

LOON LAKE LIVE

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES



2019

About the composer:

Francois Couperin (1668-1733) was a French composer of the Baroque period who specialized in keyboard works - primarily for harpsichord. He was part of a very successful musical family and received training from a young age as well as an ensured church organist position following in his father's footsteps. His primary compositional influence came from Italian composer Arcangelo Corelli, and his own music became influential to his contemporary JS Bach, as well as Brahms, Strauss, Ravel, and Adés in later eras.

About the piece:

Les Barricades Mystérieuses, or The Mysterious Barricades, was written in 1717 as part of a set of solo keyboard pieces. It is in a rondeau form, a form that introduces music which repeats throughout the piece interspersed with contrasting music, for example A-B-A-C-A, etc or Thing - Different Thing - Thing - Other Different Thing - Thing, etc. This particular very short piece has a kaleidoscopic effect due to the rhythmic overlapping of baselines with cascading melodic shapes all around it. It is instantly engaging to listen to and painfully brief, inspiring multiple repeat hearings. Possibly for all of these reasons, it has been arranged or "covered" or used as inspiration for a large number of diverse performers, composers, and film makers. This recording was made in NYC in June 2020, featuring harpist Lynette Wardle and video of a very young artist doing creative work. :)

About the performer:

Lynette Wardle is principal harpist of the Richmond Symphony and the Albany Symphony. As a freelance musician she performs with New Jersey Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra, New York City Opera, American Symphony Orchestra and New York City Chamber Orchestra. For the holiday seasons, she has been the harpist for A Christmas Story, the Musical, and the Radio City Christmas Spectacular. She also performs regularly at Wicked, and with her husband Chad Smith in Sax-O-Philm, Sounds and Sights of the 20's. Lynette was the harpist for the national tour of the Tony award-winning musical Light in the Piazza. She has a number of recordings, most notably her work with Trilogy, a flute, harp, viola trio, AREA 31, Grammy award winning Albany Symphony recordings and several movie soundtracks. Lynette has performed with many artists, such as Pavarotti, Josh Groban, Johnny Mathis, Neil Sedaka, Marvin Hamlisch, David Burnham, Megan Hilty, Bjork, Olivia Newton John, Ann Hampton Callaway, Deborah Voigt, Edgar Meyer, Yo-Yo Ma, Gil Shaham and Joshua Bell.



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