

## **Final Recital - Constantin Ricciardi**

11th June 2019 at 12 PM

David Josefowitz Recital Hall

### **Petar Hristoskov (1917-2006): *Rhapsody for violin solo op.21***

Petar Hristoskov was a Bulgarian composer, violinist and pedagogue. He pursued a varied career as an orchestra member, soloist and composer. He also became a professor at the Sofia Music Academy.

Hristoskov composed, besides other works, a triple concerto for violin, cello and piano and a double concerto for violin and cello.

His rhapsody for violin solo reflects many elements of Bulgarian folk music.

### **Eugène Ysaÿe (1858-1931): *Sonata No. 2 op. 27 for violin solo***

*Obsession - Malinconia - Danse des ombres - Les Furies*

Eugène Ysaÿe was an acclaimed violinist at his time and he was more well known as an interpreter than as a composer. His six sonatas for violin solo are strongly inspired by the solo sonatas and partitas by J.S. Bach.

Ysaÿe decided to write his second sonata, dedicated to Jacques Thibaud, after being deeply impressed by a recital by Jozef Szigeti in which he interpreted works by J.S. Bach.

At the time Ysaÿe wrote his solo sonatas he was stepping back more and more from the stage. He saw his sonatas as an homage to the younger generation of virtuoso violinists being amongst others Jozef Szigeti, Jacques Thibaud, Georges Enesco and Fritz Kreisler.

The character of each of the sonatas reflects the character of its dedicatees.

### **Arvo Pärt (\*1935): *Fratres* for violin and piano**

*Fratres*, which means brothers in latin, is a work by estonian composer Arvo Pärt. Pärt, who was touched by the death of Benjamin Britten, wrote and dedicated this piece to him.

*Fratres* was played in 17 different instrumentations until today. The version for violin and piano was first played by Gidon Kremer and Elena Bashkirova at the Salzburg Festival in 1980.

In his *tintinnabuli* style, Pärt often depicts two different characters: one objective, distant and representing eternity and one subjective, unpredictable and representing the individual's freedom. The tension and resolution created by these two opposed elements is what Pärt wanted to express in his piece *Fratres*.

### **Maurice Ravel (1875-1937): *Tzigane - Rapsodie de Concert* for violin and piano**

*Tzigane* was composed by Ravel in 1924. The composer described his piece with the words: « Morceau de virtuosité dans le goût d'une rhapsodie hongroise », meaning a piece of virtuosity in the style of a Hungarian rhapsody.

After Ravel attended a concert of hungarian violinist Jelly d'Arányi and Béla Bartók in London, the composer was inspired to create a piece in hungarian style himself.

The creation of *Tzigane* was given in London at the Aeolian Hall in April 1924. The version for violin and orchestra was first heard a few months later in Paris.

Constantin Riccardi, Violin  
Vasilis Alevizos, Piano