presents

The Tokito-Oka-Uhlig Trio

Sunday
March 30, 2008
at 3:00 p.m.

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Albert and Hete Barthelmes Auditorium
611 Spring Garden Street
History of the German Society of Pennsylvania

In 1683 thirteen families from Krefeld under the leadership of Frankfurt lawyer, Franz Daniel Pastorius, founded the first German colony in America: Germantown – today part of Philadelphia. Many of these immigrants formed clubs that enabled them to preserve their cultural heritage. They also formed clubs that emphasized a specific geographic area, such as the Swabians, Bavarians, Saxons, Danube Swabians, Plattdeutsche, Tyroleans, and many others.

The German Society of Pennsylvania, founded in 1764, is the oldest German organization in the United States. It was founded to protect German immigrants from unscrupulous shipping agents and to ensure just treatment on their arrival here.

Since that time, the German Society has dedicated its efforts to preserving German heritage. This it does, for instance, by offering a full-fledged German language program as well as scholarships and prizes to students of German. In addition, the Society is a source of cultural programs, lectures, film series, and seminars. These events build bridges and strengthen relations among individuals, organizations, businesses and governments.

The fine arts program also includes presentations that feature European music and literature as well as access to the Joseph P. Horner Memorial Library for education and research. The newly restored Library, holding over 70,000 volumes, is the largest private German library outside the Federal Republic of Germany.

In serving its members and the community, the Society strives to benefit anyone in need of its resources.

Since the time of Pastorius, more than 8,000,000 Germans reached these shores. Today, 29% of the total population in the United States claims German ancestry.

It may be time to consider a membership for yourself, your family or a friend.
Tokito-Oka-Uhlig Trio

Born in Sapporo, Japan, Kazuo Tokito came to the US to attend the Interlochen Arts Academy. After graduation, he studied with Robert Willoughby at Oberlin College Conservatory of Music and received his degree with honors. He earned a graduate degree in flute performance and the Performer's Certificate at Indiana University. At Indiana, he also studied composition and was named winner of the Dean's Composition Competition. In 1977, Mr. Tokito joined the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra as Assistant flute/piccolo player. In 1980, he was appointed Principal Flutist of the CBC Chamber Orchestra of Vancouver. It was in 1981 that he won his current position as Solo Piccoloist and Flutist with The Philadelphia Orchestra.

Hirono Oka is a member of the first violin section of The Philadelphia Orchestra. She made her debut in her native Japan at age 11 with the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra. After winning numerous competitions and awards, she came to the US to continue her studies at The San Francisco Conservatory and Philadelphia's Curtis Institute. She has appeared as soloist with The San Francisco Chamber Ensemble, Utica Symphony Orchestra and has appeared with Chamber Music West in San Francisco, The Theatre Chamber Players of The Kennedy Center, Delaware Chamber Music Festival and Philadelphia Chamber Music Society. In addition to her own private teaching studio, Ms. Oka is a faculty member at Temple University and its Music Preparatory Division.

Jeffrey Uhlig has appeared as a collaborative pianist in many concerts in America and has also performed in Russia. Some of his notable performances have been at The Phillips Collection in Washington and the Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall in New York. He studied piano with William Masselos and Gaby Casadesus and art song literature with Dalton Baldwin. He received a Master of Music Degree from West Chester University. Having performed with many outstanding singers and instrumentalists, such as the Philadelphia Orchestra, New York Philharmonic and The Metropolitan Opera, Mr. Uhlig is in demand as a chamber music player, vocal coach and accompanist. He is the Staff Accompanist at Settlement Music School in Philadelphia where he holds The Lilian Kraus Felber Distinguished Faculty Chair in Piano. He is Principal Keyboard with the Princeton Symphony Orchestra and The Ocean City Pops Orchestra.

Tokito-Oka-Uhlig Trio

Kazuo Tokito, piccolo and flute
Hirono Oka, violin
Jeffrey Uhlig, piano

PROGRAM

C.P.E. BACH
(1714-1788)
Trio in B Minor
Allegro
Adagio
Presto

GLUCK
(1714-1787)
Dance of the Blessed Spirit
(Orfeus)

HAYDN-Tokito
(1732-1809)
London Trio #3
Spiritoso
Andante
Allegro

INTERMISSION

STAMITZ
(1745-1801)
Trio Sonata in G Major
Op. 14 #1
Moderato
Andante moderato
Rondo, moderato

BRAHMS
(1833-1897)
Sonata in G Major, Op. 78
Vivace ma non troppo

BRAHMS-Joachim
Hungarian Dance #5

MOSZKOWSKI
(1854-1925)
Suite in G minor, Op. 71
Allegro energico
Allegro moderato
Lento assai
Molto vivace

The audience is invited to a reception in the Ratskeller following the concert.
C. P. E. Bach was one of several talented sons of J. S. Bach. After his education at the St. Thomas School where his father was employed as cantor, he continued his education in jurisprudence at universities in Leipzig and Frankfurt. But he abandoned a legal career for a life in music. His writing has elements of Rococo and early Classical style. The Trio in b minor is really a Trio Sonata for the two treble instruments and the keyboardist’s left hand. In this regard, the style of this piece leans backward towards the Baroque.

Christoph Willibald Gluck, the German composer known mostly for his ground-breaking operas, is represented on this program by an operatic piece, but not a vocal one. The piece is actually a Minuet and Dance in ABA form. The hauntingly beautiful melody of the dance is supported by murmuring strings which are played on the piano today. The strength of this piece lies in its classical restraint while presenting a highly romantic musical theme. Kazuo Tokito will perform the melody on the piccolo in today’s performance.

Joseph Haydn’s London Trios are so called because they were written during one of the composer’s visits to that city. The original instrumentation is for two flutes and cello. The arrangement heard today is a skillful one by Kazuo Tokito. While the instrumentation has been changed, the spirit of the piece remains the same. The use of different instruments gives new colors and contrasts that Haydn could not have imagined.

Karl Stamitz was the son of Johann Stamitz, who led the Mannheim Orchestra, considered the best in the world at the time. Stamitz’ music exhibits many aspects of early Classical style. The middle section of the second movement, in the parallel minor, shows a restrained Classical fury without loosing classical control. And the same goes for the rollicking Rondo movement which ends the piece.

The two pieces by Johannes Brahms for violin and piano could not be more different in character and style. The themes of the sonata movement are sublime and lyrical, even in the development section. The dialogue between the two instruments is like a conversation between two very close friends who are not at all in competition. On the other hand, the Hungarian Dance is in Brahms wonderful Gypsy style. Neither subtlety nor friendly dialogue is intended in this boisterous music. Brahms original work for piano four-hands is played here in the arrangement for violin and piano by his friend, Joachim.

Moritz Moszkowski’s Suite in g minor was written for two violins and piano and is heard here in a slightly edited version by our own Kazuo Tokito. As in his Virtuoso Etudes, Opus 72, the composer spreads the virtuosity evenly between all three instruments. Music of this highly romantic style is rarely played exactly the way it appears on the page. Nuance, color and rubato are an integral part of this wonderful music.