

2017-01-24

# Thirteen Nocturnes for Piano, Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924): Peter Cirka, piano, January 25, 2017

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# **Thirteen Nocturnes for Piano**

## **Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)**

### **Peter Cirka, Piano**

Nocturne No. 1 in E-flat minor, Op 33/1

Nocturne No. 2 in B major, Op 33/2

Nocturne No. 3 in A-flat major, Op 33/3

Nocturne No. 4 in E-flat major, Op 36

Nocturne No. 5 in B-flat major, Op 37

Nocturne No. 6 in D-flat major, Op 63

Intermission

Nocturne No. 7 in C-sharp minor, Op 74

Nocturne No. 8 in D-flat major, Op 84/8

Nocturne No. 9 in B minor, Op 97

Nocturne No. 10 in E minor, Op 99

Nocturne No. 11 in F-sharp minor, Op 104/1

Nocturne No. 12 in E minor, Op 107

Nocturne No. 13 in B minor, Op 119

# Peter Cirka

Originally from Chester County, Pennsylvania, pianist Peter Cirka is an experienced performer with a stylistically diverse background. He has been the recipient of numerous awards and scholarships and was twice awarded first-prize in competitions at the collegiate level. He has performed extensively throughout the Northeast as soloist and collaborator, and appeared as soloist in concerti with the Ithaca College Symphony Orchestra, the Contemporary Chamber Ensemble of Ithaca, N.Y., and the Penn State Sinfonietta. As a collaborator he has appeared at the Heifetz International Music Institute, as well as various vocal, choral, and operatic festivals in the past decade.

Dr. Cirka originally studied piano with Marge Majka of the Main Line Music Teachers Association in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and subsequently earned degrees in Piano Performance from Ithaca College, Performance and Pedagogy (M.M., Penn State), and Performance (D.M.A., Boston University). He has appeared in master-classes with distinguished pianists including Ruth Laredo, Emmanuel Ax, Enrico Pace, and Boris Slutsky. A passionate music educator himself, he has held various teaching assistantships and taught piano privately for over ten years, and several of his students have received top recognitions in adjudication and competition at the state and regional levels.

He has studied under Gila Goldstein, Enrico Elisi, Jennifer Hayghe, Read Gainsford, and the late Anthony di Bonaventura of Boston, MA. Dr. Cirka currently maintains a private teaching studio in the greater Boston area and plans to spend the 2016-2017 academic year presenting his recently completed dissertation "A Profound Identity: Evidence of Homogeneity in Gabriel Faure's Thirteen Piano Nocturnes" along with complete concert performances of the thirteen Nocturnes.

