MUS 102 **Concert Review #1**

I attended the Second Sunday Faculty Concert on February 10th at 4:00 pm. It had a Valentine’s Day theme but otherwise offered a great variety of contrasting music and performers.

The first piece, performed by Dr. Pickett on the piano, was *Romance in F minor* by Peter Tchaikovsky. It had a beautiful melody, slow and sad. However, there was a middle contrasting section with a faster tempo that was in a major key. This “happy” section grew in dynamics until it reached the climax of the piece. Then, the sad opening returned, like a sigh, and the piece was over. I really liked the opening/closing theme because it was so simple and understated.

Second, Mia Spencer sang the song “Ich Liebe Dich” by Beethoven, accompanied by Barbara Pickett. It was energetic and happy throughout. I looked at the translations provided with the programs and noticed that she seemed to be matching what she was singing with her expressions and gestures. It was a lovely song.

The final piece in the concert was performed by the CWU Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Dr. Jeffery Meyer. They performed *Sinfonie Fantastique* by Berlioz. It was a long piece with five separate movements. The first was slow and not very rhythmic. There was a lot of dissonance as if something was about to happen. The second movement began rather indistinctly but soon gave way to the ¾ meter of a waltz

rhythm. I could hear the theme from the first movement come in during this section. The third movement was very quiet. There was a little motive passed between two instruments (I think they were the oboe and clarinet) throughout. The fourth movement started at a quiet dynamic level but soon grew to a loud march. I liked the brass fanfare. The final movement was over the top. It began very dissonantly and soon gave way to a fast tempo and grew in dynamic until the end of the sinfonie. I liked the end of the last movement when everybody was playing different stuff at the same time. It was fun to try to follow one instrument among all the others.

Overall, I thought this was an amazing concert. The performers were all very

professional and lent a lot to this beautiful music. I would go again in a heartbeat and couldn’t believe that it was free.

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