



du Maurier Arts Ltd.



presents

LOUIS LORTIE

PIANIST

Sunday, February 16, 1992
Vancouver Playhouse

Sponsored by the Students of Ellen Ts'o



A CBC Co-Production

12th SEASON 1991-1992

Itzhak Perlman

— *An recital* —

with JANET GUGGENHEIM, Pianist

Sunday, April 5, 8 p.m.

ORPHEUM



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Meet the Artist

Louis Lortie

Praised as one of the outstanding pianists of his generation, Louis Lortie has performed with several of the world's leading orchestras, including the Royal Concertgebouw, Royal Philharmonic, London Symphony, Philadelphia, Cleveland, and Montreal Symphonies. Distinguished conductors with whom he has collaborated include Charles Dutoit, Seiji Ozawa and Wolfgang Sawallisch. A popular performer on major recital series, Louis Lortie has also participated in several renowned festivals, including Tanglewood, Ravinia, "Mostly Mozart" (New York), Brescia Bergamo (Italy), La Roque d'Anthéron (France), and Henley (U.K).

Born in Montreal in 1959, Louis Lortie made his debut with L'Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal at age 13. Three years later he took first prize in Canada's two major competitions: the Canadian Music Competition and the CBC National. After a brilliant debut in Toronto in 1978, he was invited to participate as guest soloist with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra during its historic tour of China and Japan. He was asked to return by the Chinese in 1983 for a series of concerts and recitals in Shanghai and Beijing.

The following year Lortie won first prize in the Busoni International Competition and fourth prize in the Leeds International Competition, laying the foundation for a solid career in Europe as well as North America. He has made

concert tours of several European countries, and is by now a familiar figure on the London musical scene, appearing regularly at Wigmore Hall, Royal Festival Hall, Barbican Centre and the Proms.

Louis Lortie's current recital programmes - and recording plans - place special emphasis on Beethoven. In 1991 his Chandos disc of the composer's *Eroica Variations* received the coveted Edison Award, and he has just recorded the first two discs of the complete Beethoven Piano Sonatas. Other recordings for the label include the complete Chopin Etudes (cited by *The San Francisco Chronicle* as the best available interpretation of these works), Volumes I-V of the complete piano works of Ravel, Mozart Piano Concertos 12 and 14, a disc entitled *Twentieth-Century Original Piano Transcriptions*, and most recently his second all-Liszt recital. Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*, with Charles Dutoit and the OSM, was issued by Decca/London. His next orchestral recording is the Schumann Concerto, with Neeme Järvi conducting the London Philharmonia.

Louis Lortie last made an appearance on this series in 1986, with a remarkable all-Liszt recital.

Shaw Concerts, Inc.
1900 Broadway, 2nd Floor
New York, NY 10023



Tonight's concert is being recorded for broadcast on CBC Stereo's "Arts National" (105.7 FM) on Monday, March 2, 8:00pm.

Stéphane Lemelin

"Stéphane Lemelin played with the imagination and control that only a handful of pianists in this century have surpassed and swept his audience away with the eloquence of his interpretation."

Jacob Siskind: The Ottawa Citizen

**Don't miss
Stéphane Lemelin's Vancouver debut:**

**Sunday, March 29, 8 pm
Playhouse**

Ticketmaster Outlets: 280-3311

A Salute to Tonight's Sponsors

Last May, the UBC Recital Hall was the site of a special piano recital given by ten students of teacher Ellen Ts'o. Student recitals are common enough events, but this one had a special element: its young participants had decided to perform and donate all proceeds to the Vancouver Recital Society. Their venture was so successful that they raised enough money to co-sponsor tonight's performance. The Vancouver Recital Society salutes the spirit of these young musicians:

Tiffany Butt	Diamond Tam
Denise Chan	Genevieve Tam
Yvonne Chang	Majestic Tam
Adrienne Chung	Venita Warren
Terrence Ho	Karen Wong

Programme

Sonata in B Flat Major, Opus 22

Ludwig van Beethoven
(1770-1827)

Allegro con brio
Adagio con molto espressione
Menuetto
Rondo: Allegretto

Sonata in E Flat Major, Opus 7

Beethoven

Allegro molto e con brio
Largo con gran espressione
Allegro
Rondo: Allegretto e grazioso

INTERMISSION

Seven Hungarian Dances

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

Hungarian Rhapsody No. 3, in B Flat Major

Franz Liszt
(1811-1886)

Hungarian Rhapsody No. 9, in E Flat Major

Liszt

Solomon feels that it "closes out [the] high-Classic phase of Beethoven's sonata development on a note of absolute confidence in his mastery of form." Solomon also notes that Opus 7 may be rightly considered Beethoven's "first masterpiece," and comments that it "run[s] the full gamut of Sturm und Drang sentiment — passion, reverie, exuberance, heroism, solemnity, nobility and dramatic pathos."

The names of Brahms and Liszt are rarely coupled (except, perhaps, in the name of a pub in London's Covent Garden). But both the Hungarian Dances and the Hungarian Rhapsodies do spring from a common root: what Brahms authority Michael Musgrave has called the "popular composed music of recent provenance played by gypsies as cafe entertainment."

Brahms composed his extensive set of dances from 1852 until 1869 (many were in fact improvised in consort with violinist Eduard Remnyi during their concert tour of 1853). They were finally published in a collection for piano four hands in 1869. Significantly lacking an opus number, they were first designed as diversionary repertoire for domestic music-making. Brahms' decision to arrange a selection for solo piano three years later was a recognition as much of their popularity as of their considerable potential as concert works.

Liszt's innumerable works composed "on national themes", on the other hand, were always viewed as concert works — virtuoso extravaganzas for his own performance use. While both Bartok and Kodaly were particularly unimpressed with Liszt's coffeehouse tziganne idiom [Bartok wrote that "the Hungarian Rhapsodies . . . are his least successful works (perhaps that is why they are so generally known and admired)"], the Rhapsodies remain, now and forever, staples of the recital repertoire.

— Programme notes by David Duke

Programme Notes

Despite the opus numbers, Beethoven's B flat Major and E flat Major Sonatas were composed within a few years of each other, just before the turn of the 19th century. While none of Beethoven's 32 sonatas can exactly be considered unusual or obscure, the pair chosen for performance tonight are among those less frequently presented.

Both are similarly constructed in a four-movement format. Beethoven himself was especially fond of Opus 22; Maynard

A Reminder to Subscribers

If you know in advance that you will be unable to attend a concert, and are otherwise unable to dispose of your tickets, why not give our office a call? We frequently receive requests for returned tickets, and can issue tax receipts for any that are re-sold.

Summer is a'comin . . .

. . . and so is the

VANCOUVER CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL!

• July 27 - August 7, 1992 •

Participating musicians include:

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Angela Cheng, Jane Coop, Stéphane Lemelin

Violinists

Dong-Suk Kang, Carmit Zori, Scott St John

Cellists

Richard Lester, Yvgeny Osadchy

Clarinetist

Sharon Kam

Oboist

Douglas Boyd

Soprano

Lauren Wagner

New at the Festival this year:

Composer in Residence

Chan Ka Nin

winner of the 1991 Barlow International Competition,
awarded by *Chamber Music America*

Other participating composers include:

*Schubert, Mendelssohn, Britten, Chausson,
Mahler, and more. . .*

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BILLETING A MUSICIAN?

The VRS is currently looking for volunteers to billet musicians during the 1992 Vancouver Chamber Music Festival, July 27 to August 7.

Experience the Festival from the inside, and get to know "your musicians" a little better.

If you live within reasonable proximity to St George's School (4175 West 29th Ave), and are interested in further information, please call our office at 736-6034.

Over the past 12 years, the Vancouver Recital Society has presented the Vancouver debut performances of some of the world's most brilliant and respected musicians:

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Jeffrey Kahane

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Anton Nel

Paul Neubauer

Kurt Nikkanen

Ken Noda

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Miklos Perényi

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The Vancouver Recital Society's Hamburg Steinway is maintained and serviced by
Johann B. Krebs.

The Vancouver Recital Society is most grateful for the generous assistance of its honorary auditors, Collins Barrow.

Vancouver Recital Society



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Next Concert

Stéphane Lemelin, Piano

SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 8 PM

Rondo in A minor, K.511 Mozart

Dauidsbündlertanze Schumann

Sonata in A Major, D.959 Schubert

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du Maurier Arts Ltd. is privileged to provide many special Canadians the opportunity to develop their rare talents, and to share them with grateful audiences – large and small, young and old – all across the country.

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