LORENZO MEDEL, PIANO

Wednesday, July 3, 2024
Kilbourn Hall
7:30 PM
PROGRAM

Adagio in B Minor, K. 540  Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756-1791)

Rondo in D Major, K. 485

Ibarra (2010)  Joed Balsamo
(b. 1977)

Malikmata (Mirage) (1939)  Antonio Molina
(1894-1980)

First Nocturne in C-sharp Minor (1921)  Nicanor Abelardo
(1893-1934)

Pictures at an Exhibition  Modest Mussorgsky
(1839-1881)

- Promenade I
- The Gnome
- Promenade II
- The Old Castle
- Promenade III
- Tuileries
- Bydlo
- Promenade IV
- Ballet of the Unhatched Chicks
- Samuel Goldenberg and Schmuyle (Two Polish Jews)
- Promenade V
- Limoges: The Market Square
- Catacombae (Sepulchrum romanum)
- The Hut on Hen’s Legs (Baba-Yaga)
- The Great Gate of Kiev
Adagio in B Minor, K. 540  
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Mozart’s *Adagio in B minor* is one of the most unusual and mysterious piano works he has ever composed. The key of B minor is particularly special as Mozart rarely composed in that key; this key often signifies grief and death at its most depressing moment. Other famous pieces that come to mind include Chopin’s *Third Piano Sonata* and Liszt’s *Sonata*. It is said that Mozart wrote this piece while mourning the death of his father, Leopold Mozart. They had a complicated relationship, but W.A. Mozart was still much affected by his father’s passing.

The music is filled with sforzandos, abrupt dynamic contrasts, and rests, which are unlike Mozart’s typical style of tuneful lyricism. The second theme, however, is the only lyrical moment of the piece, emphasizing the contrasts between dark and light, death and life, and pain and peace.

Rondo in D Major, K. 485  
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Mozart’s *Rondo in D major* is in the typical style of Mozart: playful, light-hearted, and full of life. There are some motives similar to those heard in his famous *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik*, which was written after this Rondo.
**Ibarra** (2010) Joed Balsamo

*Ibarra* is a work by a living Filipino composer, Joed Balsamo. This work depicts the Philippine national hero Jose Rizal, who was incarcerated and later executed for speaking out against Spanish colonization of the Philippines. This work depicts a moment when the man is in prison, contemplative and meditative.

**Malikmata** (1939) Antonio Molina

*Malikmata* translates to mirage, or illusion. This piece is by Filipino composer Antonio Molina and is based on a poem describing how death is a transfiguration of life. The music uses an impressionistic style and uses musical imagery to depict the words of the poem.

**First Nocturne in C-sharp Minor** (1921) Nicanor Abelardo

*First Nocturne in C-sharp minor* was written by Filipino composer Nicanor Abelardo. Abelardo was one of the most important Filipino composers and this Nocturne is written in the style of Chopin. However, the tune used here is Filipino in origin and the work is also reminiscent of the Kundiman, a genre of Filipino music that evokes nationalistic elements. The Philippines was colonized for over 300 years by different countries and the Filipino people often hid their cries for freedom inside their music. This Nocturne is filled with longing, grief, and hope.
Mussorgsky’s *Pictures at an Exhibition* was written in commemoration of Viktor Hartmann, Mussorgsky’s close friend who passed away unexpectedly. Hartmann was a painter, and the music brings to life the paintings of Hartmann in ingenious ways.

The Promenades represent the viewer walking through an art gallery, stopping to observe individual paintings along the way. Each painting inspires a musical vision, such as a nightmarish gnome (*The Gnome*), a sad and melancholic castle (*The Old Castle*), children playing in a garden (*Tuileries*), a busy market (*Limoges: The Market Square*), a ferocious and repulsive witch (*Baba-Yaga*), or the grand and majestic gates of Kiev (*The Great Gate of Kiev*). This monumental work is a testament to the genius of Mussorgsky, and has become one of his most popular works.

— Lorenzo Medel
Lorenzo Medel received his Doctorate in Piano Performance and Literature from the Eastman School of Music, where he also completed his Bachelors and Masters degrees. He owes his musical voice to Professors Mauricia Borromeo, Natalya Antonova, and Alexander Kobrin.

As faculty of the Piano Department at the Eastman Community Music School, Lorenzo actively works with students throughout the Rochester community and performs in community engagement concerts in the area. He has also taught Secondary Piano and Class Piano at Eastman and chamber music at the University of Rochester.

Lorenzo also teaches virtually and has students across the country and internationally. He believes that piano lessons are a conversation and are meant to be a communal experience. Through the skills learned in music, people can become better human beings.

Over the summers, Lorenzo teaches and performs in Keyboard Explorations through Summer@Eastman. This program focuses on group lesson workshops, Dalcroze musicianship, historical instruments, piano literature, and music history to foster a comprehensive experience for young pianists.

A native of the Philippines, Lorenzo actively supports Filipino music by consistently performing Filipino works in concerts and arranging music by other Filipino composers. He began piano studies at ten years old with Mauricia Borromeo at the University of the Philippines. By 14, he had already garnered top prizes from all Philippines' premier piano competitions, including the National Music Competitions for Young Artists, the Piano Teachers' Guild of the Philippines, the University of the Philippines Centennial Anniversary Piano Competition and the National Steinway Piano Competition. By 16, he was performing recitals almost monthly, including concerto performances with the Manila Symphony Orchestra. Additionally, he has given a piano masterclass at Silliman University in the Philippines.

Besides piano, Lorenzo is also a card magician and hopes to someday combine music and magic in concert.
UPCOMING SUMMER@EASTMAN CONCERTS

All summer performances are free unless otherwise noted.

SUMMER@EASTMAN
Keyboard Explorations I Participant Concert
Hatch Recital Hall
Saturday, July 6, 2024 at 3:30 PM

SUMMER@EASTMAN
Viola Institute Participant Concert
Kilbourn Hall
Saturday, July 6, 2024 at 7:30 PM

SUMMER@EASTMAN
RPL Young Artist Auditions Winners Concert
Kilbourn Hall
Sunday, July 7, 2024 at 7:30 PM

SUMMER@EASTMAN
Keyboard Explorations II Faculty Concert
Hatch Recital Hall
Sunday, July 7, 2024 at 5:30 PM

SUMMER@EASTMAN
Summer Organ Academy Faculty Concert
Christ Church
Monday, July 8, 2024 at 7:30 PM

SUMMER@EASTMAN
Rich Thompson, jazz drums
Kilbourn Hall
Monday, July 8, 2024 at 7:30 PM

SUMMER@EASTMAN
Summer Organ Academy Faculty Concert
Third Presbyterian Church
Tuesday, July 9, 2024 at 7:30 PM
For the most up to date information on Eastman concerts and events, scan this code to visit our online calendar.