

2013th Concert

June 16, 1991

ANNE KOSCIELNY, *pianist*

PROGRAM

Christoph Willibald Gluck..... Alceste
arr. Saint-Saëns

Franz Schubert Sonata in C Minor
(1797-1828) Opus posthumous (1828)
Adagio
Menuetto
Allegro

INTERMISSION
(*Twelve Minutes*)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart..... Sonata in B-flat Major, K. 570
(1756-1791) (1789)
Allegro
Adagio Allegretto

Maurice Ravel..... Le Tombeau de Couperin
(1875-1937) (1917)
Prelude
Forlane
Rigaudon
Minuet
Toccata

Tonight the National Gallery welcomes back as a returning pianist in its Fiftieth Anniversary series Washington's own Anne Koscielny. Winner of many awards and prizes, Ms. Koscielny studied for two years in Vienna on a Fulbright Scholarship, and received the Bachelor of Music With Distinction from the Eastman School of Music and a Master of Music degree from the

Manhattan School of Music. After a critically acclaimed debut in London in 1974, Anne Koscielny has continued an international career as concert pianist. She appears frequently in the Washington area, and has been presented frequently by the Washington performing Arts Society and the Phillips Gallery. At various times she has been both juror and performer at the Maryland International Piano Festival, and in the 1984-85 concert season she performed the complete cycle of thirty-two Beethoven Sonatas on the College Park campus and in Hartford, Connecticut.

The Music Teachers National Association has honored Anne Koscielny repeatedly by choosing her as convention pianist for six of its conventions, and her workshops and master classes have taken her to well over fifty college and university campuses. As an adjudicator, she has served repeatedly on the Fulbright Screening Committee and on the juries of the Maryland International, Gina Bachauer, and Young Keyboard Artists Association Competitions, as well as the juries for the National Symphony Orchestra Auditions and the Yale School of Music Doctoral Committee.

An active chamber musician, Ms. Koscielny was for twelve years artist-in-residence at the Taos, New Mexico, Summer School for Music. She has toured with the American, New Hungarian, Emerson and New World String Quartets, and was the official accompanist on an SS Rotterdam Concert Cruise that also included such outstanding artists as Henri Temianka, Ruggero Ricci, Jan Peerce, and Eleanor Steber. Ms. Koscielny has been professor of piano at the University of Maryland, College Park, since 1988.

Schubert's *Sonata in C Minor* was written during the last year of his life, when he was already quite ill. The sonata presents one exquisite melody after another, as though the composer sensed that he would not have many more opportunities to express himself in music. In spite of his frail condition, Schubert played this sonata and two others completed at nearly the same time at a house concert just one day after he had finished writing them. In spite of the fact that the three sonatas were the culmination of Schubert's work in this form, none of them was published until ten years after his death, and all three carry the designation *opus posthumous*.

Mozart's *Sonata in B-flat Major, K. 570*, is one of his many keyboard works that sound deceptively simple, but are actually very difficult to play well. The sonata is compact and simply constructed, and may have been intended for one of Mozart's students.

The fine craftsmanship of Ravel is fully apparent in his *Le tombeau de Couperin*. The composer proved himself a master pianist in creating this keyboard suite, only to outdo himself as a master orchestrator when he arranged the same suite for orchestra in 1919.