Anton Rubinstein opposed the notion of Russian nationalism in music, and chose rather to write in the western European tradition, revealing specifically the influence of German composers. Alexander Skryabin, an admirer of the genius of Franz Liszt, wrote music as an expression of his profound belief in mysticism. He created his own system of harmonies based on what he called the "Mystery Chord", which was composed of fourths rather than thirds. The two movements of his *Sonata No. 4* are associated with two emotional states: desire and anguish. César Cui was a member of the "Russian Five", a group of composers who strove to create uniquely Russian music. He was not primarily a musician; rather, he was famous as a military engineer for his extensive knowledge of fortifications. Cui's piano pieces reveal his admiration for the work of Chopin and his ability to evoke a certain mood poignantly and succinctly.

—notes by Rob Lesman

There are no concerts at the National Gallery during the months of July, August, and September. Concerts will resume on Sunday, October 2, 1994, with a performance by the National Gallery Orchestra, George Manos, Conductor.

Concerts from the National Gallery are broadcast in their entirety at 7:00 p.m. on Sundays on radio station WGTS, 91.9 FM, four weeks after the live performance. In addition to these broadcasts, which will continue without interruption during the summer, select concerts from the 1993-1994 season will be featured in the program, "Music from Washington" on WETA, 90.9 FM, during the months of August and September. "Music from Washington" is broadcast on Fridays at 9:00 p.m.

THE WILLIAM NELSON CROMWELL and F. LAMMOT BELIN CONCERTS

at the

National Gallery of Art



2129th Concert

JEFFREY BIEGEL, pianist

Sunday Evening, June 26, 1994 at Seven O'clock West Building, West Garden Court Admission Free

PROGRAM

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

Sonata in C Minor, Op. 13 ("Pathétique") (1799)

Grave; allegro di molto e con brio

Adagio cantabile Rondo: Allegro

Franz Liszt (1811-1886)

Sonetto del Petrarca No. 104 in E Major

(1837-49)

Transcendental Etude No. 5 in B-flat Major ("Feux jollets") (1851)

Hungarian Rhapsody No. 12 in C-sharp Minor (1853)

INTERMISSION

"Homage to Josef Lhevinne" (1874-1944) 50th Memorial Anniversary

Anton Rubinstein (1829-1894)

"Kammenoi-Ostrow" Op. 10, No. 22

(Rêve Angélique)

Alexander Skryabin

Sonata No. 4 in F-sharp Major, Op. 30

(1872-1915)

Andante

Prestissimo volando

César Cui (1835-1918)

(1825-1899)

"Causerie" (Conversations) Op. 40, No. 6

Johann Strauss, Jr. "By the Beautiful Blue Danube" (arranged by Artur Schulz-Evler)

Following his triumph in the 1985 University of Maryland International Piano Competition at the Kennedy Center, Jeffrey Biegel has enjoyed enthusiastic audience and critical acclaim. He received the Juilliard School's prestigious William Petschek Piano Debut Award, was a laureate at the Leeds Competition in England, and received the first Peter Mennin Memorial Scholarship in 1984. He was the winner of First Prize in the 1985 William Kappell/University of Maryland International Piano Competition and the First Grand Prize in the 1989 Marguerite Long International. Mr. Biegel has performed with the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center with Donald Johanos conducting, with the Juilliard Philharmonia under the baton of Sixten Ehrling at Alice Tully Hall, and in Paris' Théâtre des Champs-Elysées, under Philippe Entremont. He has appeared in recital at the Mostly Mozart Festival in Avery Fisher Hall, at the Library of Congress and the Phillips Collection in Washington, Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, Aspen Music Festival, and the Universities of Maryland and Hawaii. He has made chamber music appearances at the Seattle Chamber Music Festival and Merkin Concert Hall in New York as well as in Belgium, France, the former Yugoslavia, Mexico, and the former Soviet Union. In 1992, he made his Carnegie Hall debut, performing Liszt's Concerto No. 1 in E-flat. Jeffrey Biegel studied at the Juilliard School from 1979 to 1985 with Adele Marcus, herself a pupil of Josef Lhevinne and Artur Schnabel. A Steinway artist, Mr. Biegel appears courtesy of Parker Artists of New York City.

The Sonata "Pathétique" is one of Beethoven's most famous and most frequently performed works for piano. The dark mood of the piece is established in the introduction, the structures of which are repeated and amplified in the stormy first movement. The grand and lyrical second movement is in rondo form, and the third movement is composed of four refrains, three interludes, and a brilliant coda.

Franz Liszt was widely recognized as the greatest pianist of his time, as the technical demands of his piano pieces demonstrate. His Sonetto del Petrarca No. 104 is based on a Petrarchan sonnet, and achieves an agitated mood consistent with the poem. The Transcendental Etude No. 5, appropriately named "Will o' the Wisp," requires a quick, light touch. Liszt's Hungarian Rhapsody No. 12 belongs to his most widely played group of pieces, and is often remembered for its powerful ending.