

The Masters Series Concerts (2011-12)

Sundays* at 3:00pm, at Studio Hollywood (*unless otherwise noted)

Programs, Notes & Seating charts for reservations available at: www.studio-hollywood.com

Alan Murray, piano

Program	Date
Chopin – The Piano Music	
the Etudes (& sel. Nocturnes & Mazurkas)	Oct 2 the Scherzos “ Oct 30
the Preludes “ “	Oct 9 the Sonatas “ Nov 6
the Polonaises “ “	Oct 16 the Impromptus “ Nov 19 *
the Ballades “ “	Oct 23 the Waltzes “ Dec 3 *
Introduction & Rondo, Fantasy, Berceuse, Barcarolle, Andante Spianato & Grande Polonaise Dec 17 *	
Schumann – The Piano Music	
Fantasy, Arabeske, Carnaval	Nov 13
Kreisleriana, Toccata, Blumenstück, Symphonic Etudes	Nov 20
Faschingsschwank aus Wien (Carnival of Vienna), Kinderszenen (Scenes fr Childhood), Romances	Nov 27
Sonata #1 in F-sharp minor, Novellette #1, Davidsbündlertänze	Dec 4
Sonata #2 in G minor, Waldszenen, Papillons (“Butterflies”), Humoreske	Dec 11
Sonata #3 in F minor (“Concerto w/o Orchestra”), Fantasiestücke, Gesänge der Frühe, Novellette #2	Dec 18
The French & Spanish Masters	
Ravel – The Piano Music	
Gaspard de la Nuit, Jeux d’eau, Sonatine, Pavane, Valses Nobles et Sentimentales, ...	Jan 8
Le Tombeau de Couperin, Sérénade Grottesque, Menuet-Haydn, Menuet Antique, Miroirs, ...	Jan 15
Debussy – The Piano Music	
the Etudes, l’Isle joyeuse, Estampes, ...	Jan 22
the Preludes (Books I & II)	Feb 5
Images, Children’s Corner, Suite Bergamasque, Pour le Piano, Arabesques, Danse, Masques, ...	Feb 12
Granados – Goyescas , El Pelele	Albéniz – Iberia , Navarra Mar 11 & Apr 1
Beethoven – The 32 Sonatas & Diabelli Variations (1wk Series; M-F at 8:00pm; S/S at 3:00)	
(1) Sonatas #1-4 Mar 18	(5) Sonatas #22-26 (d) Mar 22
(2) Sonatas #5-10 (a) Mar 19	(6) Sonatas #27-29 (e) Mar 23
(3) Sonatas #11-15 (b) Mar 20	(7) Sonatas #30-32 Mar 24
(4) Sonatas #16-21 (c) Mar 21	(8) Diabelli Variations Mar 25
a) ‘Pathétique’ b) ‘Moonlight’, ‘Pastorale’ c) ‘Tempest’, ‘Waldstein’ d) ‘Appassionata’, ‘Les Adieux’ e) ‘Hammerklavier’	
J.S. Bach – The Keyboard Music (1-week Series, Apr 7-14; Mon-Fri at 8:00pm; Sat/Sun at 3:00pm)	
(1) Chromatic Fantasy/Ital. Concerto/Inventions Apr 7	(5) Engl & French Sts, Partita #4/WTC25-32 Apr 11
(2) Engl & French Suites & Partita #1/WTC1-8 Apr 8	(6) Engl & French Sts & Partita #5/WTC33-40 Apr 12
(3) Engl & French Suites & Partita #2/WTC9-16 Apr 9	(7) Engl & French Sts & Partita #6/WTC41-48 Apr 13
(4) Engl & French Suites & Partita #3/WTC17-24 Apr 10	(8) The Goldberg Variations Apr 14
Brahms, Schubert & Liszt – The Major Works	
Brahms – Handel Variations & Fugue, Paganini Variations / Schubert – Sonata in A minor (D845)	Apr 22
Brahms – Sonata No. 3 in F minor / Schubert – Sonata in G, «Wanderer» Fantasy	Apr 29
Schubert – The Late Piano Sonatas: in C minor, A major, B-flat major (Op. Posth.)	May 6
Liszt – Sonata in B minor, S. del Petrarca, Vallée d’Obermann, Mephisto Waltz, Au bord d’une source	May 13
The Transcendental Etudes, Après une lecture de Dante, Hungarian & Spanish Rhapsodies, ...	May 20
The Russian & Eastern European Masters – The Major Works	
Rachmaninoff – the Preludes	May 27
Rachmaninoff – the Etudes-Tableaux & Moments Musicaux / Balakirev – Islamey	Jun 3
Rachmaninoff – the Sonatas (No. 1 in D minor; No. 2 in B-flat minor) / Szymanowski – Metopes	Jun 10
Prokofiev – Sonata No. 6 / Scriabin – Sonata No. 2 / Berg – Sonata / Janacek – Sonata 1X1905	Jun 17
Prokofiev – Sonata No. 7 / Scriabin – Sonata Nos 4&5 / Medtner – Sonata / Stravinsky – Petrouchka	Jun 30 *
Prokofiev – Sonata No. 8 / Mussorgsky – Pictures at an Exhibition / Bartók – Out of Doors	Jun 24
American Masterpieces	
Gershwin Rhapsody in Blue, Barber Sonata, ... - Jul 1	Jul 1 & 8
Works by Ives , Copland , Carter , Bolcom , others - Jul 8	

The Masters Series Concerts (2011/12)

at Studio Hollywood, Hastings-on-Hudson

Sunday, March 11, 2012 at 3:00pm

The Spanish Masterpieces

Enrique Granados – GOYESCAS

No. 1 - Los Requeiebros

No. 2 - Coloquio en la Reja

No. 3 - El Fandango de Candil

No. 4 - Quejas, o la Maja y el Ruiseñor

No. 5 - El Amor y la Muerte

No. 6 - Epílogo: Serenata del Espectro

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El Pelele

Alan Murray, piano

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The **Masters Series Concerts (2011-12)** comprise a series of approximately 50 mostly Sunday afternoon programs at *Studio Hollywood* (www.studio-hollywood.com), spanning the cycles of piano music of most of the great composers for the instrument, from Bach and the Classical and Romantic masters, to great composers of the 20th Century. The programs are intended to provide guests with 1-2 hours of quality weekly listening in a contemplative setting, surrounded by the natural beauty that is visible from the recital hall. The performances are intended to be informal but well-prepared offerings, as an interim step toward full concert preparation.

Enrique Granados: GOYESCAS

Enrique Granados y Campiña (27 July 1867 – 24 March 1916) was a Catalan pianist and also a talented painter in the style of Francisco Goya. He was born in Lérida. As a young man he studied piano in Barcelona and in 1887 he went to Paris to study. He was unable to become a student at the Paris Conservatoire but was able to take private lessons with a conservatoire professor, Bériot, whose mother was a famed soprano of Spanish ancestry. Bériot insisted on extreme refinement in tone production, which strongly influenced Granados' own teaching of pedal technique. He also fostered Granados' abilities in improvisation. Just as important were his studies with Felipe Pedrell, with whom Isaac Albeniz also studied. He returned to Barcelona in 1889. His first successes were at the end of the 1890s, with *zarzuela Maria del Carmen*, which earned the attention of King Alfonso XIII.



In 1911 Granados premiered his suite for piano **Goyescas**, which became his most famous work, and earned him the *Legion d'honneur* from the French government, much as Isaac Albeniz would earn the same award just a few years earlier for his *Iberia* suite. It is a set of six pieces based on paintings of Fernando Goya. Such was the success of this work that he was encouraged to expand it; he wrote an opera based on the subject in 1914, but the outbreak of World War I forced the European premiere to be canceled. It was performed for the first time in New York City on 28 January 1916, and was very well received. Shortly afterwards, he was invited to perform a piano recital for President Woodrow Wilson. Prior to leaving New York, Granados also made live-recorded player piano music rolls for the New-York-based Aeolian Company's "Duo-Art" system, all of which survive today, his very

last recordings. The delay incurred by accepting the recital invitation caused him to miss his boat back to Spain. Instead, he took a ship to England, where he boarded the passenger ferry *Sussex* for France. On the way across the English Channel, the *Sussex* was torpedoed by a German U-boat. In a failed attempt to save his wife Amparo, whom he saw flailing about in the water some distance away, Granados jumped out of his lifeboat and drowned. Ironically, he had a morbid fear of water for his entire life, and he was returning from his first-ever series of ocean voyages. Ironically too, the ship broke in two parts and only one sank (along with 80 passengers); the other part of the ship where his cabin was did not sink and was towed to port, with most of the passengers on board.

Goyescas consists of six selections, subtitled "**Los majos enamorados**" (Gallants in love). The first piece, **Los Requebro**s (flattery), signifies a charming form of gallant conduct in which the lover praises the grace and beauty of his beloved in a whisper, the aim being not conquest but rather affirmation of mutual love. **Coloquio en la Reja** (Conversation at the window) is again of an intimately amorous nature, while the evocative **El Fandango de Candil** (Fandango by Candlelight) epitomizes the grace and high spirits of this dance. A folk melody, intelligently re-worked, is the foundation of the very beautiful **Quejas, o La Maja y el Ruiseñor** (Laments, or the Beauty and the Nightingale), for which Granados has woven a harmonic robe of indefinable subtlety and vibrant color. Dedicated to his wife Amparo, the profoundly introspective quality of this section makes it the outstanding piece in the collection, and also one of the most important piano works of the century. **El Amor y La Muerte** (Love and Death), is the most improvisatory of the set, and is pervaded by a feeling of intense sorrow and musically harking back to the earlier pieces. Reminiscence is present, too, in the final **Epilogo, o Serenata del Espectro** (Epilogue, or the Phantom's Serenade), in which an elaborated quotation from the *Dies Irae* is embedded. **Pelele** (*The Straw Man*), subtitled *Escena Goyesca* (*Goyesque Scene*), is usually programmed as an encore to the *Goyescas* suite.

(Notes by Wikipedia and Decca/London: 448-191-2)

Alan Murray has appeared as a concerto soloist with orchestras in Westchester and in solo and chamber music recitals. He holds a degree in physics and languages from Cornell, where he also received a special University award for distinguished piano soloist. The **Masters Series Concerts** represent a continuation of the **Sunrise Music Series** programs, incepted in the Sept 2010–June 2011 season. In addition to this year's *Masters Series*, Alan continues the *Sunrise Series* programs Sundays at 8:30am, with the 2011-12 series devoted to the cycle of keyboard music of J.S. Bach, which also appears in this year's *Masters Series* in April. The 2010-11 *Sunrise Series* was the subject of a Nov/2010 feature article in *The Rivertown's Enterprise*. His future plans include performances of the *Masters Series* at universities and other cultural centers here and abroad in the coming years. A specialist in the Financial Institutions capital markets group at Moody's, where he focuses on U.S., major Latin American and worldwide developing markets, Alan also provides music at the early Sunday morning services of the First Unitarian Society of Westchester, where he enjoys blending classical music with diverse world musical traditions. Alan resides in Hastings with his wife Amada and daughter Celia, where they also own and operate *Galápagos Books*, focused on world languages, children's and general-interest books, local authors, and educational materials.