

(1872–1936), an American composer and teacher. Gershwin's real music education came from music halls and jazz palaces in which he played the piano. He collaborated with many lyricists, but the teamwork with his brother, Ira (1896–1983), was uniquely symbiotic. Except for *Swanee* (written by Irving Caesar when George Gershwin was twenty years old), each song on tonight's program has a text by Ira Gershwin. Ironically, *Swanee* was the song that launched George Gershwin's fame. It capitalized on the public taste for ragtime and quoted Stephen Foster's universally known melody, *Way down upon the Swanee River*.

Program notes by Ruthanne Schempf
edited and adapted by Elmer Booze

*The use of cameras or recording equipment during
the performance is not allowed.*

*For the convenience of concertgoers
the Garden Café remains open until 6:30 p.m.*

*Selections from concerts at the Gallery
can be heard on the second Sunday of each month
at 9:00 p.m. on WGMS, 103.5 FM.*

**Concerts in December 2000 and January 2001
Under the Direction of George Manos**

Sundays at 7:00 p.m. in the West Building, West Garden Court

PERFORMERS

PROGRAMS

December 2000

10 Shauna Rolston, *cellist*
Bernadene Blaha, *pianist*

Debussy: *Sonata for Cello and
Piano*
Messiaen: *Louange à
l'éternité de Jésus*
Barber: *Sonata in C Minor*
Richard Strauss: *Sonata in
F Major*
David Popper: *Hungarian
Rhapsody*

17 Columbia Collegiate Chorale
James Bingham, *conductor*

Christmas Concert

24 No concert

31 No concert

January 2001

7 National Gallery Orchestra
George Manos, *conductor*

Gala Viennese New Year
Concert

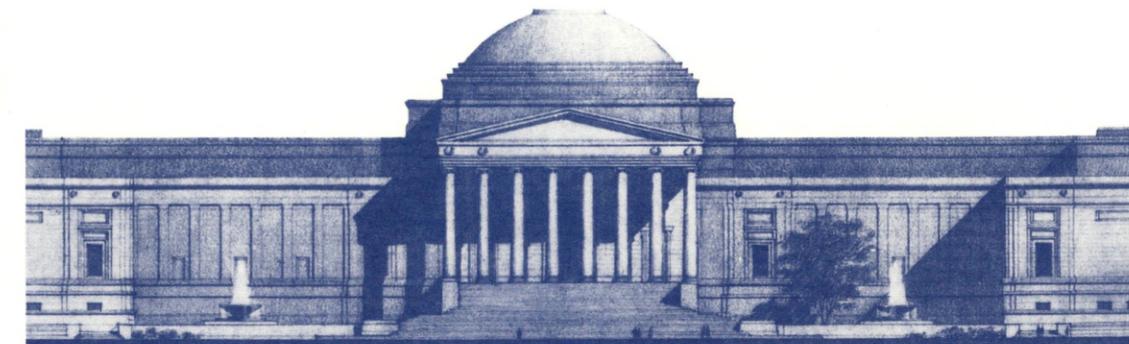
14 Borromeo String Quartet
with Gary Graffman, *pianist*

Schnittke: *Piano Quintet*
Beethoven: *Quartet, Opus 95*
Bach/Brahms: *Chaconne*
Korngold: *Suite for Piano, Left
Hand, and Strings*

The Fifty-ninth Season of

THE WILLIAM NELSON CROMWELL and
F. LAMMOT BELIN CONCERTS

National Gallery of Art



2364th Concert

MELANIE SONNENBERG, mezzo soprano

ETERI ANDJAPARIDZE, pianist

Sunday Evening, 3 December 2000
Seven O'clock
West Building, West Garden Court
Admission free

PROGRAM

"THEY GOT MUSIC:" RACHMANINOFF AND GERSHWIN

I. *Music of Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873–1943)*

1. Musical Moment in C Major, Op. 16, No. 6
2. I Fell in Love, to My Sorrow, Op. 8, No. 4
3. Musical Moment in E-flat Minor, Op. 16, No. 2
4. Music, Op. 34, No. 8
5. Musical Moment in D-flat Major, Op. 16, No. 5
6. The Ring, Op. 26, No. 14
7. Musical Moment in B Minor, Op. 16, No. 3
8. Do You Remember the Evening, WoO, No. 8
9. Musical Moment in E Minor, Op. 16, No. 4
10. Brooding, Op. 8, No. 3
11. Musical Moment in B-flat Minor, Op. 16, No. 1
12. Oh, Do Not Grieve, Op. 14, No. 8

INTERMISSION

II. *Music of George Gershwin (1898–1937)*

1. Sweet and low down (1925)
2. Fascinating Rhythm (1924)
3. Looking for a Boy (1925)
4. Embraceable You (1930)
5. I Got Rhythm (1930)
6. Love Is Here to Stay (1928)
7. Swanee (1919)
8. That Certain Feeling (1925)
9. The Man I Love (1924)

Melanie Sonnenberg is well known for her versatility as an actress, as well as for her impressive vocal interpretations in a wide variety of styles, ranging from the *bel canto* coloratura repertoire to the mezzo-soprano heroines of Russian opera. She was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and undertook vocal and theatrical studies at the University of Minnesota. She has received grants from the William Matheus Sullivan Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation, among others. She has appeared with the New York City Opera as Kontchakova in Borodin's *Prince Igor*, as Marie de Pays in the American premiere of Jost Meier's *The Dreyfus Affair*, and in the "Live from Lincoln Center" telecast of *Cavalleria Rusticana* on PBS. She has sung with many opera companies across the United States, including the Dallas, Seattle, Washington, and Saint Louis operas. In Europe, Melanie Sonnenberg has appeared with the Hamburg Staatsoper (*Carmen*), the Teatro San Carlo in Lisbon (*L'italiana in Algeri*), and the opera festivals of Salzburg and Graz, Austria. At the invitation of Newport Festival director Mark P. Malkovich III, she has sung in many of that festival's last fifteen seasons. She recently performed and recorded on CD Brahms' *Alto Rhapsody* and Schubert's *Ständchen* with the Turtle Creek Chorale and the Fort Worth Symphony. Melanie Sonnenberg is under the personal management of Elly Miller, in association with Trawick Artists Management of New York City.

"**Eteri Andjaparidze**, an amazing pianist, sounds like she has either two extra fingers or wings attached to her digits" (*Seattle Weekly*). "Eteri Andjaparidze displayed total mastery of the keyboard, finesse of touch, and facility of movement which few pianists can match" (*The Times Herald-Record*, New York). These are two of the many accolades bestowed upon pianist Andjaparidze, whose repertoire embraces all genres of piano playing. Born into a family of prominent musicians in Tbilisi, the capital of the Republic of Georgia, she studied at the Moscow Conservatory under the guidance of Vera Gornostayeva, a student of the

legendary Heinrich Neuhaus. A winner of the Montreal and Tchaikovsky International Competitions and a People's Artist of the Republic of Georgia, Eteri Andjaparidze has appeared worldwide on the most prestigious concert series and international festivals as recitalist and guest soloist with major orchestras. Among the renowned conductors with whom she has performed are James DePriest, Vladimir Spivakov, and Yuri Temarkanov. Now a resident of New York City, she teaches at the State University of New York and gives master classes throughout the world. Her discography, which includes albums nominated for Grammy and Deutsche Schallplatten awards, is released on the Naxos, Marco Polo, and Melodiya labels.

All of the music by Sergei Rachmaninoff on tonight's program was created when the composer was still living in Russia. The songs of *Opus 4* and *Opus 8* were composed during the summer and fall of 1892, as was the song, *Do You Remember the Evening*, published without an opus number (WoO). Rachmaninoff chose poetry from various sources, including the German poets Heinrich Heine and Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, and Russians Tara Shevchenko, Yakov Polonski, Alexei Koltsov, and Lev Tolstoy.

The six pieces of *Moments musicaux (Musical Moments)*, *Op. 16*, were completed in 1896, the same year in which the *Opus 14* songs were written and a year in which Rachmaninoff was full of confidence and energy. As the last great exponent of Russian romanticism, Rachmaninoff imbued his music with an emotional quality that makes it irresistible to this day. Listeners rarely have the opportunity to hear direct comparisons between his piano and vocal music. Both were deeply influenced by the long, sinuous, and melancholic lines of Russian chant.

George Gershwin, who was born 102 years ago in Brooklyn to Russian Jewish immigrants, studied piano with the highly respected Australian pianist, teacher, and composer Ernest Hutcheson (1871–1951), who was living in America at the turn of the century. The rest of his formal music training consisted of three harmony lessons from Rubin Goldmark