

Rebirth: A Stravinsky Retrospective for solo piano

Created by pianist Matthew Graybil in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the composer's passing, this program explores Stravinsky's originality and unique capacity for stylistic change through the lens of over 50 years of his creative output. A self-described victim of "a rare form of kleptomania," Stravinsky's embrace of everything from late romanticism, Russian folk music and neo-classicism to jazz and serialism presents a rare opportunity to create a balanced and diverse recital program with the music of a single composer.

A lesser known but defining event in the composer's life was a near-fatal case of the 1918 flu. His extraordinary recovery and willingness to reinvent himself and embrace change in a new, post-war world became one of his most enduring qualities with striking parallels to our own time. As we endure our own personal and collective rebirth, his story and music feel particularly relevant and hopeful today.

Famous for composing exclusively at the piano, even Stravinsky's largest orchestral scores are pianistic in conception, and he often could not resist the allure of reimagining these works for solo piano. In keeping with that tradition, this program will include Graybil's own transcriptions of several compositions that have never before been heard on the piano, in addition to showcasing the eclecticism of Stravinsky's original piano works.

Pulcinella Suite

transcribed by M. Graybil

- I. Overture: Allegro moderato
- II. Serenata: Larghetto
- III. Scherzino: Allegro
- IV. Gavotta con due variazioni
- V. Allegretto-Allegro assai

Storm

transcribed by M. Graybil

Pastorale

transcribed by M. Graybil

Four Etudes

- I. Con moto
- II. Allegro brillante
- III. III. Andantino
- IV. Vivo

INTERMISSION

Piano Rag Music

Ragtime for piano

Tango

Circus Polka

The Owl and the Pussy Cat

transcribed by M. Graybil

Three movements from Petrouchka

- I. Russian Dance
- II. Petrouchka's Room
- III. The Shrovetide Fair