

25 November 2021 | THURSDAY

Chen Chi-Jui

Viola Recital

Liu Jia, *piano*

Programme

PROKOFIEV *arr.* **VADIM VASILYEVICH BORISOVSKY**
Suite from Romeo and Juliet Op. 64

About The Performer

Chen Chi-Jui, born in Kaohsiung, Taiwan in 2000. Began studying viola at the age of 10, he has won several viola competition in Taiwan and has his first viola recital at 2019. Moreover, He has got masterclass with many world-class violist such as Nobuko Imai, Dimitri Murrath, and Hsin-Yun Huang. Chi Jui is now studying at Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, under the guidance of violist Zhang Manchin.

Programme Notes

VIEUXTEMPS

Viola Sonata in B-Flat Major, Op. 36

I. Maestoso – Allegro

II. Barcarolle: Andante con moto

III. Finale scherzando: Allegretto

Prokofiev's Romeo and Juliet ballet score was composed for the Bolshoi Theatre in 1935, but selections from the original ballet score were heard as orchestral suites that were selected by Prokofiev and performed by orchestras throughout the world before the premiere of the ballet had ever occurred. The Kirov Theatre originally approached Prokofiev to commission a score for Romeo and Juliet, but backed out due to complications, so Prokofiev signed a contract with the Bolshoi Theatre instead. When the score was complete, the choreographer of the Bolshoi Theatre declared the music impossible to dance to and the contract with Prokofiev was broken. The world premiere of the ballet occurred in Czechoslovakia in 1938, and with the success the orchestral suites received, a revised version of the ballet would eventually be premiere at the Kirov Theatre in 1940 and at the Bolshoi Theatre in 1946. In 1937, with the success of the orchestral suites, Prokofiev reduced the orchestral score of Romeo and Juliet to arrange the Ten Pieces from Romeo and Juliet, Op. 75 for solo piano. Subsequently, when violist Vadim Borisovsky, founder of the Russian Viola School and a founding member of the Beethoven Quartet, approached Prokofiev to ask if he (Borisovsky) could arrange a selection of pieces from the ballet Romeo and Juliet for viola and piano, Borisovsky's request was met with Prokofiev's approval.

Introduction: Introduction is the opening of the Whole story. The main theme starts from the beginning of music and symbolizes as love, whole movement are super expressive and romantic.

The Street Awakens: The Street Awakens is describing the street scenes of the Verona, Borisovsky use different techniques to symbolizes different characters.

Julia the Young Girl: Julia the Young Girl is describing Juliet's personality with charming light scherzo with a playful theme.

Arrival of the Guests: The scene of a banquet held by the capulet family.

Dance of the Knights: Dance of the Knights is a portrait of two warring clans, with a sweeping and angular melody, with a dotted rhythm. Above are formidable octaves the theme of hostility. The middle part introduces other colors, more subtle, with graceful melodies and light accompaniment.

Balcony Scene: Balcony Scene depicts Juliet talking to herself on the balcony and telling her love for Romeo and was heard by Romeo.

Programme notes by Chen Chi-Jui.