WYNONA WANG, piano
Winner, 2018 Concert Artists Guild Competition

Motionless Figures

Rachmaninoff: Etudes-Tableaux, Op. 39
Intermission
Rachmaninoff: Sonata No. 1 in D minor, Op. 28

Motionless Figures is a program that celebrates Rachmaninoff’s 150th anniversary. Etudes-Tableaux Op. 39 were composed during the peak of his career as a composer, and the pieces were the last works he composed on Russian soil before he moved to the US. Each of the etudes depicts a picture as its title suggests. The Sonata No. 1 in D minor, one of his most special piano compositions, is sometimes unfairly underestimated – unlike the typical “Rachmaninoff sweep,” this sonata is composed in a programmatic manner inspired by Faust.

Jasmine and Bridges

Wanghua Chu: Jasmine Flower Fantasia
Rachmaninoff: Daisies and Lilacs
Schumann: Kinderszenen, Op. 15
Zhang Zhao: Pi Huang
Intermission
Janáček: Sonata 1. X. 1905
Chen Yi: Ba Ban
Griffes: Piano Sonata, A. 85

From the Artist: Once after playing a concert in California, I was asked by an audience member whether I felt resentful at playing western music as a Chinese pianist. Though the question was uncomfortable, it came with good intentions and made me ponder long and deeply on my way back to New York City. I asked myself the question “how is ‘western music’ defined?” Yes, most
composers' works I have played are from western countries, and they belong to a western culture. However, each composer has a unique personality and story to tell. In terms of human nature and the universal value in music, there should be no limit or boundary between western and non-western composers or music.

**Baroque Reflection**

A selection of Couperin keyboard works
Ravel: Le Tombeau de Couperin
Intermission
Brahms: Variations and Fugue on a Theme by Handel, Op. 24