

Tue, Feb 4, 2014 Royce Hall



# ABOUT MUSIC/WORDS

Music/Words is an award-winning interdisciplinary series that explores the connection between poetry and music in live performance. Founded by pianist Inna Faliks in New York City, Music/Words has been featured in multiple venues, and broadcast on Chicago's WFMT Radio.

Tonight's Music/Words explores Peter Tchaikovsky and Robert Schumann. Tchaikovsky's Album for the Young is a cycle of 24 short songs that vary in meter, style and harmonic structure, and provided inspiration for Vera to create the corresponding poems. Tchaikovsky composed the cycle in 1878, hoping to improve piano literature for children.

Schumann's Davidsbundler opus 6 is widely regarded as his greatest achievement and one of the signature piano works of the Romantic era. A series of 18 short pieces, the work was influenced by Clara Wieck, who would later become Shumann's wife. Tonight's performance is an imagined dialogue between Clara and Robert Schumann, a poetic collaboration between poetry and music.

### ABOUT THE ARTISTS

### Inna Faliks, Pianist

Committed to innovative programming, rarely heard and new music as well as standard repertoire, regularly appears as a soloist in major venues throughout the U.S. and internationally. An Associate Professor of Piano at UCLA's Herb Albert School of Music, she just released her second disc on MSR Classics, featuring the music of Beethoven. Her recordings have been compared to Van Cliburn, and WTTW Chicago describes her as "a concert pianist of the highest order."

#### Vera Pavlova, Poet

Considered one of Russia's most important contemporary poets, Vera's first poetry collection in English, If There Is Something To Desire, was a bestselling poetry title in 2010. The title poem was issued as a bookmark by the Poetry Society of America, and selected by Poetry in Motion and displayed in subway cars and buses in New York City and Los Angeles. Vera has published 15 collections of poetry in Russian, and her poems have been translated into 21 languages. She appears regularly at international poetry festivals and as a lecturer and artist in residence in colleges and universities. Her husband, award-winning translator Stephen Seymour, appears in tonight's performance, translating Vera's poetry into English.

Vera and Inna have collaborated on previous Music/Words in New York City and Chicago, and they are thrilled to join together for the debut of Music/Words at the Center for the Art of Performance in Los Angeles.



# **PROGRAM**

I. Album for the Young, op. 39 by Pyotr Hych Tchaikovsky Inna Faliks, piano, with poetry by Vera Pavlova

Morning Prayer

Polka

A Winter Morning

Italian Song

Mamma March of the Tin Soldier

Old French Song German Song

The Sick Doll

The Nurse's Tale

The Doll's Burial Waltz The Witch

THE NAME OF

Reverie

The New Doll

Song of the Lark

Mazurka

The Hand-Organ Man

In Church

II. Davidsbundler opus 6 by Robert Schumann Inna Faliks, piano, with poetry by Vera Pavlova

Animated

With Feeling

With Humor

Impatiently

Simply

Very Fast

Not Fast, With Extremely Deep Feeling.

Spirited (...here Florestan made an end, and his lips quivered painfully.)

Ballad-like

Simply

With Humor

Wild and Merry

Tender and Singing

Spirited

With Good Humor

As If In A Distance

Not Fast (Quite superfluously Eusebius remarked as follows: "But all the time great bliss spoke from his eyes.")