



Salida Aspen Concerts

For immediate release

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SCHEIN-CARLYSS DUO TO PLAY ROMANTIC WORKS OF SCHUMANN AND GRIEG—AUG. 5

SALIDA, COLORADO—Pianist Ann Schein and her husband, violinist Earl Carlyss, will perform Romantic works by Robert Schumann and Edward Grieg Saturday, Aug. 5, at Salida’s historic Steam Plant Theater for the Performing Arts, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The program will be part of the Salida Aspen Concert series, and will be the first to be held at the Steam Plant Theater located at 220 West Sackett Avenue on the Arkansas River in historic downtown Salida.

Originally, Schein and Carlyss were to play piano trios with a cellist. The cellist, however, had to cancel. Now the pianist and violinist will play works that they have performed together many times in the past.

On April 28 of this year, the married couple played an all-Schumann concert in the Washington, D.C. residence of the German ambassador. It was part of Washington’s Embassy Series to promote international understanding through music. That evening, the cost was \$100. The Salida concert will cost \$10.

Schein and Carlyss will play two Schumann works that they performed that evening in Washington. These works, written 14 years apart, reflect the composer’s psychological deterioration. Schein will perform a solo piano work, *Dauidsbundlertanze*, that she has played often and also recorded. It was written in 1837. It means “The League of David’s Dances,” and is the story of the eve of a wedding party. The dances are 18 short movements – often cheerful, playful, tender.

The two will then team up for Schumann’s *Sonata in A Minor* for violin and piano. It was written in 1851, five years before Schumann died in a mental hospital. At

the time he composed it, he was suffering violent mood swings, declaring that both God and Satan were dictating to him.

The music reflects this mental state. The first movement begins with a passionate melody. The second movement has dances. But the last movement is filled with depression, tumult and torment.

Schein and Carlyss will play a cheerier work – Edward Grieg’s Sonata for Violin and Piano in C minor, also from the Romantic era. It is constructed of Norwegian folk melodies and rhythms. It is the most popular of Grieg’s violin/piano sonatas, and was one of Grieg’s own favorites.

Schein and Carlyss, who married in 1969, have had illustrious careers. She began playing the piano at age five and in 1961 studied under celebrated pianist Arthur Rubinstein. She played the Davidsbundlertanze at her Carnegie Hall debut in 1962. She has also recorded the work, along with other Schumann pieces. In 1963, she performed at the White House for President and Mrs. John F. Kennedy. She has performed under such conductors as George Szell, James Levine and Seiji Ozawa. She has been the accompanist – both on stage and on disc – for famed soprano Jessye Norman.

Carlyss was a member of the celebrated Juilliard String Quartet between 1966 and 1986, during a period in which the group played 2,100 concerts and recorded more than 100 works. He now teaches at the Juilliard School of Music in New York City, and performs around the world with Schein.

The two live in New York. They have two daughters.

More information and tickets are available online at www.SalidaAspenConcerts.org or call 539-6467.

The last concert in the 30th anniversary season will be performed at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, August 12, at John Held Auditorium, Salida High School, 10th and D Streets. Russian-born pianist Rita Sloan with violinist David Halen, concertmaster of the St. Louis Symphony, and French horn player Jennifer Montone will perform Paul Dukas Villanelle for Horn and Piano, César Franck Sonata for Violin and Piano, Mozart Variations for Solo Piano and the Brahms Horn Trio.

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July 27, 2006