

Carolyn Enger, pianist
The Mischlinge Exposé

Crowder Hall, The University of Arizona
18 January 2018 | 7:30 p.m.

*Presented by the University of Arizona Fred Fox School of Music
and the Arizona Center for Judaic Studies, with sponsorship by
the American Culture and Ideas Initiative*

Why (?) Jacob

Daniel Asia (b.1953)

Three Songs without Words
Op. 19, No. 6 "Venetianisches Gondellied"
Op. 30, No. 6 "Venetianisches Gondellied"
Op. 19, No. 1

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Albumblatt "Erinnerungen aus Wien"

Alexander Zemlinsky (1871-1942)

O Traum der Jugend, O Goldener Stern, Op. 6, No. 3

Fanny Hensel (1805-1847)

Sonatine, Op. 44 "Gradus ad Parnassum"
I. Andante
II. Allegretto scherzando
III. Larghetto

Hanns Eisler (1898-1962)

Ich bin der Welt abhanden gekommen
from *Rückert-Lieder*

Gustav Mahler (1860-1911)

Five Pieces for Piano, Op. 34
Canzonetta

Paul Ben-Haim (1897-1984)

Sechs Kleine Klavierstücke, Op. 19
I. Leicht, zart
II. Langsam
III. Sehr langsam
IV. Rasch, aber leicht
V. Etwas rasch
VI. Sehr langsam

Arnold Schoenberg (1874-1951)

The Mischlinge Exposé focuses on the complexities of being neither Jewish nor Aryan in Nazi Germany and before, using beautiful music to illustrate the struggle between assimilation and cultural identity.

Biography

Pianist Carolyn Enger has gained critical acclaim for her lyrical and dynamic playing, her deeply felt interpretations of works from Beethoven and Schubert to contemporary music, and her warm personal approach. In addition to an active performance schedule, Ms. Enger has enjoyed remarkable success as a recording artist, particularly with her 2013 release of piano music by Ned Rorem, *Piano Album I*, on Naxos Records. Renowned critic Laurence Vittes wrote in his review for Gramophone (2/2014): “Enger raises the miniatures to a higher level by taking the time and care to capture the emotional impact each must have had when their dedicatees read their inscription and title, and then heard the music for the first time.” The album was also selected by Anthony Tommasini as one of the “Best in Classical Recordings” by *The New York Times*.

Recent highlights include a performance at Michaelis Kirche in Erfurt, Germany; a Chicago residency with recitals at several Steinway Galleries, the Chicago Public Library, the Chicago Theological Seminary, the PianoForte Foundation and a masterclass broadcast on WFMT; performances at the National Gallery in Oslo, Norway; the Jewish Heritage Museum of Monmouth County in New Jersey; the Chelmsford Center for the Arts in Massachusetts; the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts; The National Gallery of Art in Washington D.C.; and a variety of recitals in the Tri-State area.

With a keen sense of history and identity, Ms. Enger views music in the context of the unfolding of human affairs, past and present, leading her to design programs that relate the music she performs to the times in which it was composed. Currently these interests have stirred Ms. Enger to plan and present a multimedia concert program, *The Mischlinge Exposé*, set during the World War II period, combining music, literature and images that focus on the haunting memories of the lives of Mischlinge – half-Jews – in Germany before, during, and after the Holocaust, an experience reflected in Ms. Enger’s own family history. Ms. Enger will present her ambitious *The Mischlinge Exposé* throughout New York, New Jersey, Iowa, Texas, Arizona, Illinois and Massachusetts, and has commissioned and premiered a new work written by the acclaimed composer Bruce Adolphe especially for this project.

An active recitalist with engagements throughout the United States and beyond, Ms. Enger has performed at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center’s Bruno Walter Auditorium, Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts, The National Gallery of Art, Cathedral of St. John the Divine, Nantucket Musical Arts Society, The Kosciuszko Foundation, and the Tenri Cultural Institute. A recent collaboration with renowned illustrator and writer Maira Kalman featured Ms. Enger’s playing as part of “Maira Kalman Selects”, an exhibition curated by Ms. Kalman at the Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum in New York. Ms. Enger’s dedication to bringing music to new audiences has motivated her to perform in accessible civic spaces such as Israel’s Bet Yad Lebanim in Nahariya, the Felicja Blumental Music Center in Tel Aviv and, in New York City, at St. Peter’s Church and the Donnell Library Center. Ms. Enger’s community engagement performances have left presenters and audiences, in the words of Cheryl Wylene, Program Director of the *Backstage at the Y* Concert Series, “in complete awe of her passion, skill and genuine warmth.”

Ms. Enger is a Steinway Artist.