. 20**, by Bartók, and the piano works by the young Argentinean composer, Ezequiel Viñao.

Ms. Song is currently on the piano faculty of Oberlin Conservatory and is under management of Joanne Rile Artists Management, Inc.

