



Donald F. Cook Recital Hall
M.O. Morgan Building
Sunday, 28 October 2001 at 8:00 p.m.

Heather Schmidt piano

MUN Chamber Orchestra

Funérailles

T. Patrick Carrabré
(1958-)

Commissioned for the 2001 Competition in piano with the support of the Canada Council.

Consolation No. 3 in D-flat major

Franz Liszt
(1811-1886)

Sonata in B minor

Franz Liszt

--Intermission--

Chaconne

Heather Schmidt
(1974-)

Music for Piano

Alexina Louie

The Enchanted Bells

(1949-)

Changes

Distant Memories

Once Upon A Time

Sonata No. 7 in B-flat major op. 83

Sergei Prokofiev
(1891-1953)

Allegro inquieto

Andante caloroso

Precipitato

Tour sponsored by the Eckhardt-Gramatté Competition, Inc., Brandon, Manitoba, with support from the Manitoba Arts Council, the Canada Council for the Arts and the Canada Council Touring Office.

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Memoria
University of Newfoundland

Canadian pianist and composer **Heather Schmidt**, has received national and international recognition through performances, broadcasts, commissions, and awards in Canada, the U.S.A. and Europe. Originally from Calgary, Alberta, Ms. Schmidt is now living in New York City. A recent review in the *Chicago Tribune* described her compositions as "neo-romantic, expansive and lushly-textured", and stated that "her playing was a study in vim and vigor." A critic from the *Vancouver Sun* wrote the following description of her cello concerto: "It is an elegant, seamlessly crafted, mainstream work that has the mark of sincerity all over it. It is, if there's any justice, destined for a long life." An article in the *Calgary Herald* declared that her musical abilities "revealed a degree of maturity and prowess nothing short of spectacular."

Having begun piano studies at age four, Ms. Schmidt made her first public appearance at age six, and has performed extensively ever since. In May 2001, she won first place at the Eckhardt-Gramatté National Music Competition, which included a cash prize as well as a national recital tour. The previous year, she received First Place, the Audience Choice Award, and the Maestro's Choice Award from the Millenium Foundation at the 2000 Canadian Concerto 'Competition with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra. Other awards include first place in the 1992 Austrian Canadian Mozart Competition and the Rosebowl for "most outstanding performer" at the Calgary Kiwanis Festival. Recent concert appearances include performances at the Festival Estudio Amplo in Brazil, the Glenn Gould Studio and the Music Gallery in Toronto, the Canadian Music Festival in Windsor, Ontario, the Sound Symposium in St. John's, Newfoundland, the Canadian Embassy in Washington, D.C., the Music Now Series at the Symphony Center in Chicago, and Merkin Concert Hall in New York. She has been featured in the capacity of pianist and/or composer at such festivals and institutes as the Banff Centre, the Hampden-Sydney Chamber Music Festival, the Czech-American Summer Music School in Prague, the Bowdoin Summer Music Festival in Maine, ScotiaFest in Halifax, and the Schloss-Elmau Festival in Germany.

Ms. Schmidt's compositions have been performed by the Young Musicians Foundations Debut Orchestra in Los Angeles, the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony, the Niagara Symphony, Orchestra London Canada, the CBC Vancouver Orchestra, the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, the Windsor Symphony, the Metamorphosen String Orchestra in Boston, the Juilliard Symphony, the Henschel Quartet from Germany, the Amernet Quartet from the U.S.A., New Works Calgary, the Clarion Ensemble in Edmonton, and the New York-based Cygnus Quartet Competition, among others. Ms. Schmidt was asked to compose the imposed pieces for the 1995 Banff International String Quartet Competition, and the 1999 CBC Young Performer's Competition (piano category). *Phantoms* for string quartet has been performed throughout Canada, the U.S. and Europe, and was selected by CBC to represent Canada at the International Rostrum in Paris, which resulted in broadcasts of this work in 12 countries. The Amernet Quartet performed *Phantoms* at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall in New York in 1996. The performance was recorded and released by the Marquis label (EMI Canada) on a CD entitled "Music from Banff – Live at Carnegie Hall." Her Cello Concerto was recorded in December 2000 on the CBC label, with cellist Shauna Rolston and the CBC Vancouver Orchestra, under Mario Bernardi. Ms. Schmidt has six new commissions scheduled for the coming season.

Ms. Schmidt won her first composition award at the age of six, and has since won many prestigious national and international prizes in composition. Awards include three consecutive BMI awards (1993, 1994, 1995), SOCAN Composer Awards (1994, 1997), the Zwilich Prize in the International League of Women Composers Composition Competition (1994, 1996), the 1994 Robert Fleming Prize from Canada Council, the Dean's Composition Prize at Indiana University (1993, 1994), and first prizes in the 1993 Prairie Festival of New Music Competition and the 1993 New Works Calgary Competition.

Ms. Schmidt is currently adjunct Assistant Professor of Music (piano and keyboard harmony, chamber music) at Lehigh University in Pennsylvania. She is a graduate of Indiana University, where she received her Bachelor of Music, Masters of Music and Doctor of Music. In 1996, at the age of 21, she became the youngest student ever to receive a Doctor of Music from Indiana University. She also completed two years of professional studies at the Juilliard School, studying composition with Milton Babbitt and piano with Yoheved Kaplinsky.