Fest offers variety of programs (with a touch of jazz)

Friday, July 11, 2008

The fifth annual Golandsky Institute International Piano Festival will take place from Sunday through next Saturday, presenting performances by pianists from around the world at Taplin Auditorium in Fine Hall on the Princeton University campus off Washington Road in Princeton.

Held in concert with the institute's annual summer symposium, the performance festival will begin 8 p.m. Sunday with a recital by Cuban pianist Jorge Luis Prats. His program will include Hector Villalo bos' Bachiana No. 4; Enrique Granados' "Goyescas"; Carlos Fariñas' "Altagracia (Tango)"; Ernesto Lecuona's "Selections"; and Franz Liszt's "Spanish Rhapsody" as arranged by Prats.

The festival will continue 8 p.m. Monday with Misha Dacic from the former Yugoslavia. His program will include Robert Schumann's "Blumenstucke Op. 19" and "Humoresque Op. 20"; "Melodie" (1888), "Romance in F minor Op. 10/6," "Prelude in E Major Op. 32/3," "Oriental Sketch" and "Valse in A Major Op. 10/2" by Sergei Rachmani noff; Liszt's "Funerailles," "Ehemals (No. 10 from Weih nachtsbaum)," "Bagatelle sans tonalite" and "Hungarian Rhapsody No. 13."

On Tuesday at 8 p.m., the concert will be themed "An Evening of Chamber Music." Pianist Sean Duggan and cellist Natasha Farny will perform Johann Sebas tian Bach's Sonata No. 2 in D, BWV 1028 and Beethoven's So nata No. 4 in C., Op. 102 no. 1. So prano Adrienne Danrich will team with pianist Bagwell for Ricky Ian Gordon's "Daybreak in Alabama"; William Grant Still's "A Black Pierrot"; Ricky Ian Gor don's "Late Last Night"; John Musto's "Litany" and John Carter's "Cantata." Bagwell will solo on Lowell Liebermann's "Noc turne #5."

"An Evening of Contemporary Music" will fill the program 8 p.m. Thursday. Pianist and composer Sylvie Courvoisier from Switzerland will play improvisations and compositions from her new solo piano album, "Signs and Epigrams." Canadian pianist Vicky Chow will play Oliver Messiaen's "Vingt Regards sur l'Enfrant Jesus: XI. Premiere communion de la Vierge: Tres lent"; and Etudes No. 1-6 by Ryan Francis ("Digital Sustain," "Harlequin," "La Fee Verte," "Doppelganger," "Jacob's Ladder" and "Loop"), along with Neil Rolnick's "Digits for piano and computer."

On Friday at 8 p.m., Russian pianist Ilya Itin will perform Jo seph Haydn's "Variations in F Minor (Sonata Un Piccolo Divertimento) Hob XVII:6"; Bee thoven's Sonata op 57 in F Minor; and Sergei Prokofiev's Prelude op 12 No. 7 in C Major "Vivo e delicato" and Sonata No. 8 op 84 in B flat Major.

Changing gears for the final concert of the fest 8 p.m. Saturday, New York City jazz pianist Bill Charlap will take the stage. Charlap, who has played with the likes of Gerry Mulligan, Phil Woods, Wynton Marsalis and Tony Bennett, formed his own trio in 1997 that has since re leased seven albums.

Tickets to each performance are \$25, or there is a festival pass available for \$125. For information, call (877) 343-3434 or look online (golandskyinstitute.org).