

STUDENT RECITAL

Oskar Kaut, *cello*
Hugo Kaut, *violin*
Calvin Kotrba, *piano*

Sunday, April 16th, at 7:30 PM

Recital Hall

PROGRAM

Suite for Cello Solo

Gaspar Cassadó
(1897–1966)

- I. Preludio-Fantasia*
- II. Sardana (danza)*
- III. Intermezzo e danza finale*

Grand Duo Brillant for Violin and Cello, Op. 12

Friedrich Hermann
(1828–1907)

- I. Allegro con fuoco*
- II. Adagio*
- III. Allegro moderato*

INTERMISSION

Cello Sonata, Op. 119

Sergey Prokofiev
(1891–1953)

- I. Andante grave*
- II. Moderato*
- III. Allegro ma non troppo*

PROGRAM NOTES

Gaspar Cassadó's Suite for Cello Solo is a three-movement work showcasing the cello's virtuosic capabilities and rich sonorities. The first movement, *Preludio-Fantasia*, gradually builds in intensity, incorporating Spanish folk music and demanding technical feats. The second movement, *Sardana (danza)*, pays homage to the traditional Catalan dance with lively rhythms and a bright, joyful tone. The Suite concludes with *Intermezzo e danza finale*, a dramatic and technically challenging finale that builds to a climax of virtuosic arpeggios and double stops. Throughout the Suite, Cassadó's writing for the cello is masterful, making full use of the instrument's expressive range and technical capabilities. With its combination of traditional and innovative elements, the Suite for Cello Solo is a compelling showcase for the solo cello and a beloved work in the solo cello repertoire.

Friedrich Hermann's Grand Duo Brillant for Violin and Cello, Op. 12 is a charming three-movement work that highlights the individual and combined abilities of both instruments whilst also showcasing the unique chemistry of the violin-cello duo. Throughout the Grand Duo Brillant, Hermann's writing for the violin and cello is both technically demanding and musically rewarding. The first movement, *Allegro con fuoco*, features thrilling passagework and leaps, while the *Adagio* showcases a lyrical theme with variations. The finale, *Allegro moderato*, features the violin and cello trading virtuosic solos over a pulsating accompaniment featuring elements of Hungarian folk music. With its blend of classical elegance and folk-inspired energy, the Grand Duo Brillant remains a beloved work in the chamber music repertoire and a testament to the enduring appeal of the violin-cello duo.

Sergey Prokofiev's Cello Sonata, Op. 119 is a dramatic and expressive work for cello and piano. The somber opening movement, *Andante grave*, opens with an introspective theme played by the cello before presenting sudden shifts and clashes, creating an atmosphere of tension and unease. The second movement, *Moderato*, is a playful scherzo that engages the cello and piano in a lively dialogue, trading off melodic and rhythmic passages. The finale, *Allegro ma non troppo*, is marked by dramaticism and turbulence meant to explore the full range of the cello's expressive capabilities before building to a powerful climax. Throughout the work, Prokofiev's innovative approach to harmony and melody creates an atmosphere of tension and unease, making this sonata a challenging and rewarding work for both performers and listeners.