

*FACULTY AND GUEST
ARTIST RECITAL*

EVELYN CHEN, Piano (guest)

ERIC HALEN, Violin

JENNIFER OWEN, Violin (guest)

JOAN DERHOVSEPIAN, Viola

IVO-JAN VAN DER WERFF, Viola

KEVIN DVORAK, Cello (guest)

BRINTON AVERIL SMITH, Cello

Monday, September 26, 2011

8:00 p.m.

Lillian H. Duncan Recital Hall

RICE UNIVERSITY

the
Shepherd
School
of Music

PROGRAM

Don Quixote

Erich Wolfgang Korngold

Six Character Pieces (1909)

(1897-1957)

Don Quixote's Dreams of Heroic Deeds

Sancho Panza On His Grey Donkey

Don Quixote Sets Forth

Dulcinea of Toboso

Adventure

Don Quixote's Conversation and Death

Four Pieces from Much Ado About Nothing, Op. 11

for violin and piano, slightly revised by the composer

Maiden in the Bridal Chamber

Holzappel und Schlehwein (March of the Watch)

Garden Scene

Masquerade

Romance – Impromptu (from Deception, 1946)

INTERMISSION

Sextet for Strings, Op. 10

Moderato – Allegro

Adagio

Intermezzo (Moderato, con grazia)

Finale (Presto)

The reverberative acoustics of Duncan Recital Hall magnify the slightest sound made by the audience. Your care and courtesy will be appreciated. The taking of photographs and use of recording equipment are prohibited.

BIOGRAPHIES

The New York Times hailed EVELYN CHEN as "a pianist to watch," praising her "brilliant technique, warm, clear tone, and exacting musical intelligence." Ms. Chen's recent engagements have included performances on five continents at venues including Avery Fisher Hall and Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center, Carnegie's Weill Recital Hall, the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, Wolf Trap, the Mozarteum in Salzburg, the National Concert Hall in Taipei, the Central Conservatory Concert Hall in Beijing, the Cultural Center of Hong Kong, and the Tchaikovsky Hall in Moscow.

A Steinway Artist, Ms. Chen has performed with numerous orchestras including the New York Philharmonic, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the National Symphony Orchestra (upon Mstislav Rostropovich's recommendation), the Philharmonia Orchestra of London, the New Zealand Symphony, the National Symphony Orchestra of Taiwan, the State Symphony Orchestra of Mexico, and the San Diego Symphony, and has collaborated with renowned conductors including Riccardo Muti, Leonard Slatkin, Stanislaw Skrowaczewski, Zdeněk Mácal, Joseph Silverstein, Henry Mazer, Alberto Bolet, Enrique Bátiz, and JoAnn Falletta.

Ms. Chen's recent recordings have received critical acclaim internationally, and her recording of Rachmaninoff's piano concertos with Leonard Slatkin and the Philharmonia Orchestra of London on BMG was among the top ten best-selling classical recordings in England. Ms. Chen has been featured on the CBS Evening News, and her performances have been broadcast by National Public Radio affiliates WGBH (Boston), WQXR (New York), WNYC (New York), WNCN (New York), WFMT (Chicago), and WGTS (Washington, D.C.), as well as throughout Taiwan and Great Britain (Classic FM). Ms. Chen performed before prominent dignitaries including the Princess of Thailand and the Prime Minister of Malaysia.

Ms. Chen has been a winner of several international competitions, including First Prize in the 1981 Bach International Competition in Washington, D.C. Ms. Chen is the recipient of the 1994 Petschek Award at the Juilliard School, where she received the Doctor of Musical Arts degree. Having received a Bachelor of Arts degree in composition from Harvard University, Ms. Chen is currently Associate Professor of Piano at Teachers College, Columbia University.

JOAN DERHOVSEPIAN became a member of the Houston Symphony in 1999 after serving two seasons as Principal Violist of the Charleston Symphony Orchestra. She has been an instructor in Viola Orchestral Repertoire at the Shepherd School of Music since the fall of 2001. As a member of the Everest String Quartet, Ms. DerHovsepian concertized throughout the U.S. and Canada and won top prizes in the Banff and Fischhoff competitions, as well as holding the string quartet residency with the Midland-Odessa Symphony. She played in the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra from 1992-94.

Ms. DerHovsepian performs in the Grand Teton Music Festival and the Peninsula Music Festival each summer and has participated in the Aspen

and Tanglewood Music Festivals. She has been a soloist with the Peninsula Music Festival, the Charleston Symphony Orchestra, the National Repertory Orchestra, and the Concord Chamber Orchestra of Milwaukee. Ms. DerHovsepian was a top prizewinner of the 1995 William Primrose Memorial Scholarship Competition. Her teachers include James Dunham and Kim Kashkashian.

Cellist KEVIN DVORAK is a native Texan. Prior to joining the cello section of the Houston Symphony in 1978, he appeared as soloist with the Dallas, Fort Worth and Midland-Odessa Symphony Orchestras. He has performed on several Houston concert series, including the Da Camera Society, and as soloist with our own Houston Symphony. An ardent chamber music lover, he frequently presents concerts in his home with other symphony musicians. His hobbies include arranging music, swimming and gourmet cooking.

ERIC HALEN joined the Houston Symphony as Assistant Concertmaster in 1987. In 1997, he assumed the position of Associate Concertmaster and is presently Acting Concertmaster. After earning his bachelor's degree at Central Missouri State University, he received his master's degree at the age of 20 from the University of Illinois, while studying with Sergiu Luca. At age 23, he became artist/teacher of violin at Texas Christian University. Mr. Halen has performed in solo and chamber music programs in the U.S. and abroad, including solo appearances with the St. Louis and Houston Symphonies.

As a chamber musician, Mr. Halen has collaborated with many preeminent artists including violinist Sergiu Luca, cellists Gary Hoffman and Lynn Harrell, and pianists Christoph Eschenbach and John Kimura Parker. Locally, Mr. Halen has made frequent guest appearances with DA CAMERA of Houston, and CONTEXT. As a member of the Houston Symphony Chamber Players, he has toured the U.S., Japan, and Europe. Critics have described Mr. Halen's violin playing as "sterling", and "tenderly expressive and dramatic". A review in the Chicago Sun-Times of Mr. Halen's performance of Messiaen's "Quartet for the End of Time" states, "...as the final, sustained tone of Eric Halen's violin faded to close... there was no doubt that the evening had offered the best kind of virtuosity." Mr. Halen plays a violin made in 1616 by Antonio and Hieronymus Amati.

Originally from Australia, JENNIFER OWEN is now in her tenth season as Principal Second Violin of the Houston Symphony. She has also held the position of Principal First Violin of the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, (Australia) and Associate Concertmaster of the Richardson Symphony (Texas). She has performed as soloist with the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, the New Amsterdam Symphony Orchestra (New York City), and the Houston Symphony. As a chamber musician, Jennifer was a member of the Canberra String Quartet for five years, including two years as resident graduate quartet at the Hartt School, Connecticut, under the tutelage of the Emerson Quartet. She performed throughout Tasmania with the Virtuosi Tasmania Ensemble, and as a guest artist on faculty recitals at the Tasmanian Conservatorium. Most recently, she has appeared as guest artist on many faculty recital programs at Rice University and the University of Houston, and with DA CAMERA of Houston.

Hailed by New York Newsday for "...extraordinary musicianship ... forceful, sophisticated and entirely in the spirit of the music," American cellist BRINTON AVERIL SMITH has performed at leading venues and music festivals through the world, including Alice Tully Hall in Lincoln Center, Carnegie Recital Hall, and with orchestras throughout the United States. Mr. Smith's recent recording of Fauré's **Piano Trio and Après un Rêve** with Gil Shaham for Shaham's Canary Classics label was chosen as one of BBC Music magazine's best albums of the year. His recording of Miklós Rózsa's **Cello Concerto** with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra for Koch received widespread international critical acclaim. Gramophone praised Smith as a "hugely eloquent, impassioned soloist," and continued, "The sheer bravura of Smith's reading is infectious."

Prior to joining the Houston Symphony in 2005, Mr. Smith was a member of the New York Philharmonic and the principal cellist of the San Diego and Fort Worth Symphony Orchestras. A prize winner of the Leonard Rose International Cello Competition, his performances have been broadcast throughout the world, including in the United States, on CBS Sunday Morning and NPR's Performance Today. Mr. Smith was admitted part-time to Arizona State University at age ten, and by age seventeen completed a Bachelor of Arts degree in mathematics. At the University of Southern California, he worked as a teaching assistant in the mathematics department, and completed work for an Master of Arts degree in mathematics at age nineteen while continuing his music studies. He then went on to study with cellist Zara Nelsova at The Juilliard School, where he received a Doctor of Musical Arts degree, writing on the playing of Emanuel Feuermann.

IVO-JAN VAN DER WERFF has attained accolades as a chamber player, recitalist, guest artist, and teacher throughout Europe and North America. As a member of the Medici String Quartet for twenty-four years, Mr. van der Werff performed in over 1,700 concerts in major festivals and venues worldwide, broadcasting regularly on radio and television. The Medici Quartet made more than forty recordings for EMI, Nimbus, Hyperion, and Koch, and won many awards for works ranging from Haydn, Britten, Janáček, Schubert, and the Beethoven cycle to more eclectic works of Saint-Saëns, Wajahat Khan, and Nigel Osborne. The quartet had collaborations with many artists across the musical, literary, and theatrical spectrum including the Royal Shakespeare Company, George Martin, Alan Bennett, John Williams, John Thaw, and Jack Brymer.

Mr. van der Werff has performed as recitalist in New York, New Zealand, Hong Kong, and Sri Lanka, as well as numerous venues throughout the United Kingdom. His recordings for ASV and Koch include the sonata by Max Reger and the complete works for viola and piano or harp by Arnold Bax. Mr. van der Werff is frequently invited to perform with other quartets and chamber ensembles throughout the United Kingdom and Europe.

Before joining the Medici Quartet, Mr. van der Werff worked with many conductors, including Sir George Solti, Bernard Haitink, and Klaus Tennstedt, and has since been invited to appear as guest principal viola and soloist with many of the United Kingdom's leading orchestras.

Mr. van der Werff was recently appointed Professor of Viola at The Shepherd School of Music. He was previously Professor of Viola and Chamber Music at the Royal College of Music in London. He developed a private viola program near London and taught at many international summer schools. He has also been a frequent adjudicator for competition juries.

His most recent project, inspired by his viola mentors Margaret Major, Peter Shidlof, and Bruno Giuranna, is a book entitled "Notebook for Viola Players" which is a series of exercises and explanations on and about viola technique. Mr. van der Werff plays on a viola by Giovanni Grancino, of Milan, c. 1690.



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