

Dedications of the Human Spirit

Schulhoff: Suite No.3 for the Left Hand

H. Leslie Adams: Etude in A-flat Minor from Book 2 no.2

Beethoven/Cheli: An Die Hoffnung

Clara Schumann: Romanze in A minor

Brahms: Intermezzo in A major

Liszt/Schubert: Soirees de Vienne no.6 (Sophie Menter Version)

Intermission

Mussorgsky: Pictures at an Exhibition

This program contains pieces of music that were written and/or dedicated to individuals that the composers felt strong connections with.

Schulhoff's Left hand Suite was written for fellow Czech native, Otakar Hollmann, a pianist who lost the use of this right arm during World War I. We see **camaraderie and inclusiveness** between these two Czech artists who endured the horrors of fighting in WWI.

H. Leslie Adams is quoted as saying that "J.S. Bach is the musician that I have the greatest **respect** for. I am in **awe** of his ability, talent, and beauty in creation." In his own unique way, Adams says he "feels my American orientation emerging freely throughout the etudes, often mixing with European classicism." Indeed, we see his unique take on the etude form, inspired by Chopin, Brahms, and Bach.

Beethoven dedicated his song to Josephine Brunsvik with the **hope** that they could be together, sadly never happening, despite Josephine being someone many scholars believe was the "Immortal Beloved".

Clara Schumann dedicated her Romanze to Brahms because of his empathy and support during her terrible **despair and loneliness** at having lost her husband, Robert, to mental illness.

The Intermezzo op.118 no.2 is Brahms writing music for Clara Schumann, someone who he dearly **loved** for all his life yet **accepted** as being impossible to be romantically involved with.

In Liszt's "Soirees no.6" he felt intense **admiration** and **affection** for his prized student and virtuoso pianist, Sophie Menter.

Mussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition" was dedicated to Vladimir Stasov, to the **celebrate** the life and work of their mutually dear friend: Viktor Hartmann following his passing. Hartmann was a visual artist that had been introduced to Mussorgsky by Stasov, and the trio became the best of friends.

Each one of the pieces show the profound human connection held between the composers and the friends, colleagues, and individuals they admired.
