Charles W. Bolen Faculty Recital Series: Adriana La Rosa Ransom, Cello

Adriana La Rosa Ransom Cello
Illinois State University

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Illinois State University
College of Fine Arts
School of Music

Charles W. Bolen Faculty Recital Series

Adriana La Rosa Ransom, Cello
With Tuyen Tonnu, Piano

Please turn off cell phones and pagers for the duration of the concert. Thank You.

Suite No. 3 in C Major, BWV 1009
Prelude
Allemande
Courante
Sarabande
Bourée I and II
Gigue

~ Intermission ~

Sonata (1948/53)
Dialogo
Capriccio

Sonata, Op. 4
Fantasia
Allegro con spirito

Johann Sebastián Bach
(1685-1750)

Gyorgy Ligeti
(1923-2006)

Zoltán Kődály
(1882-1967)

Kemp Recital Hall
October 18, 2007
Thursday Evening
8:00 p.m.

This is the thirty-fourth program of the 2007-2008 season.
Suite in C Major, J.S. Bach
During the years 1717-1721, Bach worked as a court composer for Prince Leopold Wilhelm in Cothen. Prince Leopold, who himself could play the violin, the viola da gamba, the harpsichord, as well as sing, was a great lover of music and was highly respectful of Bach’s talent. The two were on such good relations that Bach named one of his sons after the Prince, who was also the boy’s godfather. At the court, Bach was expected to provide music both for the chapel and for the court orchestra. Many of Bach’s famous instrumental works, including the Solo Suites for cello, the Solo Suites and Partitas for violin, and the Brandenburg concertos, were composed during this time.

Sonata for Violoncello Solo, Gyorgy Ligeti
The Unaccompanied Cello Sonata by Hungarian composer Gyorgy Ligeti is one of his earliest mature works. The first movement was completed in 1948 while Ligeti was still a student at the Academy of Music in Budapest. The second movement was completed in 1953 after he had been appointed a professor at the university. As Hungary was under the oppression of the Stalinist regime during this time, Ligeti’s exposure to the music of Western Europe was highly limited; however the works of fellow Hungarian composers Kodaly and Bartók were very influential. Ligeti was able to flee to the West in 1956 where his innovative creativity was better accepted and appreciated.

Sonata for Violoncello and Piano, Op. 4, Zoltan Kodaly
Zoltan Kodaly is perhaps best known for his extensive research of the folk music of his native land, Hungary. He also developed a distinctive philosophy of music education that focused on the human voice as the essence of musical sound. As a young boy, Kodaly not only sang in the church choir but also learned the piano, violin, viola, and cello. Of his works for cello, the Op. 8 unaccompanied sonata, written in 1915, is his most famous. The Op. 4 Sonata for Cello and Piano was completed five years earlier, soon after he had been appointed a music professor at the Budapest University Academy of Music. The sonata reflects Kodaly’s value and use of folk material in his classical works. It also reflects as his admiration for Debussy’s compositional idiom, whose works he became familiar with beginning in 1906.