

Chapman University

## Chapman University Digital Commons

---

Printed Performance Programs (PDF Format)

Music Performances

---

3-1-2015

### Senior Recital

Kristi McKinley  
*Chapman University*

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.chapman.edu/music\\_programs](https://digitalcommons.chapman.edu/music_programs)

---

#### Recommended Citation

McKinley, Kristi, "Senior Recital" (2015). *Printed Performance Programs (PDF Format)*. 911.  
[https://digitalcommons.chapman.edu/music\\_programs/911](https://digitalcommons.chapman.edu/music_programs/911)

This Senior Recital is brought to you for free and open access by the Music Performances at Chapman University Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Printed Performance Programs (PDF Format) by an authorized administrator of Chapman University Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [laughtin@chapman.edu](mailto:laughtin@chapman.edu).

unsuccessful academically. In 1895, Ravel failed to receive any rewards for piano and was dismissed from the conservatoire. However, Ravel returned to the conservatoire in 1898 to study his passion of music composition with Gabriel Fauré.

Ravel's famous piece *Jeux d'Eau* (1901) translates to "Playing Water." Ravel was greatly inspired by the sound of water and by musical sounds that could portray the splashes of water from fountains, waterfalls, or brooks. The piece was written when he was a student at the Conservatoire and he dedicated the piece to his teacher Gabriel Fauré. The piece received international importance because of its virtuosic nature and its innovation for a new capacity of sound that could be created on the piano. This piece is said to have been greatly influenced by Liszt's piece, *Les Jeux d'eau à la Villa d'Este*. Therefore, this piece builds upon Liszt's techniques and adds the unique ideas of Ravel.

**Robert Schumann** (1810-1856) was a German composer during the Romantic era. He was proficient in playing piano and composing. However, when he faced a hand injury due to a mechanical device he created used to strengthen his hands, his performance days ended so he began to focus more on composition. After his hand injury, Schumann wrote a great deal of work, especially when he married the pianist Clara in 1840. Schumann wrote many songs and symphonic works during those years that established himself as a composer.

Schumann's Piano Concerto in A minor was written in 1845. However, the work was originally not intended to be a concerto containing three movements. Schumann began this work with only the first movement and had called it Phantasie in A minor for piano and orchestra. The single-movement piece was most likely written for his wife Clara Schumann who had wanted a large orchestral work for piano. She played the piece in 1841 and 1843, but never publicly performed the piece. It wasn't until 1845 when Schumann wrote a second and third movement to the piece. This became Schumann's first and only complete piano concerto he ever wrote.

- Kristi McKinley

#### Works Cited

Christoph Wolff, et al. "Bach." *Grove Music Online. Oxford Music Online*. Oxford University Press. Web. 1 Dec. 2013. <<http://www.oxfordmusiconline.com/subscriber/article/grove/music/40023pg10>>.

Blom, Eric. *Beethoven's Pianoforte Sonatas Discussed*. New York: Da Capo, 1968. Print.

Hall, George. "Schumann, Robert." *The Oxford Companion to Music*. Ed. Alison Latham. *Oxford Music Online*. Oxford University Press. Web. 21 Feb. 2015. <<http://www.oxfordmusiconline.com/subscriber/article/opr/t114/e6003>>.

Heyman, Barbara B. *Samuel Barber: A Thematic Catalogue of the Complete Works*. New York: Oxford UP, 2012. Print.

Ilfie, Frederick. *The Forty-eight Preludes and Fugues of John Sebastian Bach Analysed for the Use of Students* by F. Ilfie. London: Novello and, 1897. Print.

Mellers, Wilfrid. *Francis Poulenc*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1993. Print.

Myers, Rollo H. *Ravel: Life & Works*. Westport, CT: Greenwood, 1973. Print.

Myriam Chimènes and Roger Nichols. "Poulenc, Francis." *Grove Music Online. Oxford Music Online*. Oxford University Press. Web. 11 Feb. 2015. <<http://www.oxfordmusiconline.com/subscriber/article/grove/music/22202>>.

Smallman, Basil. "Bach, Johann Sebastian." *The Oxford Companion to Music*. Ed. Alison Latham. *Oxford Music Online*. Oxford University Press. Web. 1 Dec. 2013. <<http://www.oxfordmusiconline.com/subscriber/article/opr/t114/e522>>.

*This recital is presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance degree. Kristi McKinley is a student of Dr. Janice Park.*

# CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY

## *Hall-Musco Conservatory of Music*

*presents a*

### Senior Recital

Kristi McKinley, piano

March 1, 2015 ■ 2:00 P.M.

Salmon Recital Hall

## Program

Well Tempered Clavier Book 2  
Prelude & Fugue in e minor BWV 879

J. S. Bach  
(1685-1750)

Sonata Op. 27, No.1 in E-flat major  
I. *Andante - Allegro - Andante*  
II. *Allegro molto e vivace*  
III. *Adagio con espressione*  
IV. *Allegro vivace*

L.V. Beethoven  
(1770-1827)

### ~Intermission~

Excursions Op. 20  
*Un poco allegro*  
*Allegretto*

S. Barber  
(1910-1981)

Improvisation in B minor  
Presto très sec.

F. Poulenc  
(1899-1963)

Jeux d'eau

M. Ravel  
(1875-1937)

Piano Concerto Op. 54 in A minor  
*Allegro affettuoso*

R. Schumann  
(1810-1856)

## Program Notes

**J.S. Bach** (1685-1750) is the foundation to most of the classical repertoire we hear today, being an influence to all composers following him. Bach was born in Eisenach, Germany, and at a very young age was an organist and a composer. He studied music from his father on the violin, harpsichord, and organ. However, when Bach was around 9 years old, his mother died and not even a year later did his father die as well, so Bach began living with his eldest brother. From 1708-1714, he established his first career as an organist in Wemiar. During this time he wrote his *Orgelbüchlein* or "Little Organ Book" including choral preludes, and he wrote some of his most famous Preludes and Fugues that are included in his collection called the *Well Tempered Clavier*, Books I and II.

Bach Prelude and Fugue in E minor BWV 879 (c. 1740) is a Prelude and Fugue included in Book II of the *Well Tempered Clavier*. The *Well Tempered Clavier* was written to demonstrate the new possibilities of equal temperament which allowed composers to write in any key. The *Well Tempered Clavier* is a collection of preludes and fugues organized into two sets, each set containing 24 preludes & fugues in all major and minor keys. They are designed to be played on any keyboard instrument.

**Ludwig Van Beethoven** (1770-1827) is one of the world's greatest, innovative and influential composers of all time. He was born in Bonn, Germany where he received piano and theory lessons from his father. Beethoven's life can be organized into three different periods. The first period of Beethoven's life is from about 1770-1802, which depicts his earlier life where he drew his influences upon Haydn (one of his piano instructors) and Mozart. During the second period of his life from around 1802-1815, Beethoven began to experience signs of hearing loss. This was an emotional time for Beethoven where he began to retreat into isolation and compose more complex music. From 1815-1827, Beethoven reached his years of almost complete deafness. His works were more chromatic, dissonant, strong in volume, and long in length.

Beethoven's Piano Sonata Op. 27 No. 1 in Eb Major was written around 1801, in the first period of his life before he experienced loss of hearing. This sonata was dedicated to the Princess Josephine Sophie von Liechtenstein. This sonata is unique because it is one of two sonatas that are titled *Sonata quasi una fantasia* which translates to "sonata in the manner of a fantasy." This title was a way for Beethoven to declare that he was bending the strict sonata form in many ways. Beethoven approaches this piece by deliberately instructing for no breaks in-between each movement. He also bends typical sonata form by substituting pieces and arranging them in a different order. Out of the 32 famous piano sonatas that Beethoven wrote, this sonata precedes the famous "moonlight" sonata (Op. 27 No. 2).

**Samuel Barber** (1910-1981) was an American composer, born in the quiet town of West Chester, Pennsylvania. He wrote pieces for almost every genre and his compositions were widely performed during the mid-20th century. In Barber's early life, he wrote expressive, lyrical music that followed conventional forms of the 19th century.

Contrary to Barber's typical style of writing, his *Four Excursions* were written in a different musical style. The *Excursions* (1941-2) are four piano "bagatelles" that are based on American idioms. He wrote these *Excursions* for his friend and pianist Jeanne Behrend who asked him to write a piece that would sound American. The result are four pieces that have elements of boogie-woogie, blues, theme and variation on a cowboy song, and a hoedown. *Excursion I* (*Un poco allegro*) was written in the style of a boogie-woogie. It opens with an ostinato "walking bass" figuration that continues throughout the piece. This piece utilizes syncopations and accented off-beats that unexpectedly arise and add a "crunch" that is later resolved. *Excursion III* (*Allegretto*) was the last Excursion Barber wrote in his set of four and is a set of variations. The piece is very melodic in its nature and is thought to be derived from a folk tune. This piece is identifiable by its complex rhythmic schemes and syncopations that are written in a slightly playful manner.

**Francis Poulenc** (1899-1963) was a French composer and accomplished pianist. Written between 1932 and 1959, Poulenc composed a set of 15 *Improvisations*. An improvisation generally indicates something that is improvised including spontaneous musical ideas, but in this case the pieces are written down and therefore possess the qualities of a piece that is improvised. All fifteen Improvisations are brief in length and are rather simplistic in form. However, the pieces are said to still be of high quality and were Poulenc's favorite pieces. *Improvisation III* is in b minor and is to be played fast and very dry. In this *Improvisation*, Poulenc alternates between dissonant, agitated sections and melodic, calmer sections.

**Maurice Ravel** (1875-1937) is known as one of the leading composers of Impressionist music along with Claude Debussy. Although he was labeled as an impressionistic composer, he more closely identified with classicism since he often utilized traditional forms. At a young age, Ravel was noticed to be very gifted at the piano and was enrolled at the Paris Conservatoire at age 14 for piano performance. The Paris Conservatoire was a prestigious music and dance school where Ravel excelled in his music but was