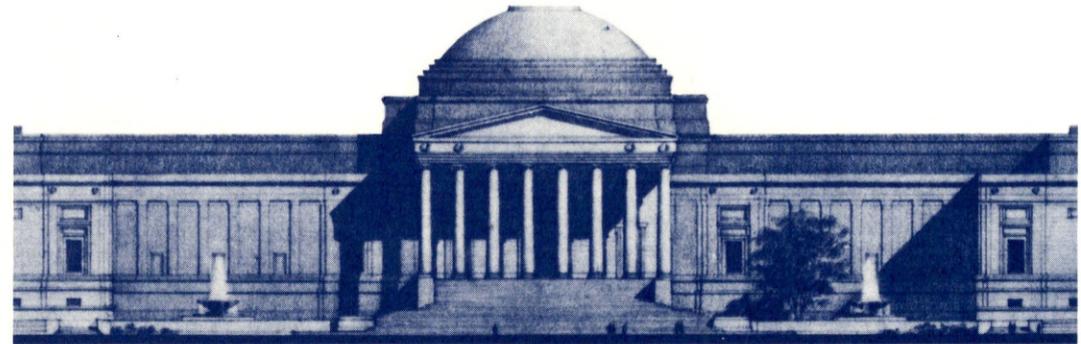


The Fifty-sixth Season of

THE WILLIAM NELSON CROMWELL and
F. LAMMOT BELIN CONCERTS

National Gallery of Art



Concerned that his second violin sonata might be too difficult to play, Schumann wrote to the renowned Hungarian violinist, Joseph Joachim (1831–1907): “You were often in my mind as I wrote it, and that encouraged me; tell me of anything in it you consider too difficult to play, for I have often given you unpalatable dishes, or at any rate mouthfuls. Strike out anything unplayable.” Of course, Joachim found no such difficulties. The influence of Beethoven’s *Kreutzer* sonata is evident particularly in the introduction to the first movement, marked *Ziemlich langsam* (rather slow), which proceeds to a faster section, marked *Lebhaft*. The second movement, *Sehr lebhaft* (very lively), gives the dominant role to the pianist. The third, *Leise, einfach* (quiet and simple), is presented in four variations, with the piano again providing the variety. The variations are based on the chorale, *Gelobet seist du, Jesu Christ* (Be Thou Praised, Jesus Christ). The fourth movement, *Bewegt* (moving), is breathless and passionate, as if in conflict. Only at the very end, with a return to the original key of D Major, does it finally change mood and bring the sonata to a triumphant conclusion.

-Program Notes by Elmer Booze

Concerts at The National Gallery of Art
Under the Direction of George Manos

April 1998

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|----|--|---|
| 5 | National Gallery Orchestra
George Manos, <i>conductor</i>
Jason Stearns, <i>baritone</i> | Chabrier: <i>Suite pastorale</i>
Debussy: <i>Trois ballades
de François
Villon</i>
Saint-Saëns: <i>Symphony No. 2</i> |
| 12 | No Concert | |
| 19 | Stefan Vladar, <i>pianist</i> | J. S. Bach: <i>Goldberg
Variations</i> |

*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 pm.*

2265th Concert

JEFFREY MULTER, *violinist*

JAMES TOCCO, *pianist*

Sunday Evening, March 29, 1998
at Seven O’Clock
West Building, West Garden Court

Admission Free

