

4-16-2014

Faculty Recital

Karen Knecht

Chapman University, knecht@chapman.edu

Laszlo Mezo

Chapman University, mezo@chapman.edu

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Karen Knecht, piano
Laszlo Mezo, cello

April 16, 2014



 CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY | COLLEGE OF PERFORMING ARTS

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music

2014

SPRING 2014 calendar highlights

february

February 6

President's Piano Series

Alexander Toradze and Vakhtang
Kodanashvili, duo piano concert

February 7

University Singers Post-Tour Concert

Stephen Coker, Conductor
Carol Neblett, Associate Director

February 8

Guest Artists in Recital

Bruce Sledge, tenor with Cheryl Fielding, pianist

February 13-15, 20-22

A Night of Noh Theatre

Conceived and Directed by Tamiko
Washington

march

March 2

Guest Artists in Recital - Third Wheel Trio

Laura Stoutenborough, clarinet; Karin Kantenwein
Fabiero, flute; and Rebecca Rivera, bassoon

March 6

President's Piano Series

Jeffrey Siegel, piano

april

April 3

President's Piano Series

Christina and Michelle Naughton, piano

April 4

University Choir & University Singers in Concert

Stephen Coker, Conductor

April 5

Artist-in-Residence in Recital

Milena Kitic, mezzo-soprano with Vivian Liu, pianist

April 10-12

Concert Intime

Directed by Alicia Guy

April 10-12, 17-19

Machinal by Sophie Treadwell

Directed by Matthew McCray

April 11

Chapman University Wind Symphony

Christopher Nicholas, Music Director & Conductor

April 25-27

Opera Chapman: *Le Nozze di Figaro* (*The Marriage of Figaro*)

In collaboration with the Chapman Orchestra
Peter Atherton, Artistic Director
Carol Neblett & David Alt, Associate Directors
Daniel Alfred Wachs, Conductor

may

May 7-10

Spring Dance Concert

Directed by Nancy Dickson-Lewis and
Jennifer Backhaus

May 10

Sholund Scholarship Concert

Hall-Musco Conservatory of Music
Showcase Performance

May 15

Beethoven: The Finale

The Chapman Orchestra partners with The
Orange County Youth Symphony Orchestra
Daniel Alfred Wachs, Conductor

CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY *Hall-Musco Conservatory of Music*

presents a

Faculty Recital:

Karen Knecht, piano
Laszlo Mezo, cello

April 16, 2014 ■ 8:00 P.M.
Salmon Recital Hall

Program

7 Variations on "Bei Männern, welche Liebe fühlen" WoO46
Ludwig van Beethoven
(1770-1827)

Sonata in A Major, op.69
Allegro ma non tanto
Scherzo
Allegro molto
Adagio cantabile; Allegro vivace

~Intermission~

Sonata in G Minor, op.65
Allegro moderato
Scherzo
Largo
Finale
Allegro

Frederic Chopin
(1810-1849)

About the Artists

Karen Knecht received her early music training at the Julliard School of Music. She went on to earn a Bachelor's Degree in Music and English Literature at Indiana University where she studied with Sydney Foster and the legendary pianist Abbey Simon. She also holds a Master of Fine Arts degree from State University of N.Y. at Buffalo where she worked with Frina Arshanka Boldt.

In addition to her many solo and duo piano concerts at Chapman University where she has been a faculty member for over 25 years, Ms. Knecht has performed at the Lincoln Center Library and Museum and Merkin Concert Hall in N.Y.C. where she premiered the Fantasy for Piano by Kennedy Center Friedham award-winning composer Emma Lou Diemer.

Her former students include an L.A. Drama Critics Circle best composer nominee and current college and university piano faculty members.

Born in Budapest, Hungary, **Laszlo Mezo** gained national recognition as one of the top musicians of his generation when he won First Prize in the "Kertész Ottó Memorial Competition" at the young age of 18. Since then, he has won numerous other competitions which have brought him international recognition including the Fourth Prize in the "Antonio Janigro Junior International Competition" in 1998, Second Prize in the "International Dávid Popper Competition for Young Cellists" in 2000, the Special Prize in the "International Dávid Popper Cello Competition" in 2004, and First Prize in the "Ima Hogg International Competition" in 2008.

Mr. Mezo has forged a career as a soloist, recitalist, master teacher, and chamber musician. He has performed extensively in Europe, Asia, and North and South America. Always eager to pass on his knowledge, Laszlo has conducted master classes in Japan, Brazil, Italy, Switzerland, Hungary, and the United States. Mr. Mezo is currently an adjunct professor in cello at Chapman University and Saddleback College in California, and he was Assistant Teacher at the University of Southern California between 2007 and 2008.

As a soloist, Mr. Mezo has performed with maestros Ádám Fischer, Thomas Wilkins, Grant Llewellyn, Zsolt Hamar. As a chamber musician, he has collaborated in recitals with pianists Kevin Fitz-Gerald, Steven Vanhauwaert, Gábor Farkas, Márta Gulyás, Piotr Folkert, and Balázs Szokolay, violinist Kristóf Baráti, cellist Philipp Muller, and the Bartók Quartet. He has also played under the direction of Zubin Mehta and Kent Nagano as a member of the Bayerische Staatsorchester in Munich, Germany.

Mr. Mezo holds two master's degrees from the Liszt Ferenc University of Music in Budapest and the Hochschule für Musik und Theater München. He graduated from the class of Ralph Kirshbaum at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. Mr. Mezo has also participated in the master classes of Uzi Wiesel, Josef Podhoransky, Othmar

About the Artists

Müller, Philippe Müller, Rainer Zipperling, Fenyves Lóránd, Wolfgang Boettcher, and Aldo Parisot.

Currently residing in Los Angeles, California, Mr. Mezo is a member of the Pacific Symphony Orchestra. He is a sought after soloist, and an active studio musician in Hollywood. He has played in many film scores, some most updated blockbusters include *Ice Age*, *Life of Pi*, *Wolverine*, and *The Lone Ranger*.

His first CD recording of Dávid Popper's works, on the Hungaroton label, includes several first time ever recordings of the master's cello works. He recently finished his second CD, "Made in Paris," with romantic cello pieces from the 19th century also featuring world premiere works by cellist-composer Daniel Van Goens, and pieces from the Suite Populaire Espagnole by Manuel De Falla.



COLLEGE OF PERFORMING ARTS

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Last year we welcomed over 11,000 audience members to our performances, concerts, recitals and events, making it our best attended year ever. In addition to our student performances, our season always includes choreography, direction and concerts by our stellar faculty and visiting artists who are accomplished professionals, each with a true passion for the arts.

As a lover of the arts, you have a crucial role to play to ensure our success and the success of the students who are at the heart of all we do. It is my hope that you will help provide our students with the tools and resources they need with your gift to the Fund for Excellence.

A gift to the Fund directly supports these College priorities:

- Production costs for the 200-plus live performances of dance, music, theatre and opera the College produces each year;
- Recruitment of professional visiting artists for technique and master classes;
- Scholarships and travel funds for our student touring ensembles and conferences.

Performances like the one you are about to see are an important part of our students' academic and artistic curriculum, exposing them to experiences that hone their artistic sensibilities. Our students graduate with more training, more experience and more professional opportunities to launch their careers in the performing arts and performing arts education.

Each one of our students will benefit from your decision to support the College. With your gift, you will be a part of a family of individuals who demonstrate, year after year, their commitment to developing the talents of young artists. I hope you join us not only because you value the arts, but because you want to invest in our next generation of artists.

Enjoy the performance, and I look forward to seeing you again at our performances throughout the year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dale A. Merrill".

Dale A. Merrill, Dean

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