
Guest Artists

Concert and Recital Programs

10-21-2021

Polina Bespalko, Piano

Cedarville University

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THE CEDARVILLE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP

PRESENTS

POLINA BESPALKO, PIANO

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2021, 7 P.M.

PROGRAM

- Pictures at an Exhibition* Modest Mussorgsky (1839–1881)
- Promenade
 - No. 1 “Gnomus”
 - Promenade (2nd)
 - No. 2 “The Old Castle”
 - Promenade (3rd)
 - No. 3 “Tuileries”
 - No. 4 “Bydlo”
 - Promenade (4th)
 - No. 5 “Ballet of the Chicks in their Shells”
 - No. 6 “Samuel Goldenberg and Schmuyle”
 - No. 7 “The Market Place at Limoges”
 - No. 8 “Catacombs. Sepulcrum romanum”
 - Promenade: Con mortuis in lingua mortua
 - No. 9 “The Hut on Hen’s Legs (Baba-Yaga)”
 - No. 10 “The Great Gate of Kiev”

Intermission

- Seasons, Op.37 A* Peter Tchaikovsky (1840–1893)
- No. 1. By the Hearth (January)
 - No. 2. The Carnival (February)
 - No. 3. Song of the Lark (March)
 - No. 4. Snowdrop (April)
 - No. 5. White Nights (May)
 - No. 6. Barcarolle (June)
 - No. 7. Reaper’s Song (July)
 - No. 8. The Harvest (August)
 - No. 9. The Hunt (September)
 - No. 10. Autumn Song (October)
 - No. 11. On the Troika (November)
 - No. 12. Christmas-Tide (December)

Recital Hall
Bolthouse Center for Music

No flash photography
Please turn off all cell phones

About the Artist:

Described as an "amazing virtuoso" by the world renowned Nikolai Petrov and having a "complex, vigorous and demanding energetic attitude at the piano" by Brazilian newspaper Correio Brasiliense, Polina Besspalko is rapidly establishing herself as one of piano's brightest stars.

Ms. Besspalko began her performance career at the age of 8. Throughout her years at the Moscow Central Music school, she appeared regularly in the most prestigious venues in Russia - including performances in Bolshoi Hall and for the Orthodox Patriarch Alexy II at the age of 13. Her career continued after her acceptance to the Tchaikovsky Moscow State Conservatory, where she was personally requested by the Minister of Culture to perform in every major cultural center in the region.



Polina made her American debut in 1998 as an honored member of the Russian-US Cultural Music Exchange. This launched a period of intense U.S. concertizing, with performances as varied as Cincinnati's Matinee Musicale, concerts at The Phillips Collection in Washington D.C., to Salt Lake City, where she twice performed at the 2002 Winter Olympic Games.

While in America, Polina furthered her Masters degree from Moscow Conservatory by earning an Artist Diploma at the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. After breaking for several years to focus on performing, Polina successfully completed her Doctorate of Musical Arts. During her time at CCM, Polina won the CCM Concerto Competition, thus performing Rachmaninov's 3rd Concerto with the CCM Philharmonia under Mark Gibson.

Polina has maintained an active performance profile with numerous domestic and international engagements, including two performances at the Xavier University Music Series, a New York City appearance at Steinway Hall, and a feature concert at the University of Cincinnati Bearcat Piano Festival.

Ms. Besspalko currently serves on the piano faculty of Xavier University in Cincinnati, while also serving as the Director of the Xavier University Music Series.