

NICHOLAS ROERICH MUSEUM

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Sunday, November 13, 2016

Lisa Joy Sitjar, *piano*

PROGRAM

Sonata, Opus 28, No. 15 in D Major (1801)

BEETHOVEN (1770-1827)

Allegro

Andante

Scherzo: Allegro vivace

Rondo: Allegro, ma non troppo

Sonata, Opus 14, No. 2 in D minor (1912)

PROKOFIEV (1891-1953)

No. 1 in C minor: Allegro molto moderato

No. 2 in Eb Major: Allegro

No. 3 in Gb Major: Andante

No. 4 in Ab Major: Allegretto

INTERMISSION

Chaconne in D minor

BACH-BUSONI (1685-1750; 1866-1924)

(1897, from the Partita No. 2 in D minor for violin)

Valses nobles et sentimentales (1911)

RAVEL (1875-1937)

This year marks the 31st year that Lisa Joy Sitjar has performed at the Nicholas Roerich Museum on a biannual basis. She has performed extensively in New York City, with recitals at Merkin Concert Hall (New York debut); annual performances at Bruno Walter Auditorium at Lincoln Center; the United Nations; the Museum of the City of New York; Trinity Church; New York University; Greenwich Music House; the New York Historical Society; St. Paul's Chapel at Columbia University; Interchurch Center. Miss Sitjar has also performed at the Palais d'Athenée (European debut) as a participant of the Concerts Atlantique Music Festival and the International Museum of the Red Cross in Geneva, Switzerland; the Musée de Saint-Laurent and Christ Church Cathedral in Montreal, Canada; Steinway Hall, Brand Library and the Donald Rice Auditorium in Los Angeles, California. Miss Sitjar has inaugurated the Five Cities Philharmonic Association Concert Series in San Luis Obispo, California, and has opened the concert season at the Deutsches Haus at New York University. Since October 2000, Miss Sitjar has made several solo and collaborative recordings. Originally from Los Angeles, California, Miss Sitjar received her Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from the Juilliard School. Her CD (mp3 format) recording is available on www.cdbaby.com/lisajoytjar as well as iTunes and Amazon (lisajoytjar). Her next recital at the museum will take place on Sunday, May 14, 2017.

This performance is dedicated in loving memory to the following:

PATRICIA (PATTI) HUGHES (February 27, 1956 – June 12, 2016)

BLAKE LAUNCELOT DOWNING (March 12, 1947 – July 4, 2016)

JOHN ROBERT MYERS (1924 – 2016)

JERZY OSTROWSKI (November 17, 1954 – October 2, 2016)

NOTES

SONG OF EARTH *Libretto by Martin Rowe*

Kirinyaga, (Mount Kenya)

Place of Brightness:

Whose sacred slopes no shoes could tread upon;
Shrouded in mist, you shyly hid your face from us.

“God does not live on the mountain. God lives in heaven.”

Kirinyaga, Place of Brightness:

We felled your trees; slipped silt into your streams;
Sliced curves of turf over the open lips of your gullies.
Stained tears into your skin; now you turn your face from us.

“Kenya, Britain’s most attractive colony”

Hakuna mungu kama yeye (There is no God like Him)
Hakuna upendo kama wake (There is no love like His)
Hakuna nguvu kama zake (There is no strength like His)

Nime tembea kote, kote (I walked and walked all over)
Nime zunguka kote, kote (I turned and turned all over)
Nime tafuta kote, kote (I searched and searched all over)

Bwana ambapo ni wewe? (Where are you, Lord?)

We are no longer what we were.
We have forgotten what we knew.
We do not know who we are now.
We once knew where God was; and now he is not there.

We’ve lost what we never thought we had.
We’ve gained what we did not think we’d need.
We gave away what was not ours to give, And took what
was not ours.

This place is changed, no longer earth.
The country empty before us.
A string that keeps sounding,
Broken within us.

“How have we sinned?”

Kirinyaga,
Place of Brightness: Let your veil descend.
Clothe your naked slopes in green, and send us rain.
Send us rain.

ODE TO NUMBER 14

Mihoko wrote this piece in a form of “dedication” to her very own upper molar tooth Number 14 which put her life through a year-long treatment as she battled through the pain and misery. The performance includes a recitation of the partial poem by Kenji Miyazawa “Ame nimo makezu” (Not losing to the rain). The translation follows:

Not losing to the rain
Not losing to the wind
Not losing to the snow nor to summer heat
With a strong body
Unfettered by desire
Never enticed to anger
Cultivate a quiet joy