A Concert in Memory of Henry Meyer

Yehonatan Berick, violin
Lee Fiser, cello
James Tocco, piano
Amernet String Quartet
  Misha Vitenson, violin
  Marcia Littley de Arias, violin
  Michael Klotz, viola
  Javier Arias, cello

Tuesday, January 30, 2007
Robert J. Werner Recital Hall
8:00 p.m.
PROGRAM

Adagio (Notturno) in E, Major for violin, cello and piano, D. 897  
Franz Schubert  
(1797-1828)  
Yehonatan Berick, violin; Lee Fiser, cello;  
James Tocco, piano

String Quartet in D Major, K. 575  
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
(1756-1791)  
I. Allegretto  
II. Andante  
III. Menuetto—Trio  
IV. Allegretto  
The Amernet String Quartet

Remarks by Dean Douglas Lowry

from String Quartet in B, Major, Op. 130  
Ludwig van Beethoven  
(1770-1827)  
Cavatina. Adagio molto espressivo  
The LaSalle Quartet  
Recorded December 1972

–INTERMISSION–

Quintet in F Minor for piano and strings, Op. 34  
Johannes Brahms  
(1833-1897)  
I. Allegro non troppo  
II. Andante, un poco adagio  
III. Scherzo: Allegro  
IV. Finale: Poco sostenuto – Allegro non troppo – Presto, non troppo  
The Amernet String Quartet and James Tocco, piano

Henry Wolfgang Meyer  
1923 – 2006

Musician, teacher, mentor, teller of jokes, gourmand, bon vivant, car enthusiast, lover of children and gadgets, friend to many, friend of many, an inspiration – a survivor of Nazi concentration camps. These and many other words describe Henry Meyer, a man of many parts. His story has been told and written numerous times. Born in Dresden, Germany in 1923 he studied violin from an early age and gained a reputation as a child prodigy. The rise of the Nazis put an end to his musical and academic studies and after a period of forced conscript labor, he was sent to Auschwitz / Birkenau where he became a member of the prisoner music band. Because of this and through a series of miraculous events, he survived the horrors of the concentration camps to arrive in the United States by way of Paris. After only a few months, he was accepted by Juilliard and introduced to Walter Levin (by Walter’s future wife, Evi) and shortly after became the second violinist of the LaSalle Quartet while remaining a student of Ivan Galamian and of Bobby Mann of the Juilliard Quartet. Thus began a life-long career as a chamber music player and teacher which brought him to the College-Conservatory of Music and Cincinnati, his home for 53 years. Any single event in his life would have been noteworthy, amazing or admirable. But Henry’s entire life was a succession of noteworthy, amazing and admirable occurrences. He described himself as “lucky” but his luck was that of the persistent, the single-minded, the one who would not acknowledge failure. Having lost his family in the war, he put together a family of friends from all over the world. The music he loved and the friends he loved – that is his legacy. Henry, we will not forget your lessons.

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