2-2-2008

Guest Artist: Rachel Barton Pine, violin

Rebecca Barton Pine

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The Louis K. Thaler Concert Violinist Series

Rachel Barton Pine

SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 2, 2008
8:15 P.M.
FORD HALL, JAMES J. WHALEN CENTER FOR MUSIC
ITHACA COLLEGE
Rachel Barton Pine has appeared as a soloist with many prestigious ensembles, including the Chicago, Atlanta, St. Louis, Dallas, San Diego, and Baltimore Symphonies; Buffalo and Rochester Philharmonics; and Philadelphia and Louisville Orchestras. Her overseas performances have included the Montreal, Vienna, New Zealand, Iceland, and Budapest Symphonies; Belgian National Orchestra; Mozarteum Orchestra; and Camerata Salzburg. She has worked with such renowned conductors as Charles Dutoit, Zubin Mehta, Erich Leinsdorf, Neeme Järvi, Marin Alsop, Semyon Bychkov, and Placido Domingo. Her collaborations include duo performances with many noted artists, including Daniel Barenboim, Christoph Eschenbach, William Warfield, Christopher O’Riley, and Mark O’Connor.

Her 2007-8 U.S. orchestral engagements include the Santa Fe, New Mexico, Puerto Rico, Jacksonville, Fox Valley, Youngstown, Northwest Indiana, Greenville and Columbus (Georgia) Symphonies, and the Dayton Philharmonic. Overseas performances include the Gottingen Symphony, the Israel Chamber Orchestra, a tour with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, a recital for the National University of Singapore Cultural Centre, and a trip to Ghana to teach, perform, and study traditional music. Her concerto repertoire includes those by contemporary composers Roque Cordero and John Corigliano, a neglected masterpiece by Joseph Joachim, and warhorses by Beethoven, Brahms, Bruch, Dvořák, Mendelssohn, Mozart, Saint-Saëns, and Tchaikovsky. Pine’s chamber music performances in New York include Bargemusic, Performers of Westchester, and guest appearances with the Jupiter Symphony Chamber Players.

Her past festival appearances have included Marlboro, Ravinia, Salzburg, and Salzburg’s Mozartwoche at the invitation of Franz Welser-Möst. In a 2006 performance at the Montreal Festival, she performed the complete Paganini caprices in a single evening, and in a 2007 performance, she traversed Bach’s sonatas and partitas in their entirety.

Pine has accumulated a critically acclaimed and prolific discography. Her latest disc, American Virtuosa: Tribute to Maud Powell, features works dedicated to and arranged by America’s first internationally acclaimed violinist. Her recording of the Brahms and Joachim concertos in collaboration with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and conductor Carlos Kalmar, released in 2003, featuring performances of both Joachim’s and Pine’s own cadenzas for the Brahms Violin Concerto, was nominated for a 2004 Grammy Award. Her next album will feature the Beethoven and Clement concertos in collaboration with the Royal Philharmonic and conductor Jose Serebrier.
THE LOUIS K. THALER CONCERT VIOLINIST SERIES

Rachel Barton Pine VIOLIN
Matthew Hagle PIANO

Sonata in A Major for Piano and Violin, op. 47 (Kreutzer)
Adagio sostenuto; Presto
Andante con variazioni
Finale: Presto

Three Spirituals
Deep River, op. 59, no. 10

Here's One

Deliver My Soul

INTERMESSION

Sonata in E-flat Major for Violin and Piano, op. 18
Allegro ma non troppo
Improvisation: Andante cantabile
Finale: Andante; Allegro

Carmen Fantasy for Violin and Piano, op. 25
Allegro moderato
Lento assai
Allegro moderato

Ludwig van Beethoven
(1770–1827)

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor
(1875–1912)

William Grant Still
(1895–1978)

David Baker
(b. 1931)

Richard Strauss
(1864–1949)

Pablo de Sarasate
(1844–1908)
THE LOUIS K. THALER CONCERT VIOLINIST SERIES was established at Ithaca College by the Thaler/Howell Foundation in memory of Louis Thaler and to honor his lifelong love of the violin. The impetus for this gift was provided by Louis Thaler’s son Manley and his immediate family.

Louis Thaler (1903–79) had a long and successful career as an Ithaca attorney and was the founder and senior partner of the Thaler and Thaler law firm. He was the city of Ithaca attorney from 1940 to 1941 and president of the Tompkins County Bar Association from 1944 to 1945. He also served as a special county judge and surrogate judge. Actively involved in civic affairs throughout his career, Thaler was a member of the Tompkins County Chamber of Commerce Board of Governors, the American Bar Association, the New York State Bar Association, the Ithaca Rotary Club, and the Elks Club. He was also an amateur violinist.

In 1927 Louis Thaler married Rachel Shulman, a native Ithacan who was awarded a scholarship to study piano at the Ithaca Conservatory of Music. Both were devoted supporters of the Friends of Ithaca College. Rachel Thaler died in 2004, at the age of 97.

The legacy of the Thalers’ love of music lives on today through the Rachel S. Thaler Concert Pianist Series, established in 1991, and the Louis K. Thaler Concert Violinist Series, created in 2002. The Thaler/Howell Foundation, through the efforts of Manley H. Thaler, endowed both series to recognize and honor Rachel and Louis Thaler, and to ensure that outstanding violinists and pianists would always perform for the Ithaca College community and the residents of the surrounding area.