CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC

MUSIC FOR THE MIND

Celebrated Piano Concertos from the Studio of Roberta Rust

Tuesday, February 18, 2003
7:00 p.m.

Harriett Himmel Gilman Theater
at City Place
West Palm Beach, Florida
Program

Polonaise-Fantasy, Op. 61 ......................... Frederic Chopin
Qin Han

Concerto No. 20 in d minor, K. 466 ....... Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Allegro
Romance
Rondo: Presto

Alexander Tchobanov, soloist
Roberta Rust, orchestral accompaniment

INTERMISSION

Sonata in G Major ......................... Domenico Scarlatti

Prelude in c minor, Op. 23 No. 7 .......... Sergei Rachmaninoff
Megan Lipsky

Concerto No. 1 in E-flat Major .............. Franz Liszt
Allegro maestoso-Tempo giusto
Quasi adagio
Allegretto vivace
Allegro marziale animato

Yi Zhang, soloist
Roberta Rust, orchestral accompaniment
Biographies

Qin Han

Qin Han was born in southwest China in 1983. At the age of five he began piano studies with one of China's leading professors, Zhaoyi Dan and in 1996 he was accepted into the Sichuan Conservatory in Chengdu, continuing his studies with Hanguo Yang, chair of the piano department. He came to the United States in 2003 to study at Lynn University with Dr. Roberta Rust. Qin has been a prize-winner in several competitions in his native China including the Midwest Piano Competition and the First National Two-Piano Competition. He was among a select group of young Chinese pianists who was awarded a Yamaha Scholarship in 2001 and holds a diploma from the Fourth Horowitz International Piano Competition in the Ukraine.

Alexander Tchobanov

Alexander Tchobanov was born in Plovdiv, Bulgaria and began playing the piano at the age of six, entering the Music School “Dobrin Petkov” in Plovdiv, in the class of Ginka Taskova. At ten, he gave his first solo recital and was declared a prize-winner of the national competition for instrumentalists and singers “Svetoslav Obretenov”. At sixteen, he was accepted on full-scholarship to study at the Idyllwild Arts Academy in Idyllwild, California where he earned his high-school diploma. While in California, Alex was a prize-winner in the “California Youth Piano Competition” and was also chosen as a semifinalist at the “Spotlights” competition in Los Angeles. In 2000, Alex was invited to perform a live recital along with renowned pianist Christopher O’Riley on the classical radio station WGBH in Boston and he also performed at the Jordan Hall of the New England Conservatory. Alex continues his studies in the U.S. at Lynn University with Roberta Rust. Besides music, Alex is interested in sports, including playing soccer and ping-pong.
Megan Lipsky

Megan Rebecca Lipsky is a native of Princeton, New Jersey. Megan graduated with an Associate of Arts Degree from Palm Beach Community College with high academic distinction, on the Dean’s list and is a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. Megan is also a member of MENSA. This is Megan’s first year at the Conservatory of Music at Lynn University. She is studying with Roberta Rust and is a Piano Performance major.

Megan has had experience as a pianist as well as an accompanist and has given recitals at the 92nd Street YMCA in New York City and Hale Piano in Coral Gables. Megan performed at the Broward Center of the Performing Arts “Curtin Up” as a pianist and vocalist. She is a member of the Gold Coast Opera and Florida Philharmonic Chorus. Megan has appeared in numerous plays as an actress and studies dance.

Yi Zhang

Born in Chengdu, China in 1983, Yi started to play the piano at the age of seven. At twelve, she was accepted into the Middle School affiliated with the Sichuan Conservatory, where she completed middle and high school studies. She was a prize-winner in the 1999 Hong Kong 10th Asian Youth Piano Competition. Her teachers in China included Professors Hanguo Yang, Zhaoyi Dan, and Li Xiou Mei. In 2001, Ms. Zhang was granted a full tuition scholarship from Lynn University to study with Roberta Rust. In 2002, she was awarded an Honorable Mention at the MTNA Steinway Collegiate Artist Competition in Florida. Recently, she was invited to participate in the Second Steinway Festival at the University of Florida in Gainesville, where she performed in a master class for the esteemed Juilliard professor, Mr. Jerome Lowenthal.
2002 marks the twentieth anniversary of the New York recital debut of pianist Roberta Rust. Pulitzer Prize winning music critic, Tim Page, reviewed that performance in The New York Times: “Roberta Rust is a powerhouse of a pianist—one who combines an almost frightening fervor and intensity with impeccable technique and spartan control...Miss Rust was awarded a prolonged and deserved ovation.” Rust has subsequently concertized across four continents in over twenty nations as recitalist and soloist with leading orchestras, in chamber music with distinguished ensembles, and as duo-pianist with her husband Phillip Evans.

Rust’s discography includes Three American Premieres & Prokofiev Sonata No. 6 (Protone Records), Piano Music of Villa-Lobos (Centaur Records) and her most recent release, Franz Joseph Haydn (Centaur Records), which was reviewed by Darrell Rosenbluth in the Jan/Feb 2003 issue of New York Concert Review as follows: “Pianist Roberta Rust is exemplary of all things wonderful in her masterful performances of Haydn at his best...As in all the music here recorded, Rust’s performance dances with an immediacy and personal engagement that rarely finds voice in a CD. If you want to hear engaging and gorgeous performances of these well-known works of Haydn, you’d do well to get a copy immediately.” (www.centaurrecords.com or www.robertarust.com).

Born in Texas, Rust has lived in South Florida since 1988 and serves as Artist Faculty—Piano and Professor of Music at Lynn University in Boca Raton. She gives master classes internationally and her students are active musicians and teachers in the United States, Europe, South America and Asia. The Manila Times described her as follows: “To really appreciate the wonder of Dr. Rust’s excellence as a teacher, one has to be present to observe her master classes. Whether it was a problem in tone production, interpretation, hand position or a slouchy body position, Roberta Rust had the solution for all these... She also performed all the passages of the works that needed fixing with great results...One also stood in awe at her vast resource of energy...What else can one say about Roberta Rust? She has the beautiful piano touch, the sensitive lyrical expression, a fabulous technique, a vast intellectual knowledge behind all these, inexhaustible energy, a vivid imagination, a keen sense of humor, and most of all, a loving generous heart for others. If more artists would be like Roberta Rust, there would be everlasting peace in this valley of tears. Come back soon, Roberta Rust!”
Lynn University Conservatory of Music

Lynn University
Lynn University, a private, coeducational institution founded in 1962, has grown from modest beginnings to more than 2,000 students from 44 states and 89 nations, creating educational traditions where students are provided with a rich multicultural experience and global awareness in the heart of a dynamic urban community.

The Conservatory’s Mission
The mission of the conservatory is to provide high quality performance education for gifted young musicians and set a superior standard for music performance education worldwide. Primary among the goals of the conservatory is the nurture and education of the student body with a thorough attention to musicianship, artistry, and skills needed to succeed in the field of music performance.

Students at the Conservatory
The current students represent 13 countries and 19 states, with 14 conservatory students from Florida. When they graduate, these young musicians will go on to perform with some of the most prestigious symphonies in the world. Conservatory graduates play with orchestras from Calgary, Detroit, Montreal, Milwaukee, Washington D.C., Pittsburgh, the New World Symphony, to the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra.

The exceptional quality of the students and the program’s success is evidenced by 98% of the conservatory graduates remaining active in music. The list of prizes won by conservatory students includes international awards from France, Italy, Spain, Canada, and Switzerland. They have also won Fulbright fellowships, the Juilliard Concerto Competition, National Trumpet Competition, Rubinstein Int'l Piano Competition, and the Wallenstein Violin Competition. Graduates go on to further their education at Juilliard, Eastman, New England Conservatory, Yale, and other prestigious schools.

The Conservatory of Music moves to Lynn University
In 1998 the Harid Conservatory of music and dance made the decision to focus their efforts on their dance division only. Rather than lose the cultural and educational treasure of the music division’s faculty and students who provide our community with more than 100 concerts, lectures, and Master Classes each year, Lynn University “adopted” the conservatory. It was a natural partnership between institutions that shared geographic proximity and a commitment to excellence in education.

The Need
To maintain levels of excellence, Lynn University built the 220-seat Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall in 2001. This past summer, the conservatory moved from the Harid campus to renovated offices, studios, and practice rooms in an existing building on the Lynn campus. In addition to capital expenses associated with the move, the university must meet the $1.15 million annual budget for the conservatory. Additionally, Lynn University is striving to continue to award the $1 million annual scholarships that allow the conservatory to attract exceptional music students from around the world.

Today Lynn University seeks to promote the conservatory and continue its traditions of excellence. Funding is sought for many diverse projects such as the purchase of instruments (from pianos to drums), a music library, a $10 million Fine Arts complex, and the building of an endowment for scholarships so the arts can thrive at Lynn University and in South Florida. You can help bring music to our community when you contribute to the Lynn University Conservatory of Music.
Faculty/Staff

Dean

Dr. Claudio Jaffé  Dean / Associate Professor of Music
           Director - Music Preparatory

Faculty

Mr. Sergiu Schwartz  Artist Faculty - Violin
Ms. Laura Wilcox    Artist Faculty - Viola
Ms. Johanne Perron  Artist Faculty - Cello
Mr. Shigeru Ishikawa Artist Faculty - Double Bass
Ms. Lea Kibler      Artist Faculty - Flute
Mr. John Dee        Artist Faculty - Oboe
Mr. Paul Green      Artist Faculty - Clarinet
Mr. Arthur Weisberg Artist Faculty - Bassoon / Conductor
Mr. Marc Reese      Artist Faculty - Trumpet
Mr. Mark Hetzler    Artist Faculty - Trombone
Mr. Gregory Miller  Artist Faculty - French Horn
Mr. Jay Bertolet    Artist Faculty - Tuba
Dr. Michael Parola  Artist Faculty - Percussion
Dr. Roberta Rust   Artist Faculty - Piano / Professor of Music
Dr. Thomas McKinley Curriculum Coordinator / Associate Professor of Music

Adjunct Faculty

Ms. Lisa Leonard Secondary Piano
Mr. Phillip Evans Keyboard Skills, Chamber Music
Dr. Joseph Youngblood Music History

Accompanists

Ms. Lisa Leonard
Mr. Tao Lin

Staff

Ms. Olga M. Vazquez Assistant to the Dean
Ms. Ana Martinez Concert Manager
Ms. Michelle Durand Ticket Office Manager
Upcoming Events

FEBRUARY

Friday 21
7:30 PM
*Pianomania: Studio of Roberta Rust
Sponsored by Cynthia and Shumway Poole
Alexander Tchobanov • Yi Zhang
also featuring Qin Han • Megan Lipsky
Roberta Rust, orchestral accompaniment
Liszt Piano Concerto No. 1
Mozart Piano Concerto No. 20

Saturday 22
7:30 PM
*Pianomania: Gifted Amateur Pianists Concert
Local pianists take the stage

Thursday 27
7:30 PM
*Conservatory All-Stars
A Hank Ellman Memorial Concert,
sponsored by Sonny Ellman
Exceptional Student Performances

Friday 28
7:30 PM
*Chamber Music Concert
Music by Women Composers
Jodie De Salvo, guest pianist and friends
from the Florida Philharmonic

MARCH

Sunday 2
4:00 PM
*VIOLINFEST: Studio of Sergiu Schwartz
Sponsored by Dr. Catherine Dower Gold
Young artists from the violin studio perform
virtuoso works by Paganini, Sarasate, Kreisler,
Wieniawski, Tchaikovsky and others

* Located at the Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall