Senior Recital: Evi Lowman, violin, Ilse Heine, violin, Megan Lewis, viola, Zachary Lucero, cello

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Senior Recital

Evi Lowman, violin
Ilse Heine, violin
Megan Lewis, viola
Zachary Lucero, cello

Saturday, 11 April 2015
4:00 PM
Martel Recital Hall
Skinner Hall of Music
Please silence all cell phones or other personal electronic devices and refrain from texting. Use of these instruments may disturb other audience members and will cause interference with in-house recording and webcasting.

Program

String Quartet No. 2
I. Allegro moderato

Alexander Borodin
(1833-1887)

String Quartet No. 2 ("Elegies")
Lento
Moderato
Allegretto
Poco adagio

Ester Mägi
(b. 1922)

INTERMISSION

Piano Quintet in E♭ Major, Op. 44
Allegro brillante
In modo d’una marcia, un poco largamente
Scherzo: Molto vivace
Allegro ma non troppo

Robert Schumann
(1810-1856)

Jane Cardona ’15, piano

Despite being committed to various academic disciplines outside of music, from political science and geography to astronomy and physics, Skinner Hall has been a second home to us since freshman year. We were all shy and nervous the first time that we played together, but it didn’t take us long to become close friends. These past four years have been filled with lots of laughter, as well as master classes where we discovered our talents stop at singing; dreams of rising from the stage through smoke and fog lights; and musical background stories involving gnomes and donuts. Amidst it all, we have loved every moment of our growth as musicians and friends.

There are a number of people we would like to thank for making our musical experience so fulfilling. First and foremost, our chamber music coach, Eduardo Navega. From the beginning, he always saw so much potential in us. He pushed us to become better individual players, but most importantly, always emphasized the importance of expressing music through communication. “Stop looking at your music!” he would say emphatically, “you know the notes...now really look at each other.” It is due to Eduardo’s persistence that we have improved so much as a group over the years. Thank you Eduardo for your wisdom and care these past four years! This recital could not have happened without your guidance.

We would also like to thank the accomplished, the one and only - Jane Cardona. Besides being a truly incredible pianist (I mean really, incredible), no one more than Jane could have fit the group dynamic better. Despite having a million other musical commitments this year, she always showed up to rehearsal prepared to give 100%. Her personality and musical insight have also left a significant mark on our playing - from dramatically falling onto the floor at the end of the Schumann quintet (which she will not be doing during this concert...as far as we know), to sensitively describing a section of music as “dew drops on a rose,” we learned from Jane how to truly invest ourselves in the music - body and soul.

Jane - simply, you rock.

Lastly, thank you to Amy Kawa and Jane Podell for everything they do in Skinner!

Each member would also like to make a few personal acknowledgements:

Evi:
First of all, I have to thank Ema and Isa for their never-ending love and support. Throughout the years, you have always encouraged me to do the things I love. For that, I could not be more grateful. I would also like to thank my dearest sister Heili for being wise, hilarious, and all that a sister could ask for. Although you may be in Iowa, I can feel the good vibes from here! Lots of love goes out to Carole Armstrong for being my teacher extraordinaire. So much of what I’ve learned is because of you, and your love of the violin continues to inspire me.

Here at Vassar, I give a huge thank you to my friends. Your presence means
more than I could ever say. Last, but definitely not least, I would like to thank my Mommom. You were there for every note, every lesson, every rehearsal, and every concert. Every time I pick up my violin, I know that you are there in the chair next to me. I love you so much.

Ilse:
I am so grateful to my music teachers, Igor Pikayzen and Jessica Lee without whom I could have never improved on the violin, and would still be trying to get away with playing scales once a week. Thank you to all my friends for your encouragement over the years (even when you make faces at me from the audience). Thanks parents and sisters for putting up with my high-pitched squeals for 13 years! A special thanks to my mom and dad for getting me started on the violin, and insisting that I listen to classical music, and thank you Maisie for keeping me sane, and always cheering me on in all my endeavors!

Megan:
Mom and Dad, thank you so much for the funds, time, and energy you poured into me learning this instrument. Thank you for the years of unwavering support; I can’t believe the places music has taken me, and I’d be nowhere without you. Many thanks to my family for making the journey to come see me today. It means more than you can imagine. Finally, thank you to my campus family—housemates, teammates, professors, co-workers, friends—who have supported me in my music and other endeavors. I never could have juggled viola and everything else if it weren’t for your constant encouragement.

Zach:
A huge thank you to my family - my parents, grandparents, and brother in particular - for their support through thick and thin (from Bach to Bartók and everywhere in between) and for the amount of time spent attending concerts and carting me back and forth to lessons. I would have quit halfway through the first Essential Elements book without your encouragement. Additional thanks must go to the friends I’ve made here at Vassar for their continued treks to Skinner for concerts: it always means a lot to me to see you in the audience. Thanks for giving us the opportunity to share with you the culmination of the work we have done during our time here.