

Violin and Piano Recital – Grieg, Bériot, Millar and Tchaikovsky

Allegro molto ed appassionato

[Sonata in c minor Op.45]

Concerto no.9 Op. 104, 2nd movement

Sakura

Chanson Triste

E.Grieg (1843-1907)

C.A.Bériot(1802-1870)

M.Kaneko Millar (Ffl.2021)

P.I,Tchaikovsky(1840-1893)

Jenna Stewart, violin

Ben Marsden, piano

Edvard Grieg (1843-1907)

Allegro molto ed appassionato (Sonata in c minor Op.45)

The Norwegian composer Edvard Grieg, whose paternal grandfather (originally spelt Greig) came from Aberdeenshire, was one of the great romantic composers of the nineteenth century. From this movement, it is easy to see why his violin sonatas were amongst the composer's favourite compositions. This first movement of his third Violin Sonata Op.45, written in 1886/7, carries over the structural discipline he had learned from his first string quartet. Beginning with a dramatic gesture, the second subject is characteristically lyrical. These two ideas strive for dominance in a movement as noted for its dramatic contrasts as its compositional craft. It is by turns stormy and lyrical, with quasi-symphonic writing for each player.

Charles Auguste de.Bériot (1802-1870)

Concerto no.9 Op. 104, 2nd movement

Charles Auguste de Bériot was a Belgian violinist and composer. He was taught by the celebrated Viotti, and was influenced by Paganini. He became Violin Professor at Brussels Conservatoire where he established the Franco-Belgian school of violin playing, writing a Violin Method and a series of demanding Concert Studies. Amongst his compositions are ten concertos of which the ninth is the most frequently played today. The slow movement gives some idea of Berio's ability to write a self-generating melodic line, with some interesting technical demands on the way!

M.Kaneko Millar (Ffl.2021)

Sakura

Sakura, written in 2019 by Maria Kaneko Millar, has been something of a sensation of our times, having a first print run of 12,400 copies and selling in 93 countries. This composer/violinist first came to prominence as the Solo Dancing Fiddler in *Riverdance on Broadway*. Maria's outlook embraces many musical frontiers, with Asian, Celtic, Gypsy, Klezmer, Tango, Turkish, and jazz, grafted onto a fundamental training at the world-celebrated Julliard School of Music. *Sakura* – translated as Cherry Blossom – is a piece for solo violin based on a haunting opening melody, but working up to a considerable climax in its central section.

Peter Ilych Tchaikovsky(1840-1893)

Chanson Triste

The Russian composer Peter Ilych Tchaikovsky is well known for his symphonies and operas but the many character pieces he wrote are wonderful additions to the repertoire. The *Chanson Triste* originally written for piano is wonderfully evocative, haunting piece, with an extended cantabile melody, full of characteristic Russian yearning.
