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EMMANUEL MUSIC SCHUMANN CHAMBER SERIES CONCLUDES

On February 8, at 4 PM, Emmanuel Music, led by Acting Artistic John Harbison and Associate Conductor Micheal Beattie, presents the final concert in a five-year series featuring the chamber, vocal, and piano music of Robert Schumann.

This program presents some of this Romantic composer’s best-loved vocal and piano works.

The concert opens with the song cycle Frauenliebe und –leben, Op. 42, one of Schumann’s most beloved works. Set to a group of poems about a young wife, the music expresses Schumann’s devotion to his new wife Clara and the joy of realized dreams. Mezzo-soprano Pamela Dellal and pianist Michael Beattie perform.

The Fantasiestücke, Op. 12 for piano, performed by Leslie Amper, shows the impassioned and dreamy sides of Schumann’s alter egos in endless interplay and contrast. The piece was a favorite of Schumann’s wife Clara, a superior pianist in her own right, who performed it throughout her career.

The Spanische Liebeslieder, Op. 138 ends the concert with a series of duets in different Spanish styles. The songs and duets are charming and entertaining, and were likely the inspiration for Brahms’ better-known Liebeslieder Waltzes. Michael Beattie and Leslie Amper accompany soprano Kristen Watson, mezzo-soprano Pamela Dellal, tenor Frank Kelley, and bass Donald Wilkinson.

Program:

Frauenliebe und –leben, op. 42
Fantasiestücke, Op. 12
Spanische Liebeslieder, Op. 138

Performers:
Pamela Dellal, mezzo-soprano
Michael Beattie, piano
Leslie Amper, piano
Kristen Watson, soprano
Frank Kelley, tenor
Donald Wilkinson, bass

Date & Time: Sunday, February 8, 2009, 4:00 PM
Place: Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury Street, Boston

For more information, call (617) 536-3356 or visit our website at www.emmanuelmusic.org.
Emmanuel Music is the Ensemble-in-Residence at Emmanuel Church.