ABSTRACT

Title of Dissertation: WORKS BY FRANCO-BELGIAN COMPOSERS AND THE VIOLINISTS WHO INSPIRED THEM

Ae-Young Sun, Doctor of Musical Arts, 2009

Dissertation directed by: Professor David Salness
School of Music

In the late nineteenth century, French composers such as Camille Saint-Saëns, César Franck, and Claude Debussy worked to elevate instrumental music in late-Romantic period France, creating symphonies, concertos, and chamber ensembles, including duo sonatas. These composers and followers like, Ernest Chausson and Guillaume Lekeu were all influenced by a particular violinist to whom they dedicated their compositions.

The primary violinist who inspired these composers was Eugene Ysaÿe (1858-1931), a brilliant performer and composer. His freedom of expression motivated many prominent French composers to dedicate major works to him. For example, Debussy dedicated his string quartet to Ysaÿe, who established the Ysaÿe Quartet and premiered Debussy's composition. In 1886, Franck completed his sonata for violin and piano which he also dedicated to Ysaÿe.

Fritz Kreisler (1875-1962), one of the most talented violinists of his era, had a relationship with Ysaÿe that was quite special. They respected, supported,

and befriended each other. To Ysaÿe, Kreisler dedicated his Recitativo and Scherzo. To Kreisler, Ysaÿe dedicated one of his celebrated Sonatas for Solo Violin.

Pablo de Sarasate (1844-1908) was a magnificent Spanish violinist of the late nineteenth century, and his music and performances influenced many composers, especially Saint-Saëns, who included Spanish gypsy fragments in his works. These motifs may found in his *Havanaise*, Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso and Violin Concerto No.3 which were dedicated to Sarasate.

My goal for this dissertation project has been to find and present, in three recitals, works by French composers and also works by the violinists who inspired them. As a violinist, I have endeavored to understand the influence of the various violinists on these French composers and how that knowledge can inform my approach to performing these works. In my first recital, with pianist Soo Young Jung, I performed works by Saint-Saëns, Ysaÿe and Sarasate. With pianist Sun Ha Yoon, I performed works by Ysaÿe, Debussy, Kreisler and Franck in my second recital. My third recital, again with pianist Sun Ha Yoon, featured works by Ysaÿe, Chausson, and Lekeu. All recitals were recorded and performed at the University of Maryland, College Park.

WORKS BY FRANCO-BELGIAN COMPOSERS AND THE VIOLINISTS WHO INSPIRED THEM

by

Ae-Young Sun

Dissertation submitted to the Faculty of the Graduate School of the
University of Maryland, College Park, in partial fulfillment
of the requirements for the degree of
Doctor of Musical Arts
2009

Advisory Committee:

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RECITAL SELECTIONS

Program I

Ae-Young Sun DMA Dissertation Recital I
Works by Franco-Belgian Composers
and the Violinists Who Inspired Them
December 8, 2006 at 8 pm, Ulrich Recital Hall
Tawes Fine Arts Building
University of Maryland, College Park

Ae-Young Sun, Violin
Soo Young Jung, Piano

Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921)
Sonata for Violin and Piano No.1 in D Major, Op.75
Allegro agitato- Adagio
Allegretto moderato- Allegro molto

Eugène Ysaÿe (1858-1931)
Sonata, Op.27 No.3 Ballade

Pablo de Sarasate (1844-1908)
Carmen Fantasy Op.25

Program II

Ae-Young Sun DMA Dissertation Recital II
Works by Franco-Belgian Composers
and the Violinists Who Inspired Them
September 30, 2007 at 8 pm, Gildenhorn Recital Hall
Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center
University of Maryland, College Park

Ae-Young Sun, Violin
Sun Ha Yoon, Piano

Eugène Ysaÿe (1858-1931)
Rêve D'enfant, Op.14

Claude Debussy (1862-1918)
Sonata for Violin and Piano in G Minor
Allegro vivo
Intermède; Fantasque et léger
Finale; Très animé

Fritz Kreisler (1875-1962)
Recitativo and Scherzo, Op.6

César Franck (1822-1890)
Sonata for Violin and Piano in A Major
Allegretto ben moderato
Allegro
Recitativo Fantasia
Allegretto poco mosso

Program III

Ae-Young Sun DMA Dissertation Recital III
Works by Franco-Belgian Composers
and the Violinists Who Inspired Them
February 9, 2009 at 8 pm, Gildenhorn Recital Hall
Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center
University of Maryland, College Park

Ae-Young Sun, Violin
Sun Ha Yoon, Piano

Eugène Ysaÿe (1858-1931)
Sonata, Op.27 No.4
Allemanda: Lento maestoso
Sarabande: Quasi lento
Finale: Presto ma non troppo

Ernest Chausson (1855-1899)
Poème, Op.25

Guillaume Lekeu
Sonata for Violin and Piano in G Major
Trés modere - Vif et passionne
Trés lent
Trés anime