



SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Presents

**Ella Tran, piano**

Friday, April 26, 2024

8:30 P.M. Van Cliburn Concert Hall at TCU

### Program

Sonata No. 13 in B-flat major, K. 333

- I. Allegro
- II. Andante cantabile
- III. Allegretto grazioso

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
(1756-1791)

Sonata No. 26 in E-flat major, Op. 81a, “*Les Adieux*”

- I. *Das Lebewohl* Adagio–Allegro
- II. *Abwesenheit* Andante espressivo
- III. *Das Wiedersehen* Vivacissimamente

Ludwig van Beethoven  
(1770-1827)

### Intermission

Piano Concerto No. 2 in C minor, Op. 18

- I. Moderato
- II. Adagio sostenuto
- III. Allegro scherzando

Sergei Rachmaninoff  
(1873-1943)

Second Pianist: James Wehe

This is a nonrequired recital by Ella Tran who is a First Year Student in Piano Performance. Ella Tran is a student of Dr. Tamás Ungár.

The use of recording equipment or taking photographs is prohibited.  
Please silence all electronic devices including watches, pagers, and phones.

## Program Notes

### ***Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart: Sonata No. 13 in B-flat major, K. 333***

Mozart's Sonata No. 13 begins with a lively first movement written in sonata form, developing from B-flat to F major before modulating back to B-flat. The second movement, also in sonata form, revolves around E-flat major. Characterized by warmth and lyricism, this movement references an aria with orchestral accompaniment. The third movement, elegant and graceful, is a sonata-rondo that imitates elements of a concerto: the soloist's opening theme is followed by the orchestra, as well as a cadenza towards the end.

### ***Ludwig van Beethoven: Sonata No. 26 in E-flat major, Op. 81a***

Beethoven's Sonata No. 26, also called *Les Adieux* ("goodbyes"), was dedicated to Archduke Rudolf. Rudolf was Beethoven's friend, piano student, and sponsor, and was forced to flee when Napoleon's army invaded Austria in 1809.

The first movement, titled *Das Lebewohl* ("The Farewell"), begins with a three-note motif that imitates a horn call, as if from a carriage summoning for departure, and continues to appear throughout the movement. The first theme appears in the Allegro section, opened also by a three-note motif that instead leaps upwards in a desperate outcry. A turbulent section ensues, which is followed by the lyrical second subject. The movement ends with a long, reflective coda, filled with echoes of the horn call.

The second movement called *Abwesenheit* ("Absence"), alternates between painful, lamenting minor passages with sweet, cantabile sections that seem to reminisce on memories. The movement ends inconclusively, leading directly into the third movement. The third movement, titled *Das Wiedersehen* ("The Return") strikingly starts on a B-flat dominant 7th chord, followed by an excited flurry of sixteenth notes that give way to a loving, joyous theme. The movement closes with a dreamy coda before being punctuated by a glorious explosion of broken octaves.

### ***Sergei Rachmaninoff: Piano Concerto No. 2 in C minor, Op. 18***

After the disastrous premiere of his First Symphony, Rachmaninoff fell into a great depression that caused him to stop composing for 3 years. Nikolai Dahl, a neurologist using hypnosis treatment, restored Rachmaninoff's health and confidence, enabling Rachmaninoff to start composing again, including the resumption of his Second Piano Concerto. The Second Piano Concerto was dedicated to Dahl and depicted Rachmaninoff's journey of surviving and emerging from a long period of hardship. The first movement is passionate, dark, and intense, characterized by dense chords and luscious harmonies. The second movement, slow and gentle, is a breath amid a heavy atmosphere, consisting of a lyrical melody that soars upwards. The third movement, fast and brilliant, leads into a passionate development that continues to build volume and tempo, giving way to a grand, triumphant ending.