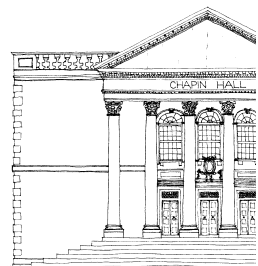


Williams College Department of Music



Williamstown Jazz Festival

with

Opus 3 Artists

Presents

GABRIELA MONTERO

Piano

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)
Arr. by F. Busoni

Chaconne (From *Partita No. 2 in D Minor*
for Violin), BWV 1004

Frederic Chopin
(1810-1849)

Ballade No. 3 in A-flat Major, opus 47

Alberto Ginastera
(1916-1983)

Sonata No. 1, opus 22

Allegro marcato
Presto misterioso
Adagio molto appassionato
Ruvido ed ostinato

****intermission****

Improvisation on themes or pieces suggested by audience members
(Please be prepared to sing the theme if Ms. Montero does not know the piece)

Wednesday, April 16, 2008

8:00 P.M.

The Clark

Williamstown, Massachusetts

Upcoming events:

4/18: Williams Chamber Choir, Williams College Museum of Art, 4:00 p.m.

4/18: Williams Percussion Ensemble, Chapin Hall, 8:00 p.m.

4/19: Junior Recital: Alicia Choi, violin, Brooks-Rogers, 3:00 p.m.

4/19: Williams Chamber Choir, Griffin 3, 5:00 p.m.

4/20: Artsbreak, The Clark, 1:00 p.m.

4/20: Maru A Pula, Chapin Hall, 3:00 p.m.

4/23: MIDWEEKMUSIC, Chapin Hall, 12:15 p.m.

Please turn off or mute cell phones.
No photography or recording is permitted.

Tonight's concert is also made possible in part by the following *Friends of the Williamstown Jazz Festival**:

The Crabtree Family

Suzanne and David Kemple

Robert B. Lee, M.D.

Frank Ubile

Jean F. Vankin

Ann Vanneman in memory of Tom Mitchell

* to find out how to become a friend of the Williamstown Jazz Festival,
contact Artistic Director Andy Jaffe at: ajaffe@williams.edu

“Ms Montero’s playing had everything: crackling rhythmic brio, subtle shadings, steely power in climactic moments, soulful lyricism in ruminative passages and, best of all, unsentimental expressivity.”

- Anthony Tommasini, *New York Times*

Gabriela Montero’s visionary interpretations and unique improvisational gift have won her a quickly expanding audience and devoted following around the world. Gabriela's engagements include her acclaimed New York Philharmonic debut with Lorin Maazel, the Hollywood Bowl, the Boston Philharmonic with Benjamin Zander, Stuttgart Philharmonic, the Lanaudiere Festival and the Philharmonia Orchestra with Gustavo Dudamel, with whom she also works regularly with the Venezuelan Youth Orchestra “Simon Bolivar”.

In recital, Gabriela has appeared at the Wigmore Hall London, Kennedy Center Washington DC, National Arts Center Ottawa, Orchard Hall Tokyo, Teatro Colon Buenos Aires, Herkulesaal Munich, Musikhalle Hamburg, Berlin Konzerthaus, and at the Cologne Philharmonie as part of the Cologne Musiktriennale 2007 themed ‘improvisation’. Gabriela has appeared at the Roque d’Anthéron, Radio France Montpellier, Schleswig-Holstein, MDR Musiksommer, Penderecki, and Radio Canada Chopin festivals and is invited annually to the ‘Progetto Martha Argerich’ Festival in Lugano and to Martha Argerich’s Buenos Aires Festival. Summer 2007 festivals include Ruhr, Lockenhaus, Verbier, San Francisco Jazz and Caramoor, as well as performances at the Hollywood Bowl with the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

After performing a concerto or recital, Gabriela often invites her audiences to suggest a melody for improvisation by way of an encore. They ask for themes from a Haydn symphony to Star Wars, or they come to the stage to play a melody on the piano that she may or may not know. “When improvising,” Gabriela says, “I connect with my audience in a completely unique way – and they connect with me.” For Montero, who maintains a busy schedule of recital and concerto appearances in the major halls and at the major music festivals in Europe, Asia and the Americas, improvisation is not a sideline or a party trick. She explains, “Because improvisation is such a huge part of who I am, it is the most natural and spontaneous way I can express myself. I have been improvising since my hands first touched the keyboard, but for many years I kept this aspect of my playing secret. Then Martha Argerich overheard me improvising one day and was ecstatic. In fact, it was Martha who persuaded me that it was possible to combine my career as a serious ‘classical’ artist with the side of me that is rather unique.”

Gabriela’s first EMI/Angel CD consisted of one disc of music by Rachmaninoff, Chopin and Liszt and a second of her deeply felt and technically brilliant improvisations. Standing alongside inspired performances of core repertoire, improvisation plays as important a part in Gabriela's life as it did for Bach and Mozart and, to show the link, her EMI/Angel CD *Bach and Beyond* is a full disc of improvisations on themes by Bach which topped the charts for several months. In Autumn 2007 her follow up recording of improvisations, “Baroque”, was released on EMI/Angel. Gabriela is also heard on NPR’s *Performance Today* “Sing It and Wing It”, where listeners call in with a melody upon which Gabriela improvises. Gabriela’s talent has been profiled on CBS’s *60 Minutes*. From November/ December this year, Gabriela will be performing improvisations live on the internet from her living room direct to her audience, on a bi-monthly basis.

Born in Caracas Venezuela, Gabriela gave her first public performance at the age of five. Aged eight she made her concerto debut with the Venezuelan Youth Orchestra conducted by Jose Antonio Abreu and was granted a scholarship from the Venezuelan government to study in the USA. At twelve she won the Baldwin National Competition and AMSA Young Artist International Piano Competition, performing Tchaikovsky’s Piano Concerto No.1 with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra.

A former student of Lyl Tiempo, Andrez Esterhazy and Professor Hamish Milne at the Royal Academy of Music London, Gabriela has won international prizes including the Bronze Medal at the 13th International Chopin Piano Competition in Warsaw in 1995, and the Echo Preis Award in Germany in 2006. A citizen of the world, Gabriela currently resides with her family in Massachusetts.

Management for Ms. Montero
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