



Donald F. Cook Recital Hall
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M.O. Morgan Building
Tuesday, 9 September 2003 at 8:00 p.m.

Doug Angel, piano

Sonata No. 1 in d minor

Domenico Scarlatti
(1685-1757)

Sonata Opus 109 in E Major

Ludwig van Beethoven
(1770-1827)

Vivace, ma non troppo

Prestissimo

Gesangvoll, mit innigster Empfindung

- intermission -

Pavane Pour une Infante Défunte

Maurice Ravel
(1875-1937)

Chaconne in d minor

Bach/Busoni

Presented in partial fulfilment of the requirements for Music 445B

Throughout his life, Domenico Scarlatti wrote over 600 sonatas for the harpsichord, which are played today on the piano. His sonata in d minor is similar to many of his other sonatas. They present fast moving sixteenth notes, driving melodic lines, and have two sections. The second section is commonly in the dominant key. Scarlatti composed many of his works in Spain, and as a result the listener can often hear a hint of what one might call "Spanish Flare" in his music.

Beethoven's *Sonata Opus 109, in E Major* was one of the last Sonatas that Beethoven composed in his life. Written in 1820, it is in principle a classical composition, but it also exhibits some characteristics that could be considered Romantic in style, and gives evidence as to why Beethoven is often considered the "bridge" to Romanticism. The first movement contrasts two sections: the gently flowing *Vivace, ma non troppo* with the much more dramatic *Adagio*. The movement seeks to resolve these two contrasting sections, but never seems to do so. The middle *Prestissimo* movement presents a driving theme that maintains its energy throughout the movement. This movement provides contrast to the calm and peacefulness of the last movement, *Gesangvoll, mit innigster Empfindung*, a set of variations on a main theme.

Ravel wrote his *Pavane Pour une Infante Défunte* in 1899. It is dedicated to the Princess Edmond de Polignac, a painter and wealthy member of the French aristocracy. Ravel wanted this work to be played peacefully and calmly, without excessive rubato. He once told one young pianist, "I have written a pavane for a dead princess, not a dead pavane for a princess." Ravel's version of the pavane, which was once a popular 16th century dance, is in Rondo form and proves to be a very beautiful and moving work.

Ferruccio Busoni wrote operas, orchestral music, chamber music and music for the piano and organ. However, he was most famous for his piano transcriptions of Bach's music, written several hundred years before him. Busoni's transcription of Bach's Chacone in d minor is clearly Romantic in nature, and is certainly characteristic of Busoni's virtuosic writing for the piano. The work exhibits a variety of techniques for the piano, including octaves, repeated notes, arpeggios and scales, as well as loud, powerful chords.