

FORBES CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY®

School of Music

presents the guest artist recital of

Éva Polgár, *piano*

Tuesday, February 28, 2024

7pm

Recital Hall



Program

- Variations on "Weinen, Klagen, Sorgen, Zagen"
by J. S. Bach, S. 180 Franz Liszt
(1811-1886)
- Elegy No. 2, Op. 8b Béla Bartók
(1881-1945)
- Seven Piano Pieces, Op. 11 Zoltán Kodály
(1882-1967)
- 6. Transylvanian song
 - 2. Transylvanian lament
- Three Hungarian Folksongs Bartók
- from Csík, Sz. 35a
- 1. The Peacock. Rubato
 - 2. At the Jánoshida fairground. *L'istesso tempo*
 - 3. White lily. *Poco vivo*
- Trois études de concert, S. 144 Liszt
- 1. Il lamento
 - 2. La leggierezza
 - 3. Un sospiro
- Three burlesques, Op. 8c Bartók
- 1. Quarrel. Presto
 - 2. Slightly tipsy. Allegretto
 - 3. Capriccioso. Molto vivo, capriccioso

Biography

Pianist **Éva Polgár** is a sought-after recitalist, concerto soloist, chamber musician, recording artist, educator, and adjudicator. Her dedication to her native Hungarian culture resulted in researching Béla Bartók's piano arrangements of his original orchestral compositions and specializing in Franz Liszt's music. Her solo album titled *Liszt: Harmonies patriotiques et religieuses* was released under Hunnia Records. She has appeared on BBC World Service's program "The Forum: Franz Liszt – Hungarian pianist and painter in sound" as a panelist and expert in the field.

Polgár has toured the Americas, Asia, and Europe, most recently as Hungary Foundation's Cultural Ambassador of the Year. She was featured at Carnegie Hall in New York City, The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., the Hungarian Culture Centre in London, and the Franz Liszt Museum in Budapest. Her concerto performances include concerts with conductors Tamás Vásáry at the Budapest Danube Palace, Horst Förster at the Leipzig Gewandhaus, and Okko Kamu at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki.

Polgár has won top prizes in competitions including the Los Angeles International Liszt Competition (LAILC). She has been elected co-director of LAILC together with Dr. Katherine Hickey in 2017, which empowers her to foster young musicians at their early stage of professional career. A committed educator and adjudicator, she has appeared at masterclasses, festivals, and competitions such as LAILC, the Bogotá International Piano Festival in Columbia, East China Normal University, University of Oregon, Montclair State University, and many more.

A graduate of the Franz Liszt Academy of Music and Sibelius Academy, Polgár earned her Doctor of Musical Arts degree in piano performance at the University of North Texas. Besides her teaching appointment at East Tennessee State University, she is an elected member of Board of Directors at the Southern California Chapter and the national organization of the American Liszt Society.

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JMU School of Music Statement of Community & Belonging

Difference in identity enriches our community, fosters artistic and intellectual growth, and is vital to creating thriving venues for expression in a global world. In addition to welcoming all individuals and perspectives regardless of their race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, disability, socio-economic status, or citizenship status, we wish to make the following acknowledgements and affirmations, adapted from Americans for the Arts:

- In the United States, there are systems of power that grant privilege and access unequally such that inequity and injustice result. We resolve to educate ourselves, keep vigilant watch, and act to bring an end to systemic oppression.
- Cultural equity—which embodies values, practices, and policies that ensure all people have access to, and are represented in, the arts—is critical to the sustained engagement of music in society.
- Acknowledging and challenging our inequities and working in partnership is how we will make change happen.
- Everyone deserves equal access to a full, vibrant creative life, which is essential to a healthy and democratic society.
- The prominent presence of musicians in society can challenge inequities and encourage alternatives.



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Thank you for attending today's performance. The JMU School of Music educates the most talented students from around the world to shape the fabric of society. We are ecstatic to return to our stages to showcase the talent and hard work of our students and faculty.

Scholarship contributions help young musicians blossom into mature artists. With your support, we will be able to offer our talented students more financial help in pursuing their goals. If you are interested in supporting our students' passion and dedication, please consider contributing to the Music Scholarship Fund at James Madison University.

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