

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Roy Barnett Recital Hall
Sunday, March 19th, 2023
5:00 p.m.

**DOCTORAL CHAMBER RECITAL
YANQING, ZHANG**

Time Pieces, Op. 43

Robert Muczynski
(1929-2010)

I. Allegro risoluto
II. Andante espressivo
III. Allegro moderato
IV. Andante molto

Kanade Tsurusawa, piano

Techno-Parade

Guillaume Connesson
(b.1970)

Siliang Wang, flute ; Yidie Hua, piano

- INTERMISSION -

Trio in A Minor, Op. 114

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

I. Allegro
II. Adagio
III. Andantino
IV. Allegro

Lyla Lee, cello ; Yidie Hua, piano

* In partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Doctorate of Musical Arts degree with a major in Clarinet Performance.

We acknowledge that the University of British Columbia is situated on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Musqueam people

Program note

Robert Muczynski: Time Pieces, Op. 43

Robert Muczynski (1929-2010) was an American composer and pianist known for blending neoclassical and jazz elements in his works. He wrote *Time Pieces, Op. 43* in 1975 as a tribute to the clarinet and to showcase its expressive capabilities. The four-movement work was commissioned by the International Clarinet Society and written for clarinetist Michelle Lurie.¹

This composition is a suite of four contrasting pieces, each highlighting some specific characteristic of the clarinet in terms of range, technical prowess, color, and expressiveness.² The first movement, titled "Allegro risoluto", is characterized by its driving rhythms and jazzy harmonies. The second movement, "Andante espressivo," is a lyrical and introspective piece that features a beautiful melody in the clarinet. The third movement, "Allegro moderato," is a playful and rhythmic scherzo. The final movement, "Lento molto," is a hauntingly beautiful piece that showcases the expressive capabilities of the clarinet.

Guillaume Connesson: Techno-Parade

Guillaume Connesson is a contemporary French composer born in 1970 known for his combination of traditional tonality and contemporary elements in his works. He has received many awards and commissions and has collaborated with prominent soloists. Connesson is also a respected music educator and has served as a professor of orchestration at the Paris Conservatory. His music is admired for its technical brilliance and emotional depth.³

Techno-Parade for flute, clarinet and piano, published by Gerard Billaudot, has a high-energy techno music style. The piece features driving repetitions and virtuosic riffs, unpredictable shifting meters, and occasional percussion breaks that create a disquieting character. The composer employs extended techniques and extreme ranges for the winds, creating a changing constellation of colors and textures. Despite its challenging nature, the music is compelling and engaging, drawing the listener toward increasing levels of participation.

¹Nathan Balester: "SPIRITED ABERRATIONS: SCHOLARLY PROGRAM NOTES FOR GRADUATE RECITAL." (Southern Illinois University Carbondale, 2018) p. 3

² Ibid.

³ Guillaume Connesson: "Techno-Parade" (Gerard Billaudot, 2002)

Johannes Brahms: Trio in A Minor, Op. 114

Brahms retired from composing in 1890 due to fatigue and declining physical strength, but a visit to Meiningen in 1891 led him to write his final four chamber works, all for the clarinet. Inspired by the artistry of clarinetist Richard Muhlfeld, Brahms wrote two works for him that summer, the Clarinet Trio in A Minor and the Clarinet Quintet in B Minor. These works were so successful that Brahms later wrote two more pieces for Muhlfeld. ⁴

The first movement (Allegro) is in sonata form and is in 4/4 time. The second movement (Adagio) is in a 3-part form and is in 2/4 time. The third movement (Andantino grazioso) is a Menuet, trio and da capo and is in 3/4 time. The fourth movement (Allegro) is a theme and variations and is in 2/4 and 6/8 time, with the time signature alternating frequently between the two.

⁴ G. Toenes: 'Richard Muehlfeld', *The Clarinet*, No. 23 (1956), pp. 22-25