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PREVIEW
NOTES

Jennifer Frautschi, violin; Efe Baltacigil, cello; Ignat Solzhenitsyn, piano
Wednesday, April 20 • 8:00 PM — Perelman Theater
Part of the Philadelphia International Festival of the Arts

Background

Avery Fisher career grant recipient violinist Jennifer Frautschi has gained acclaim as an adventurous performer with a wide-ranging repertoire. Born in Pasadena, California, she studied at the Colburn School in Los Angeles and later attended Harvard, the New England Conservatory of Music and the Juilliard School, where she studied with Robert Mann. Cellist Efe Baltacigil is the Philadelphia Orchestra's associate principal cellist and the recipient of a 2006 Avery Fisher Career Grant. Ignat Solzhenitsyn is Conductor Laureate of the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia (COP), where he was Music Director for six seasons and Principal Conductor for the preceding six years. He also serves as Principal Guest Conductor of the Moscow Symphony Orchestra.

Program

Suite Italienne

Igor Stravinsky

Born: Jun. 17, 1882 in Orianenbaum, Russia

Died: Apr. 6, 1971 in New York, NY

Composed: 1934

Last PCMS performance: Tai Murray in 2009

Duration: 17 minutes

This work is an arrangement of several movements from the Pergolesi ballet *Pulcinella*. Stravinsky took works by the 18th century Italian composer and effectively rewrote them by cutting, altering and transforming the music into his own style. The result was, in Stravinsky's words, "the epiphany through which the whole of my late work became possible."

Piano Sonata No. 1, Op. 12

Dmitri Shostakovich

Born: Sept. 25, 1906, in St. Petersburg, Russia

Died: Aug. 9, 1975, in Moscow, Russia

Composed: 1926

Last PCMS performance: PCMS premiere

Duration: 13 minutes

This sonata is one of the most brutal and modernist works Shostakovich ever composed. Built around the tonal opposition of C and F sharp and using texture

rather than themes as a means to articulate form, the sonata acutely resembles Shostakovich's Second Symphony ("To October") of six months later.

Duo Concertante

Igor Stravinsky

Composed: 1932

Last PCMS performance: Leila Josefowicz in 2008

Duration: 16 minutes

Stravinsky gave the five movements of the Duo Concertante titles that evoke musical forms and idioms of the past. The Dithyrambe, written with a nod to the tragic, ancient Greek dithyramb, may be the most lyrically beautiful music the composer ever wrote.

Piano Trio in C Minor, Op. 8

Dmitri Shostakovich

Composed: 1923

Last PCMS performance: Beaux Arts Trio in 1997

Duration: 13 minutes

The fruit of Shostakovich's youthful infatuation with Tatyana Glivenko, this ardent, single movement work was originally entitled "Poem." It is a hymn to love both sacred and sensual and is arguably the most romantic and Romantic work Shostakovich ever composed.