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Nicholas Ross, Piano

Department of Music and Worship, Cedarville University

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THE CEDARVILLE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP
PRESENTS

NICHOLAS ROSS, PIANO

THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2016, 7:30 P.M.

Excursions

Indianisches Tagebuch I, BV 267 Ferruccio Busoni
1. Allegretto affettuoso, un poco agitato (1866-1924)
2. Vivace
3. Andante
4. Maestoso ma andando

Improvisations on Hungarian Peasant Songs, Op. 20 Béla Bartók
1. Molto moderato (1881-1945)
2. Molto capriccioso
3. Lento, rubato
4. Allegretto scherzando
5. Allegro molto
6. Allegro moderato, molto capriccioso
7. Sostenuto, rubato
8. Allegro

Excursions, Op. 20 Samuel Barber
1. Un poco allegro (1910-1981)
2. In slow blues tempo
3. Allegretto
4. Allegro molto

Intermission

Les jeux d'eaux à la Villa d'Este, from *Années de Pèlerinage, Troisième Année* Franz Liszt
(1811-1886)

D'un cahier d'esquisses Claude Debussy
(1862-1918)

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Pianist Nick Ross is Associate Professor of Music and Director of Keyboard Studies as well as Associate Chair of the music department at Otterbein University. In addition to teaching piano, Dr. Ross also gives instruction in music theory and teaches an interdisciplinary course, Music and Ideology.

Nick Ross performs as soloist and chamber musician throughout the United States and Europe. He has performed recitals and concertos at such venues as St. Martin's-in-the-Field and St. John's Smith Square, London, the Field Room in Dublin, and the Engelse Kerk in Amsterdam.

Nick is active as a recording artist, and he has released four solo piano recordings to date, as well as the complete songs of Arthur Honegger with singers Claudia Patacca and Sinan Vural (Centaur, 2012). His first three solo discs focused on American music, and include John Powell: Early Piano Music (a recording that was included on the American Record Guide's Best recordings of 2007 list), Kent Holliday: A Musical Odyssey (with pianist Emily Yap Chua), and A Golden Proportion Recital (Centaur, 2011). A new recording will be released in September titled Arthur Honegger: Chamber Music (Centaur Records, 2015), with the newly formed Prospero Trio (with Jana Ross, violin and Wesley Baldwin, cello). Ross' scholarly research has focused in recent years on proportional structures and the golden ratio in the music of Mozart, Debussy, Bartók and others. He has presented lecture recitals on the topic at conferences in Lancaster, Krakow, and at various universities and colleges in the US.

Ross earned his Doctor of Musical Arts degree in piano performance from Rice University. He also earned degrees in piano performance from the Twente Conservatory (now called ArtEz) in the Netherlands and Trinity College of Music in London (where he was awarded many piano prizes, including the John Longmire award for his performance of Debussy), and a Masters degree in Applied Mathematics from Twente University. His primary piano professors were John Perry, John Bingham, and Benno Pierweijer. In addition, he worked with Christine Croshaw and David Newbold on collaborative piano, and with Graham Johnson as a participant in The Young Songmaker's Almanac in 1995. He was the recipient of the Robert Meyer-ESU Scholarship to Aspen Summer Festival in 1995, a competitive award that had previously been given to Steven Isserlis. It is thanks to this award that he is now happily settled in the United States.

Prior to his arrival at Otterbein, Ross was a professor at Sweet Briar College in Virginia where he was the music department chair from 2005 until 2012. He received the Faculty Fellowship award for his sabbatical year of 2008-2009. His students have been prizewinners in competitions such as the Lion's Club Bland Competition, East Carolina University Young Artist's Competition, and the Gustavo Romero Piano Competition.