

Programs: Spotlight on Diane Monroe

Recital Programs

I – Solo-- Unaccompanied Recitals-- combining her interpretations of jazz, spirituals, blues, and other idioms with some Western European classical traditional repertoire. Exploring new worlds of expression, sound, composition, and improvisation for violin alone. These creations are often accompanied by lecture, for educational purposes.

II – Duo--Classical Recitals- Theme based program- Three Violin Sonatas of Johannes Brahms. Non-theme program-- traditional to contemporary repertoire emphasizing 20th and 21st Century works for violin and piano. Highlights live composers who offer blended styles. Program features some original works and arrangements by Monroe for unaccompanied violin. Pianist, Michal Schmidt

III – Duo-- Improv Recitals --violin with piano, vibraphone, guitar, or percussion---original compositions rooted in improvisation, some expressing as jazz, blues, spirituals, pop, and beyond, written and arranged by Diane Monroe and others. Pianists Tom Lawton or Jim Ridl, vibraphonist Tony Miceli, or percussionist. James Shipp,

IV - Double Duo—Mixed Recitals- A selection of works combining example #'s II & III--- Three Artists make up this recital—Classical pianist, Michal Schmidt, Jazz pianist, Tom Lawton, and Diane Monroe, violin.

V – Trio--Jazz Concerts- Standard arrangements and original contemporary jazz repertoire. Tom Lawton and Steve Beskrone

VI – Quartet--Jazz/World Music Concerts—Original works crossing and blending jazz, world, popular, folk and classical styles and repertoire.

Repertoire Performed in Recitals

Classical works include: Bach (partita in d minor, unaccompanied), sonatas of Brahms, Mozart, Beethoven, Ravel, Franck, Faure, Prokofieff, Ives, Gershwin----shorter works by Smetana, Kreisler, Bartok and Dvorak, Sarasate, Walter Piston, Ulysses Kay, W.G. Still, Lou Harrison---new or commissioned works by Andrew Rudin, David Baker, Victor Steinhardt, Paul Salerni, Anthony Davis, Gary Smart.

Improvisatory and jazz-based pieces with piano include: Originals by Diane Monroe, Jim Ridl, Gary Smart, Joseph Nocella, and some standard blues, swing, bebop, contemporary compositions and arrangements.

Unaccompanied violin works include: “Amazing Grace”, Monroe/traditional; “Bach, Blues, and Beyond”, Monroe/traditional; “So What”, Miles Davis/Monroe, “Plantation (Heartbeat) Blues”, Monroe; Spirituals arr. by Monroe, “Canapes”, Andrew Rudin; and a collection of original Improv Sketches.

Repertoire with Orchestras

I - Twentieth Century & Live Composers works include: David Baker’s Violin Concerto (premiere TBA), Andrew Rudin’s “Canto Di Ritorno”, Paul Salerni’s “The Little Broom and the Big Sword”, (optional narration for children’s concert), Steven Sametz’s “Be Dazzled”, for electrified violin, *William Copper’s “Whistler”; Anthony Davis’ “Maps” Violin Concerto, David Finko’s “Triptych”, for three violins. Arvo Part’s “Fratres” for violin and orchestra.

II - Standard works include: Mozart concerto in A; Mozart “Symphonia Concertante”, for violin and viola; Bach concerti in E, A & D minor, Chausson “Poeme”, Mendelssohn Concerto, St. Saens “Rondo Capriccioso”, Kreisler “Gypsy Caprice”, Beethoven Triple Concerto, Tchaikovsky, Dvorak Concerto.

III - Jazz compositions for solo violin, string duo, string orchestra & rhythm section, etc: “Blues Medley”, “Mack the Knife”, by Raleigh Daily; “Champagne”, by Monroe.

Solo Repertoire with Chamber Ensembles

Solos with ensembles include: guest with string quartets, new music ensembles, jazz combos, and big bands.

I - Contemporary Classical: David Baker- Sonata for Jazz Violin and String Quartet; Paul Salerni- “The Little Broom and the Big Sword”, for violin, clarinet, horn, trumpet, piano, and percussion (with optional narration); Joseph Nocella- “The African Mariner”, for violin, piano, vibraphone, percussion, and two narrators. Arvo Part’s “Fratres”, for violin and wind ensemble.

II - Jazz, Rock, etc: Fritz Gearhardt’s, “Geigezoid”, for string quartet and solo improvised violin.

III - Monroe original compositions: “Groovin’ Roots”, for string quartet/string trio + flute, for cello, percussion, piano, and improvising violin, and for two violins, bass and piano. “Blues for Miles”, for cello, vibraphone, piano, and improvising violin; “Beans”, for flute, oboe/english horn, french horn, clarinet, viola, bassoon, piano, percussion, improvising violin, and silent cartoon; “Champagne”, for string trio and improvised violin; “Vibes”, for three violins, bass and piano; James Brown’s “I Feel Good”, arr. Monroe, for string quartet.

