

The Light Millennium and the College of Arts and Letters at the Stevens Institute of Technology

presents

A Lecture-Concert by Dr. Aysegul Durakoglu

“Ataturk: Creating a Universal Language in Turkish Musical Culture”

Impressions (1937)

Game-Don't Cry Beloved-Game-Little Shepherd-Zeybek (Aegean Dance)

Ulvi Cemal ERKIN (1906-1972)

“Demet” Suite for Piano and Violin

Prelude and Horon (Male Dance from Black Sea region)

Ahmed Adnan SAYGUN (1907-1991)

Four Compositions from “Anatolian Folk Songs”

Sari Zeybek (The Blond Zeybek) and Dance

Cemal Resid REY (1904-1985)

Pianist **Aysegul Durakoglu** has concertized as soloist and chamber musician nationally and internationally and has been featured in various festivals, radio and television programs in the United States, Europe, Russia, and her native country Turkey. She received her Master's from the Juilliard School and a Ph.D. degree with notable distinction at the New York University where she also served on the piano faculty. She has been currently serving on the full-time faculty of the Music and Technology Division at Stevens. Most recently, she released an album of Debussy's Twelve Piano Etudes; presented a chamber music performance with her ensemble Musica Mundana in the Allen Room of the Jazz at Lincoln Center, and a Sephardic-Turkish Music program in Washington DC.

Violinist **Yigit Karatas** was born in Mersin and started studying violin at the age of 11 at Mersin State Conservatory with Alper Özcan. He was awarded the First Prize of the 4th National Gulden Turali Violin Competition. He participated in the Keshet Eilon Violin Festival and Eilat Festival in Israel. Karatas studied with well-known soloists such as Cihat Askin, Shlomo Mintz, Hagai Shaham, Chloë Hanslip, Haim Taub, Itzhak Rashkovsky, and Albert Markov. He performed Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto with the Presidential Symphony Orchestra in Ankara, and Mendelssohn's E Minor Violin Concerto three times at the International Belfort Music Festival.

Ulvi Cemal Erkin studied at the Paris Conservatory and Ecole Normale de Musique with Isidor Philipp and Nadia Boulanger. He returned to Turkey and was appointed as the head of the piano department at the Ankara Conservatory and awarded the title of State Artist. As a piano virtuoso himself, he composed a great deal of piano music. Impressions represent the early stages of Erkin's music where the elements of Turkish folk dances, modes, and mystical Rumi philosophy were drawn.

Cemal Resid Rey is known as an educator, pianist, and the founder of Istanbul State Symphony Orchestra. In 1920, he went to Paris to study piano with Marguerite Long, and composition with Gabriel Faure. Moving back to Turkey, he continuously taught at the Istanbul Conservatory. His early music carries the elements of Turkish folk songs in polyphonic character. Later, he wrote large scale and orchestral works employing elements of Islamic philosophy.

Ahmed Adnan Saygun is a pioneer in Turkish musical life, and instructor and ethnomusicologist. He studied in Paris with Borrel and Vincent d'Indy. Returning home in 1931, he was appointed to teach at the Ankara Conservatory and conduct the Presidential Orchestra. In the same year, Bela Bratok visited and joined him in a tour of Anatolia to collect folk songs. He won numerous awards including the Schiller medal by Germany, Palmes Academique Medal by France, Jean Sibelius Competition Award, Pro-Cultura Hungarica Prize from the Hungarian Government. His aim as a composer was to achieve an international outlook in Turkish music without breaking away from its roots

April 20, 2013