

2012-02-14

Faculty Recital Series: Bayla Keyes, James Demler, and Robert Merfeld, February 14, 2012

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Boston University College of Fine Arts
School of Music
presents

Faculty Recital Series

Bayla Keyes, violin
James Demler, voice
Robert Merfeld, piano

Tuesday

February 14, 2012

8:00pm

Tsai Performance Center

Founded in 1872, the **School of Music** combines the intimacy and intensity of conservatory training with a broadly based, traditional liberal arts education at the undergraduate level and intense coursework at the graduate level. The school offers degrees in performance, composition and theory, musicology, music education, collaborative piano, historical performance, as well as a certificate program in its Opera Institute, and artist and performance diplomas.

Founded in 1839, **Boston University** is an internationally recognized private research university with 32,557 students participating in undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs. BU consists of 17 colleges and schools along with a number of multi-disciplinary centers and institutes which are central to the school's research and teaching mission. The Boston University **College of Fine Arts** was created in 1954 to bring together the School of Music, the School of Theatre, and the School of Visual Arts. The University's vision was to create a community of artists in a conservatory-style school offering professional training in the arts to both undergraduate and graduate students, complemented by a liberal arts curriculum for undergraduate students. Since those early days, education at the College of Fine Arts has begun on the BU campus and extended into the city of Boston, a rich center of cultural, artistic and intellectual activity.

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The 102nd concert in the 2011–12 season

Tsai Performance

Center

Maurice Ravel
(1875–1937)

Violin Sonata in A minor 'Sonate posthume'

Robert Merfeld
(b. 1945)

Nocturne

Ballade for Bayla

Sergei Prokofiev
(1891–1953)

Sonata for Solo Violin in D Major, op. 115

Moderato
Theme and Variations
con Brio

~Intermission~

Johannes Brahms
(1833–1897)

From 8 Songs op. 59

Regenlied
Nachtklang

J. Brahms

Violin Sonata No. 1 in G major, op. 78

Vivace ma non troppo
Adagio – Più andante – Adagio
Allegro molto moderato

Bayla Keyes, violin

Described as "a charismatic soloist of expressive generosity and technical élan," violinist Bayla Keyes is an ardent champion for a wide range of classical and contemporary repertoire. A seasoned performer on the international touring circuit, having played over one thousand concerts as a founding member of the Naumburg Award-winning Muir String Quartet, Ms. Keyes currently concertizes internationally as recitalist, as soloist with orchestras, and as a member of the contemporary music ensemble Boston Musica Viva and the acclaimed piano trio, Triple Helix. Recent highlights include premieres at the BBC and Kings Place in London, concerts in China at the Beijing Concert Hall, frequent appearances on major chamber music series in Los Angeles, New York, and Washington, D.C., solo recitals in Pittsburgh, Boston, and Vermont, the complete Mozart Violin Sonatas and works of Bartók in Serkin Center, and performances with orchestra of concertos by Stravinsky, Chausson, Bartók, Dvorak, Sibelius, Beethoven, Martinu, Brahms and Mozart. With degrees from Curtis Institute and Yale University and her first professional experience with Music from Marlboro, Ms. Keyes naturally extends her musical commitment to education; she is Associate Professor of Violin at Boston University, founding director of the String Quartet Institute at Tanglewood, and director of the Interlochen Adult Chamber Music Conference. Her piano trio, Triple Helix, is in residence at Wellesley College, where their series of Beethoven concerts garnered them the accolade of "Musicians of the Year" from the Boston Globe. Their CD "A Sense of Place" was cited as "Best of North America" by Gramophone Magazine. Ms. Keyes has recorded for Video Artists International, Ecoclassics, CRI, Musical Heritage, EMI-France, Sony, Koch, Bridge, MRS and New World Records. She plays a Gennarius Gagliano made in 1740. Ms. Keyes served as a board member of Chamber Music America from 2003-2009 and recently adjudicated at the Singapore, Stulberg, and Fischhoff International Competitions.

Robert Merfeld, piano

Robert Merfeld began his piano studies in New York with Leonid Hambro. He graduated from the Oberlin Conservatory as a student of Emil Danenberg and received a Master's Degree from the Juilliard School as a scholarship student of Beveridge Webster. At Juilliard, he pursued accompanying with Hanz Heinz, Jennie Tourel, Oscar Shumsky, and Leonard Rose. Mr. Merfeld has performed at the Aspen, Ravinia and Caramoor Festivals, in solo recitals at Merkin Hall and the Gardner Museum, and with the national orchestras of Costa Rica and Bolivia, the Dartmouth Symphony Orchestra, and the orchestras of Brandeis, Harvard, and Boston Universities. He is a frequent participant on the Emmanuel Chamber Music series and has been a guest artist with chamber ensembles such as the Mendelssohn, Philadelphia, and Muir Quartets. Mr. Merfeld is currently on the faculties of Boston University, Dartmouth College and the Longy School of Music.

James Demler, voice

Baritone James Demler first gained national recognition when he made his debut with the Houston Grand Opera as Guglielmo in Mozart's *Così fan tutte*. Since then he has sung over forty roles with opera companies across the United States and Canada, and most recently debuted with Boston Lyric Opera in Verdi's *Macbeth*. James Demler has made five solo appearances at Carnegie Hall, the first of which was opposite Renee Fleming in Boieldieu's *La Dame Blanche* with the Opera Orchestra of New York. Most recently he was featured as the title role in Mendelssohn's *Elijah* on an international webcast from Symphony Hall with the Boston University Orchestra and Chorus. He is also featured as Noah in director Wes Anderson's upcoming film *Moonrise Kingdom* starring Bruce Willis and Bill Murray. Mr. Demler has served on the full-time voice faculty of Boston University since 2005. This is his third engagement as soloist with the Boston Pops.

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We are grateful to our community of alumni, faculty, families, and friends who believe in the importance of supporting gifted students in music, theatre, and the visual arts through their generous contributions. Gifts to the College of Fine Arts drive important capital initiatives, scholarships, educational outreach, performances, and exhibitions, all of which directly benefit the talented young artists of Boston University.

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BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MUSIC UPCOMING EVENTS AND PERFORMANCES

February 23-25, 7:30pm & February 26, 2:00pm

Boston University Opera
Institute and Chamber Orchestra
Il Matrimonio Segreto
William Lumpkin, conductor
Boston University Theatre

Tuesday, February 28, 8:00pm

Boston University Symphony Orchestra
David Hoose, conductor
Tsai Performance Center

Thursday, March 1, 8:00pm

All Campus Orchestra
Mark Miller, conductor
College of Fine Arts Concert Hall

Monday, March 5, 8:00pm

Boston University Concert Band and Big Band
Dr. Jennifer Bill and Dr. Andrew Goodrich, conductors
College of Fine Arts Concert Hall

Boston University Theatre, Mainstage, 264 Huntington Avenue
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