

Cortona Contemporary Music Festival

Domenica, 16 Luglio 2006, 21:00

Nathanael May, pianoforte solista

PROGRAM

Scott BRICKMAN	Sonata (2006) †
Toru TAKEMITSU	Pause Ininterrompue (1952/9) <i>I. Slowly, sadly and as if to converse with</i> <i>II. Quietly and with a cruel reverberation</i> <i>III. A Song of Love</i>
Brian HULSE	In a Pinch (2004) *
Aaron COPLAND	Piano Variations (1930)

† denotes world premiere

* denotes music composed for Nathanael May & European premiere

Nathanael May is the founder and Artistic Director of the Cortona Contemporary Music Festival. A pianist with a penchant for new music, composers have hailed his interpretations as “first-rate, dynamic and refreshing.” Beginning in 2002, Nathanael has served as the resident pianist for the critically acclaimed violin and guitar ensemble Duo46. Commissioned works for Duo46 and Nathanael May have more than doubled the extant music for this trio format.

Nathanael maintains an active profile, with seasonal engagements on both sides of the Atlantic. He has presented a series of recitals featuring music of the 20th century in Italy, Turkey, and Cyprus, with additional recitals planned for an upcoming solo tour of South America. In the United States, he has performed solo and chamber recitals at many institutions of higher learning, most notably Harvard, the University of Florida, UW-Milwaukee, and the Summer Piano Institute of UW-Whitewater. He was also featured in a live solo recital broadcast on Buffalo Public Radio (NPR).

From 2001 to 2005, he taught studio piano, literature, and pedagogy as a faculty member of the music department at Eastern Mediterranean University on the island of Cyprus. In 2004, EMU hosted the 1st Beshparmak International Piano Festival and Competition, of which he was a founding member. The festival seeks to engender a musical dialogue between the war torn communities of Greek and Turkish Cypriots, and with the international community at large. Additional pedagogical activities encompass the adjudication of local and state competitions, including Missouri Music Teacher's Association district auditions in 2005, as well as master classes conducted at Uludag University State Conservatory in Bursa, Turkey; Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp, Michigan; and Wisconsin Lutheran College, among others. Nathanael holds degrees from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, and the University of Wisconsin–Whitewater.