

About The Performer

Eriko Miyagawa born in Japan in 1994. She graduated from Aoyama Gakuin University with major in Management in Japan, Tokyo.

At the age of 4, she started to learn violin. She performed with Tokyo Symphony Orchestra in The 12th Kodomo concert, received Gold Prize in The 3rd Legacy violin competition. She was a finalist in The 15th Osaka International competition Age-G section. She also participated in International Holland music session, performed in concert in 2019. In the same year, participated in Chofu International Music festival. She learned with Prof. Takashi Shimizu (The professor at Tokyo University of Arts) Yasuko Otani (Concertmistress in Tokyo Symphony Orchestra) and currently study with Prof. Qian Zhou in Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, National University of Singapore.

Programme Notes

EUGÈNE YSAÿE Solo Sonata no.6

Eugéne Ysaÿe is a Belgian composer, born in 1858. He was known as a great violinist but also as a conductor. His works and playing are technical and brilliant which are influenced by his teachers, Henri Vieutemps and Henryk Wieniawski. Ysaÿe composed 6 sonatas in 1923-1924, and each of the pieces are dedicated to 6 violinists who are close to Ysaÿe.

No.6 is dedicated for Manuel Quiriga who is a Spanish violinist. Start with Allegro giusto non troppo vivo in A major. Originally Ysaÿe got an inspiration by J.S Bach Solo Sonata, but in no.6, we barely find one of the features of his composition, counterpoint. This piece shows more like free, virtuoso, and habanera which is a Spanish rhythm. Technically this piece has a lot of virtuoso passages which are extremely challenging for all of the violinists but not only the difficulties, all of the passages are very lyrical. This piece is famous for one of the hardest pieces for violin so is used as a required piece for Queen Elizabeth International Music Competition of Belgium.

CAMILLE SAINT-SAËNSIntroduction and Rondo Capriccioso

Camile Saint-Saens is a French composer born in 1835. He was known as a pianist and organist. His composition is classical style because he was influenced by W.A Mozart and Hayden.

This piece is dedicated to Pablo Sarasate who is a brilliant Spanish violinist. Originally this is composed as a finale of violin concerto no.1 in 1863 and premiere was performed by Sarasate with Saint-saens conducting. Start with Andante malinconico slow melody, and dramatic Rondo comes after that section. Mostly the mood of the piece is very Spanish because it dedicated to Sarasate, so the music is brilliant and passionate. This is one of the famous compositions and loved by a lot of people.

CÉSAR FRANCK Violin Sonata

Franck is a Belgian composer born in 1822, who spent most of his lifetime in France. He was active as an organ player so the texture of his composition is very heavy and thick because of the harmony. He composed this sonata when he became 63 years old and this is the first violin sonata of his work. It was dedicated to Eugene Ysaÿe, and sent him as a wedding gift. Besides of lyrical and sweet melody, the feature of this piece is treating accompaniment as a second main line. He did not compose just an accompaniment but it has a huge role as same as violin part.

1st movement: Start with Allegretto ben moderato in G major. It has a

gentle and sweet theme, mainly is leaded by piano.

2nd movement: Start with Allegro in d minor. The theme is extremely

passionate and it also required a lot of technique.

3rd movement: Recitativo-Fantasia (ben moderato). There is no

determined form in this movement and the mood of this

is fantasy and dramatic.

4th movement: Start with Allegretto poco mosso in A major. The main

melody is in canonic imitation between violin and piano, and repeat in a rondo-like form with heavenly beautiful

melody.

Programme notes by Eriko Miyagawa.