

Faculty Recital

Tanya Prochazka, cello
Jacques Després, piano

Friday, November 16, 2001
at 8:00 pm



Convocation
Hall

Arts Building
University of Alberta

Program



Department of Music
University of Alberta

Program

CD: MMI.54A

- | | | |
|----|--|--------------------------------|
| | Sonata for Cello and Piano, Op. 65 (1845-6) | Fryderyk Chopin
(1810-1849) |
| 1. | Allegro moderato | |
| 2. | Scherzo (Allegro con brio) | |
| 3. | Largo | |
| 4. | Finale Allegro | |
| 5. | Introduction and Polonaise Brillante
for Cello and Piano, Op. 3 (1829-30)
(Cello part arranged by Emanuel Feuermann)
Lento
Alla Polacca; allegro con spirito | Fryderyk Chopin |

Intermission

The New Goldberg Variations:

CD: MMI.54B

- | | | |
|-------|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1. | Aria from the Goldberg Variations | Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750) |
| 2.3. | Two Variations for the Goldberg Variations II Project | Kenneth Frazelle
(b.1955) |
| 4.5. | Goldberg Variations II; Presto, Ricordanza | Christopher Rouse
(b.1949) |
| 6. | Three Variations for Violoncello and Piano
based on the theme of J.S.Bach | Peter Lieberman
(b. 1946) |
| 7. | Fancy on a Bach Air | John Corigliano
(b. 1938) |
| 8. 9. | Calm, serene, Driving | Peter Schickele
(b. 1935) |
| 10. | Fantasy Variation based on the Aria of
J.S.Bach's Goldberg Variations | Richard Danielpour
(b. 1956) |
| 11. | Aria from the Goldberg Variations | Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750) |

Cellist **Tanya Prochazka** has a remarkably varied international career as soloist, chamber musician, freelance player and teacher.

Since arriving in Edmonton, Canada in 1986, Ms Prochazka has become one of Canada's leading cellists. She performs widely as a soloist, and chamber and freelance musician. Her repertoire ranges from the Baroque period through the 20th

century. She broadcasts frequently on CBC radio and regularly collaborates with such artists as Stéphane Lemelin, Jacques Israelievitch, Erika Raum, Janet Scott Hoyt and Brachi Tilles. Ms Prochazka is a founding member of Menage a Trio, with Mr. Lemelin and Martin Riseley. She continues her international performing career, playing in Germany, Russia, the U.S. and Australia.

In the last two years Ms Prochazka's concert schedule included the Complete Sonatas for Cello and Piano by Beethoven, with pianist Stéphane Lemelin, in single concert performances. As well, with Menage a Trio, she performed the Complete String and Piano Chamber Music of Johannes Brahms. Other highlights of the recent concert season were concerto performances with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, Duo Recitals with Ms. Tilles and Mr. Israelievitch and concerts of 20th century String Quartets with the Beau Quartet of Calgary.

Ms Prochazka is highly regarded as a devoted cello and string teacher. She taught at the Royal Academy of Music and at the Guildhall School of Music in London. Since 1987, she has taught at the University of Alberta and at Alberta College, in Edmonton, Canada. In July 1998 she was appointed Professor of Cello, Strings, and Chamber Music at the University of Alberta, where she is also Conductor of the university's Academy Strings Orchestra. In May 2000, she led the Academy Strings Orchestra on a tour of British Columbia.

Ms Prochazka conducts cello master classes and string workshops wherever her concerts take her. This includes classes in Chicago, Melbourne, Winnipeg, Regina, Ottawa and Freiburg, Germany. In June 2000 Ms Prochazka was Resident Artist for the String Program at the Australian National Academy of Music, in Melbourne. She is also in demand as a competition jury member and string festival adjudicator.

Born in Melbourne, Australia, Ms Prochazka pursued her studies at the Paris Conservatoire with Andre Navarra and in Bloomington, Indiana with Janos Starker. Her early professional activities took her to Vienna, Austria. From Vienna, as cellist with Ensemble I, she performed throughout Europe, the Middle East, Southeast Asia, and Australia. Subsequently, as a resident of London, England, she performed throughout Britain as soloist and chamber musician and regularly for the BBC in recitals and chamber music concerts.

Ms Prochazka has gathered a number of prizes at prestigious competitions: Australian Broadcasting Commission Concerto Competition, Cassado Competition in Florence, Italy, International Tribune in Czechoslovakia, semi-finalist at the Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, the Suggia Prize in London.

Ms Prochazka is an active recording artist for the ATMA and ARKTOS labels. Her most recent CD recording with pianist Stéphane Lemelin, "American Cello Masterpieces" (ATMA) has received wide critical acclaim, as has the CD "Landsmal" (ARKTOS), music by Grieg, with pianist Milton Schlosser and soprano Kathleen Lotz. Her newest recording of Canadian Solo Cello works by Fisher and Ho appears on "Stringtime" (ELECTRA), recently released.

Widely acclaimed pianist **Jacques Després** has dazzled audiences for over two decades in his native Canada and the U.S. with his sensitive yet powerful style and sympathetic interpretations of a broad range of composers. Respected American critic Leslie Gerber took notice of this versatility by writing, "Few major pianists have given equally convincing performances of Beethoven and Chopin. The ability to play one composer's music very well seems almost to preclude doing as well with the other. But Després proved an exception to this rule...He immediately showed that he is a Bartok player after the composer's own heart."

Since his debut with the Montréal Orchestra Symphony Orchestra in 1978, Mr Després has appeared as soloist with many other symphony orchestras under the baton of conductors including Otto-Werner Muller, Franz-Paul Decker, Jens Nygaard and Simon Streatfield. He also shared the stage, in gala concerts, with internationally renowned pianists Radu Lupu, Lazar Berman, Ilana Vered, David Owen Norris, and Nicolai Petrov. Mr Després' tours have included numerous recitals in Canada aired on CBC radio, and performances at summer festivals in North America.

Mr Després has established a solid reputation as a leading lecture-performance artist on both period and modern instruments. He was invited to speak on the Chopin Ballades at the Juilliard School, the early sonatas of Beethoven at the yearly Friends of the Arts Beethoven Festival on Long Island and the Bartók Mikrokosmos at Vanderbilt University.

The long list of Mr Després' prestigious awards includes: The Frank Kopp Memorial Prize at the University of Maryland International Piano Competition; First Prize at the Montreal Symphony Orchestra Competition; and the Musical Academy of Quebec "Prix d'Europe" competition. He is also the recipient of numerous grants from the Juilliard School, the Quebec ministries of Education and Cultural Affairs, and the Canada Council.

Després was the musical director of Summer Serenades, a four-week lecture-concert series at the University of Stony Brook's Staller Center. This imaginative series won an enormous following due in large part to Després performances, his lucid and illustrative pre-concert lectures, and his creative programming. The series not only delivered compelling solo and chamber music performances from the standard repertoire; it also gave voice to such neglected composers as Clara Schumann, Alma Mahler-Werfel, and Federico Garcia Lorca to name but a few.

Mr Després completed his doctorate at the State University of New York at Stony Brook and holds a Masters degree from the Juilliard School of Music. He received with High Distinction the Artist Diploma from Indiana University, and was awarded a unanimous first prize from the Conservatory of Quebec, which invited him to perform recitals commemorating the school's 40th and 50th anniversaries. He studied under many of the great masters including György Sebök, Gilbert Kalish, Adele Marcus, William Masselos and Christiane Sénart. Mr Després has taught at Western Washington University and in the fall 2000, joined the Music Department of the University of Alberta in Edmonton. He also has recorded solo piano repertoire for the Eroica, VDE/Gallo and Naxos CD labels.