

PROGRAMME

Friedrich Seitz

Violin Concerto
No. 5 in D Major, Op. 22, 1st mvt

Allegro moderato

Ferdinand K uchler

Concertino in D Major, Op.15, in
the style of Antonio Vivaldi, 1st
mvt

Allegro moderato

By : **POON YUKAI JAVIER**

Programme Notes

Friedrich Seitz (1848 – 1918)

First movement of Violin Concerto No. 5 in D Major, Op. 22

Allegro moderato

Friedrich Seitz was born on 12 June 1848 and died on 22 May 1918. He was a German composer in the Romantic period. Seitz first studied violin under Karl Wilhelm Ulrich in Sondershausen, and later became a student of Johann Christoph Laterbach in 1874. He became music director at Sondershausen, and became concertmaster at Magdeburg subsequently. Seitz wrote 8 student concertos for the violin. No. 2 and 5 are one of such popular student concertos.

A concerto is a concerted performance in which a solo instrument is featured and blended with the orchestra. Concertos in the Romantic era focus more on the emotion and expression of the solo instrument than the musical form. It often has more difficult parts and cadenza written for the solo instrument. In this concerto, the soloist makes a grand entry and the energy gradually builds up with spiccato playing. When comes to *tranquillo e dolce*, a very lyrical and expressive passage is delivered and the powerful cadenza escalates the whole concerto to a frenetic ending.

Besides student concertos, Seitz also wrote three student Piano Trios and the Hungarian Rhapsody for violin and piano, Op. 47.

Ferdinand K uchler (1867 – 1937)

First movement of Concertino in the style of A. Vivaldi in D Major, Op. 15

Allegro moderato

K uchler was born on 14 July 1867 and died on 24 October 1937. He was a German violinist as well as violist. He was also a renowned teacher and had composed instructive violin music. His first job was the principal violist of the Symphony Orchestra in Basel in 1889, and later started teaching violin at the local music school. In 1898, K uchler was appointed a violin teacher at the Hoch Conservatory in Frankfurt and was also violist of the Heermann Quartet. After returning to Basel in 1910, he became director of a private music school the following year and worked as a choral conductor. His final job was teaching violin at the State Conservatory of Leipzig from 1927 to 1936.

A Concertino is a shorter and lighter concerto for solo instrument and orchestra. Concertino in the style of Antonio Vivaldi in D Major, Op. 15 (1st and 3rd position) for violin and piano was published in 1937. As it was composed in the style of Antonio Vivaldi (a famous Italian composer in the Baroque period), this Concertino follows the form of the Italian concerto. The first eight bars form the magnificent theme which is repeated in bar 19, 41, and 57, respectively. K uchler distinctively brought out the rhythmic Baroque character in his music, and with lots of playful interaction between the violin and the piano, an important element in Baroque music as well.

K uchler wrote textbooks on violin technique and composed instructive pieces for the violin including several student concertos, his two-volume *Course of Violin Instruction* (1914), 100 Etudes for the Violin (1929), Scales, Shifting, Arpeggios (1933), Exercises for Intonation and Trills (1936), amongst others.