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Alumnus Recital

Sha Wang
Chapman University

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Alumnus Recital: Sha Wang, piano

September 24, 2012



fall 2012

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FALL 2012 calendar highlights

september

September 27-29, October 4-6

Company, Book by George Furth, Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Directed by Todd Nielsen, Music Direction by Bill Brown

october

October 19-21

Opera Chapman presents **"2012: An Opera Odyssey – The Journey Continues"**

Peter Atherton, Artistic Director, Carol Neblett, Associate Director

October 26

Chapman University Choir and Women's Choir in Concert

Stephen Coker and Angel Vázquez-Ramos, Conductors

november

November 2-3

American Celebration

Dale A. Merrill, Artistic Director and Producer

William Hall, Music Director and Conductor

November 7-11

If All the Sky Were Paper

By Andrew Carroll, Directed by John Benitz

November 10

Chapman University Wind Symphony

Paul Sherman, Music Director and Conductor

November 12

University Singers in Concert

Stephen Coker, Conductor

November 16

Chapman Chamber Orchestra

Daniel Alfred Wachs, Music Director and Conductor

November 28-December 1

Fall Dance Concert

Directed by Jennifer Backhaus

december

December 7-8

49th Annual Holiday Wassail - Banquet and Concert

Presented by the University Choir and University Singers, Stephen Coker, Conductor,

University Women's Choir, Angel Vázquez-Ramos, Conductor, and the Chapman University Chamber Orchestra, Daniel Alfred Wachs, Conductor

CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY

Conservatory of Music

presents an

Alumnus Recital

Sha Wang '02, piano

In Memory of Nadine and Harmon Wilkinson

September 24, 2012 ■ 7:00 P.M.

Fish Interfaith Center



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Program

Sonata, D. 958

Allegro

Adagio

Menuetto: Allegro-Trio

Allegro

Carnaval, Op. 9

Préambule

Pierrot

Arlequin

Valse noble

Eusebius

Florestan

Coquette

Réplique

Papillons

A.S.C.H.-S.C.H.A.: Lettres dansantes

Chiarina

Chopin

Estrella

Reconnaissance

Pantalon et Colombine

Valse allemande

Intermezzo: Paganini

Aveu

Promenade

Pause

Marche des "Davidsbündler" contre les Philistins

Franz Schubert

(1797-1828)

Robert Schumann

(1810-1856)

Program Notes

Franz Schubert's last three piano sonatas, D.V. 958, 959 and 960, were written during the last months of Schubert's life, between the spring and autumn of 1828, but were not published until about ten years after his death, in 1838–39. History has not granted the much deserved attention to these sonatas until the later part of the 20th century. They now stand prominently among some of the most musically challenging repertoire from the late Classical and early Romantic era.

Schubert begins his C-minor Sonata with a Beethovenian gesture. Quoting the opening of Beethoven's famous Theme and 32 Variations for Piano, the first movement is a staggeringly austere retort to coziness. Although the Adagio echoes the tranquil second subject of the first movement, it also embodies much anxiety that is murmuring in a hammering stream of triplets. The third movement, though rooted in the dance minuet, is saturated with uncertainty and restlessness with its uneven phrase lengths, bizarre harmonic diversions, and unexpected silence. Nothing, however, prepares the listener for the tarantella-like finale. It 'wanders' through distant keys and extends through all registers of the piano. The ending, though heroic, nevertheless retains a sense of struggle and wander.

There is much to be said about **Robert Schumann's** *Carnaval*. Written in 1834-1835 and subtitled *Scènes mignonnes sur quatre notes* (Little Scenes on Four Notes), this set of programmatic character pieces provides 21 musical sketches of persons (real or fictional) or of a sentiment. There is musical connective tissue in *Carnaval*. Every piece begins with or somehow utilizes four notes: A, E flat, C, B natural. In German, these letters are equatable to ASCH. For Schumann, ASCH had almost mystical symbolism, being Asch, the name of the town of his first sweetheart, Ernestine, while also being letters essential to his own name - SCHumAnn. For Schumann these notes were encoded puzzles, and he predicted that "deciphering my masked ball will be a real game for you." There is a repeating motif in the piece.

As a composer living in early 19th century, Schumann successfully deviated from popular genres such as sonatas, whose compositional potential had been nearly exhausted by composers such as Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, and Schubert. These character pieces opened the door for a new generation of composers and compositional possibilities and fostered a glorious century of Romantic piano music.

~ Notes by: Sha Wang

Artist



Sha Wang, who has earned her D.M.A degree from the College-Conservatory of Music in Cincinnati, was the first prize winner at the 16th International Young

Artist Piano Competition, Washington, D.C. and advanced into the Jose Iturbi International Music Competition, the Hilton Head International Piano Competition and the Honens International Piano Competition. In the recent years, she became the winner of the Pittsburgh Concert Society Major Audition, the 2nd prize winner of the Bradshaw & Buono International Piano Competition in 2009, and the alternate finalist at the 2009 Seattle International Piano Competition. Her New York debut took place at the Peter Norton Symphony Space in Manhattan in spring 2006.

Dr. Wang has performed at the Kosciuszko Foundation Auditorium in NYC in 2009. In 2010, she was also the featured soloist at the Bank of America-Dame Myra Hess Concert Series at the Chicago Cultural Center. The concert was broadcasted on Chicago classical radio station (WFMT 98.7). She was also featured in a concert for the late U.S. President Gerald Ford. As a collaborative pianist, she has performed with artists such as pianist Lang Lang, violinist Kun Dong (Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra), soprano Tamara Wilson (Houston Grand Opera) and with members of Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra.

The Wilkinson Legacy

Harmon (Class of 1935) and Nadine (Class of 1944) Wilkinson were pillars of the Chapman University community. They shared commitments to faith, equality and working for humanitarian causes. The couple also shared an extraordinary commitment to alma mater. They provided leadership that shaped and advanced our institution while also being gentle but constant voices keeping us true to our values and traditions.

Harmon served as a member of the Board of Governors (1958 to 1969) and Board of Trustee from 1969 until his passing. He and Nadine supported a broad range of campus initiatives including our Disciples on Campus students, peace studies, and a variety of scholarships. Nadine was a lifelong member of Beta Chi sorority, and Harmon and Nadine were both loyal members of Town & Gown and the Charles C. Chapman Heritage Society. Additionally, they served as leaders for First Christian Church of Whittier.

Just as their influence, the Wilkinson family name can be found throughout the campus of Chapman University. This includes the Wilkinson College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Wilkinson Hall, and the Wilkinson Founders Chapel within the Fish Interfaith Center. All three Wilkinson children, Wayne, Karen and Beth attended Chapman. Karen continues her family's tradition of leadership at Chapman as a member of the Board of Trustees.

Although Harmon and Nadine passed away within months of each other in 2006, their legacy continues to reverberate through the many lives they touched. Among these is alumna and acclaimed pianist, Sha Wang '02. An international student who came to Chapman's Conservatory of Music from China, Sha remembers Harmon and Nadine becoming like family to her and supporting her throughout her time at Chapman. To show her gratitude to the Chapman community and honor the Wilkinson's contributions to her life and success, Sha returned to campus to present today's concert in their memory.

Your Legacy

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Dear Alumni, Parents and Friends:

Thank you for joining us for the alumnus recital of Sha Wang, in memory of Harmon and Nadine Wilkinson. On behalf of our faculty, staff and students, I am grateful to all the members of our College of Performing Arts family for the support that allows us to continue to present great performances like the one you are about to see.

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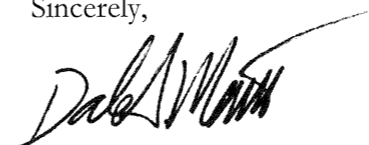
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Enjoy the performance, and I look forward to seeing you again throughout the season.

Sincerely,



Dale A. Merrill, Dean

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