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Visiting Artist in Piano 2009-2010

Sergei Babayan
Chapman University

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ART THEATRE MUSIC DANCE



Spring 2010 Event Highlights

ART:

The PageFeb 1 – Mar 12

THEATRE:

Bus Stop by William Inge, in repertory with

Hedda Gabler by Henrik Ibsen..... Mar 12 – 14, 16 – 20

Student Directed One-ActsApr 23 – 25, 29 – 30, May 1

MUSIC:

University Choirs Post-Tour Concert.....Feb 5

Chapman Chamber Orchestra and University Singers Mar 5

Stan Kenton Alumni Band with the Chapman Big Band Mar 12

Chapman University Wind Symphony..... Mar 13

Visiting Artist in Recital – Sergei Babayan, piano Mar 23

Opera Chapman presents: Mozart's *Così fan tutte*Apr 23 – 25

Sholund Scholarship Concert: Sacred Music of the

Great Italian Opera ComposersMay 8

DANCE:

Dance Works in ProgressFeb 27

Concert IntimeMar 25 – 27

Spring Dance ConcertMay 12 – 15

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CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY

Conservatory of Music

presents

Visiting Artist in Piano
2009-2010

Sergei Babayan, piano

March 23, 2010 • 8:00 P.M.
Salmon Recital Hall

Program

“ <i>Fantasia</i> ,” in D minor, K. 397 (ca. 1782)	W. A. Mozart (1756 – 1791)
12 “Variations on French Song, ‘ <i>Ah, vous dirai-je Maman</i> ’” in C Major, K. 265 (ca. 1781-82)	W. A. Mozart
Sonata in E minor, Hob. XVI: 34 (ca. 1780)	F. J. Haydn (1732 – 1809)
I. Presto	
II. Adagio	
III. Vivace molto	
Sonata in C Major, K. 279 (ca. 1775)	W. A. Mozart
I. Allegro	
II. Andante	
III. Allegro	
~ Intermission ~	
Sonata in C minor, Hob. XVI: 20 (ca. 1771)	F. J. Haydn
I. (Allegro) Moderato	
II. Andante con moto	
III. Allegro	
Sonata in B-flat Major, K. 281 (ca. 1775)	W. A. Mozart
I. Allegro	
II. Andante amoroso	
III. Rondo: Allegro	

About the Artist

Sergei Babayan is the Mr. and Mrs. John D. Gilliam Artist-in-Residence at the Cleveland Institute of Music. Acclaimed for the immediacy, sensitivity and depth of his interpretations, Mr. Babayan's performances reveal an emotional intensity and bold energy, equipping him to explore stylistically diverse repertoire. He is known for his innovative programming, often including modern works by composers such as Lutosławski, Ligeti and Arvo Pärt, and extending the boundaries of mainstream repertoire for which he continues to be acclaimed, excelling in Mozart, Beethoven, Brahms and Schumann as much as the Russian heritage of Rachmaninoff, Scriabin and Prokofiev. His philosophy that a recital should reveal a spiritual dimension, results in playing which sustains an intensity that never fails to captivate. His performances of J.S. Bach have always garnered him both public and critical acclaim, and he firmly believes that the natural evolution of the keyboard instrument has led to the modern piano that allows the music to be fully expressed in this modern incarnation.

A student of such legendary teachers and musicians as Gornostayeva, Naumov, Pletnev and Vlasenko at the Moscow Conservatory, he was not permitted to leave the country and be free to compete and study in the West. He was the first pianist from the former USSR who was able to compete without government sponsorship after the collapse of the system. Immediately after his first trip outside of the USSR, Mr. Babayan won consecutive first prizes in several major international competitions including the 1990 Robert Casadesus International Piano Competition (now the Cleveland International Piano Competition; 1990 Palm Beach International Piano Competition; 1991 Hamamatsu Piano Competition; and 1992 Scottish International Piano Competition. He is also a Laureate of the Queen Elizabeth International Piano Competition, the Busoni International Piano Competition and the Esther Honens International Competition in Calgary, Canada. Since that time, Mr. Babayan has had major engagements and concert tours throughout Europe, Japan, New Zealand, Australia, South Africa, South America, China and the U.S. His New York recitals at Carnegie Hall and Alice Tully Hall, performances with The Cleveland Orchestra, Baltimore Symphony and Detroit Symphony have been met with huge critical acclaim, as have his many subsequent recital and concerto performances throughout all the major cities in the U.S.

His concert schedule has included performances and broadcasts throughout major European cities and extensive tours of Japan. He has appeared in recital in such important venues as Salle Gaveau in Paris, Wigmore Hall in London, Carnegie Hall in New York, the Warsaw Philharmonic, Severance Hall in Cleveland, Bolshoy Zal of the Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory, Mariinsky Theatre in St.Petersburg, Herkulessaal in Munich, Liederhalle in Stuttgart, Meistersingerhalle in Nurnberg, Konzerthaus in Berlin, Brahmsallee in Karlsruhe, Beethovenhalle in Bonn and many others. In recent seasons, he has performed recitals in New York, London, Hannover, Manchester, Bruxelles, Glasgow, Moscow, St. Petersburg, Paris, Grenoble, Tours, Warsaw, Tokyo, Beijing, Osaka, Sapporo, Rio de Janeiro, Philadelphia, Washington DC, Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Cleveland, Seattle, Atlanta, Miami and New Orleans. Mr. Babayan has appeared at numerous major music festivals in France, Germany, the UK, Poland, Spain, China and the U.S. His concerts have been broadcast by WQXR, WCLV, Radio France, Polish Radio and Television, BBC-TV and NHK Satellite Television.

He has made several highly praised recordings for the EMC, Connoisseur Society and Pro Piano labels. His recordings of Scarlatti, Ligeti, Messiaen, Mozart, Mendelssohn, Ravel, Schubert, Liszt, Vine, Respighi and Prokofiev have garnered high acclaim, including a "Critic's Choice" in *The New York Times* praising his "extraordinary technique and ability to play densely harmonized works with illuminating transparency and a daunting measure of control." *American Record Guide* joined in the accolades, praising his "phenomenal level of color and imagination." Of the recording of Scarlatti sonatas, *American Guide* said: "It can stand proudly beside that of Horowitz..."

Upcoming Events

Modern Music Concert Jeffrey Holmes, Director	April 6—8:00pm Salmon Recital Hall, Conservatory of Music
Opera Chapman presents “Così fan tutte” Peter Atherton, Artistic Director Daniel Alfred Wachs, Music Director & Conductor	April 23 & 24—8:00pm April 25—3:00pm Chapman Auditorium, Memorial Hall
Chapman Percussion Ensemble Nicholas Terry, Director	April 29—8:00pm Chapman Auditorium, Memorial Hall
Instrumental Chamber Music (Winds & Brass) Paul Sherman, Director	May 2—5:00pm Salmon Recital Hall, Conservatory of Music
Chapman Guitar Ensemble Jeff Cogan, Director	May 2—8:00pm Salmon Recital Hall, Conservatory of Music
Chapman Saxophone Ensemble Gary Matsuura, Director	May 5—8:00pm Salmon Recital Hall, Conservatory of Music
Sholund Scholarship Concert Stephen Coker, Conductor	May 8—4:00pm Chapman Auditorium, Memorial Hall
Orange County Youth Symphony Orchestra Concert Daniel Alfred Wachs, Music Director & Conductor	May 9—4:00pm Chapman Auditorium, Memorial Hall
Piano Major Showcase Recital Grace Fong, Director	May 11—7:00pm Salmon Recital Hall, Conservatory of Music
Big Band & Jazz Combos Albert Alva, Director	May 11—8:00pm Chapman Auditorium, Memorial Hall
Student Pianists in Recital Janice Park, Director	May 12—7:00pm Salmon Recital Hall, Conservatory of Music
New Music Ensemble Sean Heim, Director	May 13—8:00pm Salmon Recital Hall, Conservatory of Music
Instrumental Chamber Music (Strings & Piano) Robert Becker & Grace Fong, Directors	May 15—2:00pm Salmon Recital Hall, Conservatory of Music

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