



Zhu Zeyu Senior recital

Program Notes

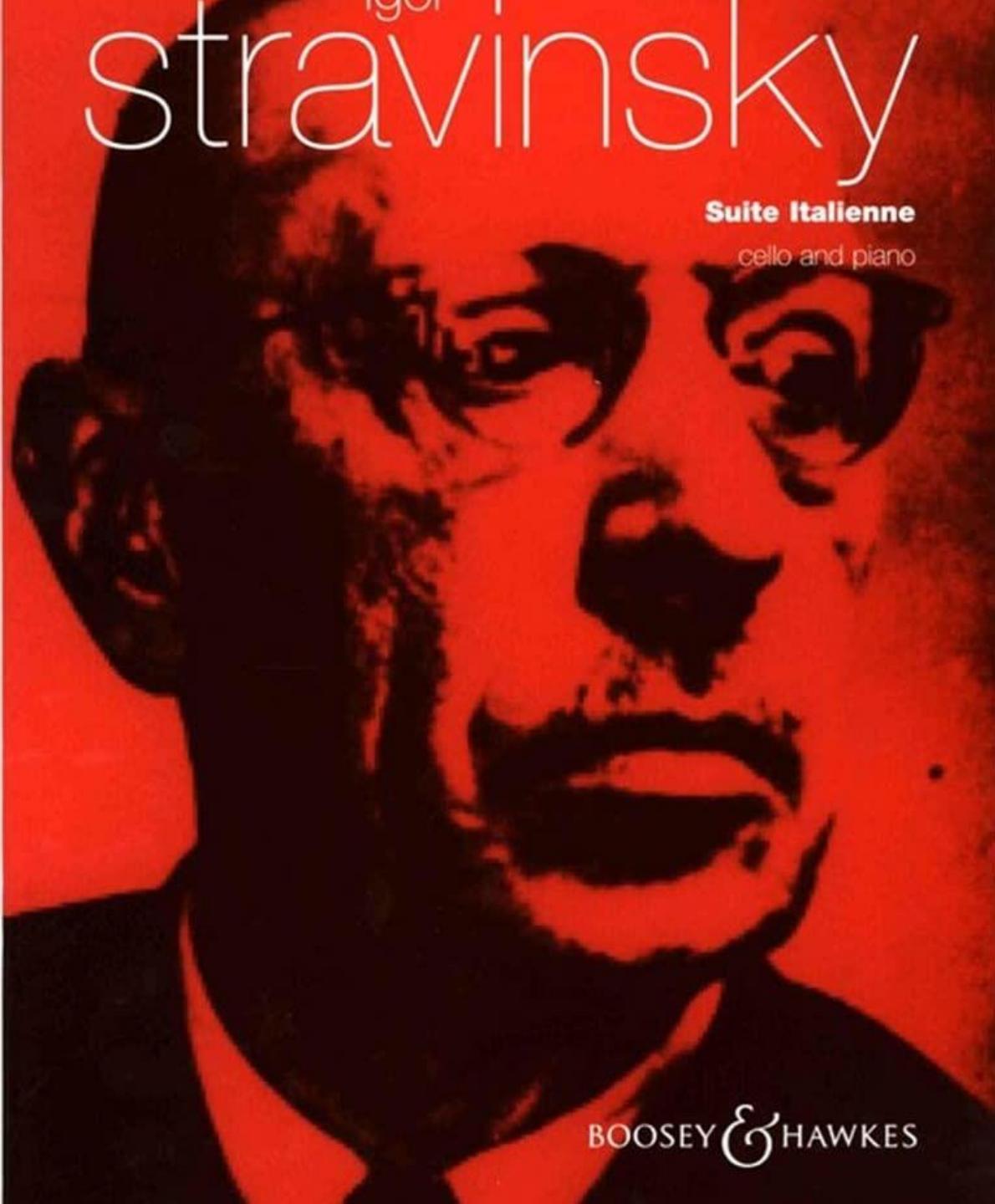
HENRI DUTILLEUX

3 STROPHES SUR LE NOM DE SACHER

pour Violoncelle solo

Henri Dutilleux –
Trois Strophes sur le nom de
Sacher for Cello
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Sacher for 'Cello

- Henri Dutilleux's *Trois Strophes sur le nom de Sacher* (1976-1982) is a seminal work in the 20th-century solo cello repertoire, blending structural rigor with poetic expressivity. Commissioned by Russian cellist Mstislav Rostropovich to celebrate Swiss conductor Paul Sacher's 70th birthday, the piece is part of a larger project involving 12 composers who contributed works based on a musical cryptogram derived from Sacher's name: Eb-A-C-Bb-E-D (using German pitch notation and solfège)



Igor Stravinsky (1882 – 1971) Suite Italienne for cello & piano

Igor Stravinsky's **Suite Italienne** for cello and piano (1932) is a vibrant neoclassical work derived from his groundbreaking ballet **Pulcinella**

(1920), which marked his shift toward reimagining 18th-century music through a modernist lens. Commissioned by impresario Sergei Diaghilev, **Pulcinella** repurposed melodies attributed to Italian composer Giovanni Pergolesi (though later scholarship revealed some were misattributed) into a witty, harmonically daring score. The **Suite Italienne** distills this ballet's essence into a five-movement chamber piece, arranged in collaboration with cellist Gregor Piatigorsky in 1933.



Joseph Haydn

Cello Concerto No.2 in D Major

- Commission and Premiere: Originally believed to have been written for Antonín Kraft, a virtuoso cellist in Haydn's orchestra, recent research by Thomas Tolley and Simon McVeigh reveals the concerto premiered in London on March 24, 1784, performed by James Cervetto, a leading English cellist.
- Authenticity: Early doubts about the concerto's authorship arose due to its advanced cello technique, but the rediscovery of Haydn's manuscript solidified its place in his oeuvre