

Pittsburg State University
Pittsburg, Kansas

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

GRADUATE RECITAL

Catalin Lari, Viola
Zia Ryu, Piano

Thursday, March 31, 2005
McCray Recital Hall
7:30 p.m.

PROGRAM

Viola Concerto No. 1 in D major.....C. P. Stamitz (1745–1801)
Allegro (first movement)

The Unaccompanied Suite No. 5 in C minor, BWV 1011.....J. S. Bach (1685–1750)
Prelude
Allemande
Courante
Sarabande
Gavotte I
Gavotte II
Gigue

INTERMISSION

Sonata for Viola and Piano Op. 147.....D. Shostakovich (1906–1975)
Moderato
Allegretto
Adagio

*This recital partially fulfills performance requirements for the
Master of Music Performance degree program for Mr. Lari.*

Program Notes
Catalin Lari

Carl Phillip Stamitz (1745–1801), the leading composer of the second generation of Mannheim, left an important legacy to the viola players. He composed three viola d'amore concertos and three viola concertos. From the concertos for viola only two concertos survived, one in D major and the other in A major, both with orchestral accompaniment.

The Viola Concerto No. 1 in D major is considered today one of Carl's best known concertos and one of the most played viola concertos in the repertoire. The first edition of this piece was published by Francois-Joseph Heina in Paris, 1773–1774. This concerto is considered one of the best instrumental concertos of that time and influenced later the well-known classic composers Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven.

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750) is one of the most important and influential composers in the entire history of music. He composed all genres of music except opera. Concerning the works for strings, Bach wrote six sonatas and partitas for violin solo and six suites for violoncello solo.

The six suites for violoncello solo were composed in Cothen in 1717–1723. These suites are consisted from dances, except the first movement Prelude, which is an introductory movement. Each suite has six movements: Prelude, Allemande, Courante, Sarabande, a pair of Gavotte, Menuets or Bourees, and Gigue. Also, each suite is written in a different key, Bach being an maestro in emphasizing the tonal qualities and harmonies of every single key, as proved in the twenty-four preludes and fugues of *The Well Tempered Klavier*.

The fifth suite for violoncello solo is written in the key of C minor. The dances of the suite are contrasting in tempo, meter and character, but all have the same structure. Each movement has two sections and both of them are repeated.

Bach's solo suites were transposed later for viola, and are regarded as masterpieces of the classical repertoire and a challenge for every viola player because of their complexity not only in technique but also in interpretation.

Dmitri Shostakovich (1906–1975) composed the Sonata for Viola and Piano Op. 147 during his last months of life. The composer decided to make use of some thematic material from his unfinished opera *The Gamblers*, written in 1941–1942. Shostakovich

dedicated his last work to Fjodor Drushinin (b. 1934), viola player, composer and a member of the Beethoven String Quartet.

Drushinin, along with his friend pianist Mikhail Muntian, gave the first performance of the sonata at the apartment of Shostakovich on 26 September 1975. This date would have been the composer's sixty-ninth birthday, but unfortunately he died in Moscow on 9 August 1975. The official premiere of this piece took place in Leningrad on 1 October 1975 at the Glinka Hall.
