

NICHOLAS ROERICH MUSEUM

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Sunday, October 13, 2019

AMBER YIU-HSUAN LIAO, *piano*

Program

Sonata in C minor Hob. XVI: 20

I. Moderato

II. Andante con moto

III. Finale – Allegro

Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

Piano Etude No.2 *Sequenzen*

Unsuk Chin (b. 1961)

Crystalline III

Karen Tanaka (b. 1960)

Variations on *Awariguli*

Chen Yi (b. 1953)

Intermission 10 min

Waldszenen, Op. 82

Eintritt (Entry)

Jäger auf der Lauer (Hunters on the lookout)

Einsame Blumen (Lonely Flowers)

Verrufene Stelle (Haunted Place)

Freundliche Landschaft (Friendly Landscape)

Herberge (Wayside Inn)

Vogel als Prophet (Bird as Prophet)

Jagdlied (Hunting Song)

Abschied (Farewell)

Robert Schumann (1810-1856)

Allegro de Concierto, Op. 46

Enrique Granados (1867-1916)

The recital ends at about 6:35 p.m.

Known for her nimble technique, nuanced tone and impeccable sense of timing, pianist Amber Yiu-Hsuan Liao has presented solo performances in venues such as Lincoln Center, Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, Temple Square in Utah, the National Concert Hall in Taiwan, and the Chicago Cultural Center. Her first solo album of works by Granados, Schumann and Beethoven was released by MSR Classics in 2010. *MusicWeb International* praised the album, describing Liao's playing as "energetic and brisk... elegant and thoughtful." *Fanfare* described "her very impressive and well thought-out program," and *Audiophile Audition* noted that her Granados "captures the folk element in the music very well, bringing color and dash to her performance."

An active collaborative pianist as well, Amber Liao has worked with numerous musicians and ensembles, including members of the BBC National Orchestra of Wales, the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, the Albany Symphony Orchestra, and the Juilliard School. Ms. Liao formed a piano quintet with peers at the Manhattan School of Music and the experience piqued her interest, resulting in her doctoral dissertation on piano quintets written after 1950, with focus on works by Schnittke, Ginastera and Feldman.

Ms. Liao's inventive recital programming frequently includes lesser known works, and unusual pairings of compositions of contrasting styles—an early Mozart sonata followed by the last completed piano work by Schumann, or pairing suites by Fauré with one of Handel's. An avid supporter of contemporary music, she has premiered a work for solo piano by Chih-Chen Wei and a piano quintet by Scott Wollschleger. Amber Liao's recent themed programs include one featuring works by Eastern European composers from the beginning of the twentieth century, and another containing works with movements inspired by the evening or the night.

Ms. Liao began her musical training in Taiwan. She continued her studies in the United States with Boris Slutsky and Arkady Aronov, and has performed in the master classes of John Perry, Leon Fleisher and Dimitri Bashkirov. Ms. Liao holds Doctorate of Musical Arts degree from the Manhattan School of Music and a Master of Music from the Peabody Institute. She is the winner of the Bradshaw & Buono International Piano Competition, the Taiwan Classical Music Society Young Artist, and the Lillian Fuchs Memorial Chamber Music Competition. A devoted educator, Ms. Liao has served on the faculty of Montclair State University, Seton Hall University and Snow College. She is currently Assistant Professor at Borough of Manhattan Community College of City University of New York.

To learn more about Amber and listen to her recordings, visit: amberliao.com



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