

ABSTRACT

Title of Document: COMPOSITIONS FEATURING THE PIANO
IN FANTASY FORM: 1820-1920

Kuei-I Wu, Doctor of Musical Arts, 2006

Directed By: Professor Santiago Rodriguez, School of Music

The *Fantasy* form offered a composer the freedom to create a work without concerns for fitting into the current stylistic and traditional structures. The flowering of the form seems to be concentrated from 1820-1920 since the composer started to use it as a way to convey a personal idea or to portray a special spirit. This dissertation is comprised of three recitals with *fantasies* in different genres and styles. Through performing these diverse *fantasies*, I have been inspired to connect with the imagery and spirit of the compositions in order to capture the unique sentiments of each piece. Also, in order to keep the audience absorbed in the music that is without structure, I have focused on expanding my technical abilities to vary color, sonority, and phrasing.

Program one (April 26, 2004) includes *Fantasia, Op.17* and *Piano Concerto, Op. 54* (assisted by Ya-Hsin Wu) by R. Schumann. Program two (December 10, 2004) includes *Three Fantastic Dances, Op. 5* by D. Shostakovich, *Fantasy "Sonata-ecossaise", Op. 28* by F. Mendelssohn, *Sonata No.2 "Sonata-Fantasy", Op. 19* by A. Scriabin and *Fantasia for Piano and Violin, D 934* by F. Schubert with violinist, Tao-

Chang Yu. The last program (November 1, 2005) includes *Fantasia baetica* by E. de Falla, *Morceaux de Fantaisie, Op. 3* by S. Rachmaninoff, *Fantaisie, Op. 49*, *Impromptu No. 4 "Fantasy-Impromptu", Op. 66* and *Polonaise-Fantaisie, Op. 61* by F. Chopin.

COMPOSITIONS FEATURING THE PIANO IN FANTASY FORM:
1820-1920

By

Kuei-I Wu

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This dissertation is comprised of three live performances. All three programs are documented in a digital audio format available on compact disc.

Program I (recorded on April 26, 2004):

<i>Fantasie, Op.17</i>	Robert Schumann
<i>Piano Concerto, Op. 54</i> (assisted by Ya-Hsin Wu)	Robert Schumann

Program II (recorded on December 10, 2004):

<i>Three Fantastic Dances, Op. 5</i>	Dmitri Shostakovitch
<i>Fantasy "Sonata-ecossaise", Op. 28</i>	Felix Mendelssohn
<i>Sonata No.2 "Sonata-Fantasy", Op. 19</i>	Alexander Scriabin
<i>Fantasie for Piano and Violin, D 934</i>	Franz Schubert
Violinist, Tao-Chang Yu	

Program III (recorded on November 1, 2005):

<i>Fantasia baetica</i>	Menuel de Falla
<i>Morceaux de Fantaisie, Op. 3</i>	Sergei Rachmaninoff
<i>Fantaisie, Op. 49</i>	Frederic Chopin
<i>Impromptu No. 4 "Fantasy-Impromptu", Op. 66</i>	Frederic Chopin
<i>Polonaise-Fantaisie, Op. 61</i>	Frederic Chopin