

3-8-2010

Faculty Recital: Wenqing Zhang and Nathan Hess, piano

Wenqing Zhang

Nathan Hess

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ITHACA COLLEGE

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

FACULTY RECITAL

Wenqing Zhang, piano
Nathan Hess, piano

Hockett Family Recital Hall
Monday, March 8, 2010
7:00 p.m.

ITHACA

PROGRAM

Variations on a Theme by Haydn, Op. 56b

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

Libertango
Verano Porteño

Astor Piazzolla
(1921-1992)

INTERMISSION

Souvenirs, Op. 28

Waltz
Schottische
Pas de deux
Two-Step
Hesitation-Tango
Galop

Samuel Barber
(1910-1981)

Variations on a Theme by Paganini

Witold Lutoslawski
(1913-1994)

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Performer's Biographies

Dr. **Wenqing Zhang** made her debut with Tianjin Symphony Orchestra of China at the age of 15, after which she was invited to perform throughout China. After immigrating to the United States, she continued her study with Natalya Antonova at Eastman School of Music, where she received the acclaimed Performance Certificate for the BM and MM degrees. In 2006, Dr. Zhang was accepted by Conservatoire Nationale Supérieur de Musique et de Danse de Paris and studied with concert pianist Alain Planés. Returning from Europe, she received her Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Piano Performance at Eastman School of Music. She has adjudicated in numerous competitions in the states. Dr. Zhang is a member of the piano faculty at the Hochstein School of Music and Dance in Rochester, and recently she joined the piano faculty at Ithaca College.

As a prize winner of the Annual 17th International Young Artist Piano Competition and The 9th Hamamatsu International Piano Academy Competition, Dr. Zhang has been an active performer on the international stage, including recitals in The Department of State in Washington, D.C.; Vienna; Paris; U.S. Embassy in Paris; American Premiere of Rebecca Clarke's piano work; and a concert tour of Rachmaninoff No. 3 Concerto in China. She has attended numerous master classes with prominent world-class pianists, Wolfgang Valzinger, Jean-Philippe Collard, Vladimir Tropp, Jacques Rouvier, Hiroko Nakamura, Karl-Heinz Kämmerling, Oxana Yablonskaya, Alicia de Larrocha, and Pascal Rogé.

In order to enrich the cultural activities of the elderly, she has created the "Dazzling Fingers" concert series for the senior living community in Greater Rochester.

Dr. **Nathan Hess**, Assistant Professor of Piano at Ithaca College, has appeared in concert to critical acclaim throughout the United States and Europe in solo, chamber, and concerto settings. Hess has performed concerti with the Erie Chamber Orchestra, Western NY Chamber Orchestra, and York Symphony Orchestra, among others, as well as appeared in recent guest recitals and masterclasses at Mansfield University, East Carolina University, Oberlin College Conservatory, and Buffalo State College.

Hess holds the Doctor of Musical Arts and Master of Music degrees from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, and the Bachelor of Music degree, summa cum laude, from James Madison University, where he was named a Presser Scholar. His teachers have included Elizabeth Pridonoff, Eric Ruple, and Jane Coop, and he has performed in masterclasses for such luminaries as John Browning, James Tocco, and Emanuele Arciuli. Active as a chamber musician, he has performed with members of the

Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, Cleveland Pops, Buffalo Philharmonic, and Syracuse Symphony. His chamber music coaches have included Ronald Copes, Seymour Lipkin, Sandra Rivers, Charles Neidich, Kenneth Griffiths, and eighth blackbird. Hess has also acted as orchestral pianist with the Erie Philharmonic and the Binghamton Philharmonic.

Dr. Hess performed in and produced a set of recordings for the textbook *Harmony in Context*, published by McGraw-Hill. Dr. Hess is active in MTNA and also adjudicates frequently throughout the region and east coast. Prior to his appointment at Ithaca College, Dr. Hess taught on the piano faculties of Mercyhurst College and SUNY Fredonia. He can be heard on the Centaur label with flutist Susan Royal.