

PROGRAM NOTES

Bach’s music has been with me since I was five years old, speaking to me with joy and clarity and remaining a trusted companion through the years. The works I present tonight are chosen to reveal the meeting of reason and emotion, of the human and the divine, that makes his music timeless. I hope these pieces will move you as deeply as they have moved me, and that their beauty will speak to you in a personal way.

Capriccio sopra la lontananza del suo fratello dilettissimo, BWV 992

(Capriccio on the Departure of a Beloved Brother)

Written when Bach was about nineteen, this work is unique as his only keyboard composition with explicit programmatic titles. Each movement portrays a stage in the farewell to a beloved brother.

The opening Arioso is filled with sigh-like ornamentation, echoing the friends’ persuasion not to depart. The following Andante becomes restless, suggesting the dangers and uncertainties of travel. A poignant lament follows, then a bittersweet farewell. The Aria del Postiglione depicts the postilion’s cheerful call, and the closing fugue imitates the horn of the departing carriage.

Blending imagination, humor, and pathos, this youthful Capriccio offers a rare glimpse of Bach’s “programme music” and his deeply human side.

Overture in the French Style in B minor, BWV 831

Published in 1735 as part of Clavier-Übung II, this monumental suite shows Bach’s assimilation of the French style. The grand overture, with its dotted rhythms and contrapuntal brilliance, leads into a rich sequence of dances combining elegance with invention. The concluding Echo provides playful contrasts, leaving an impression of both sophistication and delight.

Harpsichord Concerto in G minor, BWV 1058

This concerto is a transcription of Bach’s Violin Concerto in A minor, BWV 1041, adapted for harpsichord. The opening Allegro brims with drive and intensity, while the central Andante unfolds as a lyrical aria of touching simplicity. The finale Allegro assai adds brilliance and momentum, balancing energy with elegance.

Harpsichord Concerto in E major, BWV 1053

This concerto is closely connected to Bach’s church cantatas. The first and second movements are reworkings from Cantata BWV 169, “Gott soll allein mein Herze haben” (My heart shall belong to God alone), while the final movement comes from Cantata BWV 49, “Ich geh und suche mit Verlangen” (I go and seek with longing). The opening Allegro is joyful and expansive, the central Siciliano unfolds as a tender aria of lyrical beauty, and the final Allegro radiates brilliance. With its cantata origins and expressive depth, BWV 1053 bridges Bach’s sacred and secular worlds.

Kaiwei Li

DKDM.DK

KAIWEI LI

29. oktober 2025
Kl. 19.30

Konservatoriets Koncertsal
Julius Thomsens Gade 1

KLAVER

DEBUTKONCERT



DET KONGELIGE DANSKE
MUSIKKONSERVATORIUM

Gratis adgang

dkdm.dk

KAIWEI LI

Born in Xiamen, China in 1998, pianist Kaiwei Li is currently pursuing the Advanced Postgraduate Diploma (Soloist) at the Royal Danish Academy of Music in Copenhagen, where she also obtained her Master’s degree, both under Professor Niklas Sivelöv. She previously completed her Bachelor’s studies at the China Conservatory of Music in Beijing with Professor Shu Yang, and was privately mentored for many years by pianist Siheng Song. She has also received guidance from internationally renowned musicians, importantly from Davide Cabassi, as well as Kalle Randalu, Yuan Sheng, Sa Chen, Jerome Lowenthal, Albert Tiu, Robin McCabe, Antonio Pompa-Baldi, Jeremy Denk, Weiyi Yang, among others.

Kaiwei has distinguished herself in international competitions. She won the Gold Medal at the Beijing Piano Music Festival, Youth Group (2017), the First Prize at the Hong Kong International Piano Open Competition (2017, Bach Advanced Class and Rachmaninoff Class), the First Prize at the Seoul Summer Festival Competition (2020), as well as the 2nd Prize and Special Award for the Best Interpretation of a Swedish Work at the Gothenburg International Piano Competition.

As a soloist, she has collaborated with the Royal Danish Academy of Music Orchestra in Ravel’s Piano Concerto in G major and with the China Conservatory Symphony Orchestra in the Yellow River Piano Concerto. She has toured widely across China, giving a Baroque-themed recital tour in Beijing, Shanghai, and Guangzhou, and performed in Xiamen, Shenzhen, and Guiyang. She has also appeared widely in Europe, performing in Brescia, Bergen op Zoom, Savonlinna, Gothenburg, Saarbrücken, and Cagnes-sur-Mer.

PROGRAM

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH (1685–1750)

Capriccio sopra la lontananza del suo fratello dilettissimo, BWV 992
(Capriccio on the Departure of a Beloved Brother)

Arioso. Adagio
ist eine Schmeichelung der Freunde, um denselben von seiner Reise abzuhalten
(a flattering persuasion of the friends, trying to dissuade him from his journey)
Andante
ist eine Vorstellung unterschiedlicher Casuum, die ihm in der Fremde könnten vor-
fallen (a depiction of the various misfortunes that could happen to him abroad)
Adagiosissimo
ist ein allgemeines Lamento der Freunde (a general lament of the friends)
Andante con moto
Allhier kommen die Freunde, weil die doch sehen, daß es anders nicht sein
kann, und nehmen Abschied
(here the friends, seeing that it cannot be otherwise, come to bid farewell)
Allegro poco. Aria del Postiglione
(Aria of the postilion)
Fuga all’imitatione della posta
(Fugue in imitation of the post horn)

Overture in the French Style in B minor, BWV 831
(Ouvertüre nach französischer Art)

Ouverture
Courante
Gavotte I – Gavotte II – Gavotte I da capo
Passepied I – Passepied II – Passepied I da capo
Sarabande
Bourrée I – Bourrée II – Bourrée I da capo
Gigue
Echo

INTERMISSION (20 minutes)

Harpsichord Concerto in G minor, BWV 1058

Allegro
Andante
Allegro assai

Harpsichord Concerto in E major, BWV 1053

Allegro
Siciliano
Allegro

RDAM Chamber Orchestra
Conductor: Stanisław Niedźwiedz

Violin 1
Raven Mischke
Marcelina Sztekmler
Tilda Suntian Shen
Hoi Khai-Weing

Cello
Jia Gao
Ziqing Lin
Helena Iglesias Kołodyńska

Double Bass
Viggo Birk Lindqvist Buttenschøn

Violin 2
Mélody Lagache
Marcjanna Derentowicz
Nicole Bronder

Viola
Njord Kårasen Fossnes
Iván Azúl Sanchez Bengtsson
Bengt Gilbert
Julia Reparip