

PROGRAMME

Beethoven, Ludwig van

Sonata for Violin and Piano No. 7 in C minor, Op. 30 No. 2, III. Scherzo:
Allegro

Scherzo and Trio is the third movement from Sonata in C minor, Op. 30 No. 2, composed by Ludwig van Beethoven. Beethoven was born on December 16, 1770. He was a German pianist and composer widely considered the greatest of all time, whose innovative compositions combined vocals and instruments, widening the scope of genres such as a sonata, symphony, concerto and quartet. This particular sonata was composed between 1801 and 1802, and published in May 1803. It is the second of the three sonatas, of the op. 30 set which was written for Alexander I, the emperor of Russia in 1802. Beethoven composed this sonata at about the same time he wrote his "Heiligenstadt Testament," an unsent jeremiad addressed to his brothers, detailing his anguished state of mind. The Violin Sonata No. 7 in C Minor begins in the first movement, in a much darker, more dramatic space, although there are moments of lightness interspersed throughout. The C minor sonata may be grim, but it is hardly suicidal; it is Beethoven in his most famous mood, an initially depressive state that is gradually overcome through a spasm of anti-Fate fist shaking.

Today, I will be playing the third movement, which is written in a playful and dance-like character. Beethoven makes comical use of misplaced rhythmic emphasis, much in the taste and manner of Haydn in his poised minuet movements. It is important to note the *Sf* written in this movement as most of the *Sf* are on the off beats which makes the rhythm feel very playful and comical. The A section in the Scherzo makes a seamless transition into the rolling triplets in the piano that characterize the trio.

Trad. Russian, arr. Waterfield

Black Eyes

Black Eyes, also known as Dark Eyes is composed by Florian Hermann and is the most famous Russian folk song. The lyrics of Black Eyes were written by the Ukrainian poet and writer Yevhen Hrebinka and the first publication of this poem in Black eyes was in a Russian magazine on 17 January 1843. The melody is that of a waltz called Homage-Valse by composer Florian Hermann. The most renowned and played version of this song was written by Adalgioso Ferraris, and published when he was still in Russia in 1910, with German editor Otto Kuhl, as "Schwarze Augen" (Black Eyes). Ferraris then published it again in 1931 by Paris Editions Salabert, as "Tes yeux noirs (impression russe)" and with Jacques Liber, on Oct 9th, 1931.

'Black Eyes' begins with a free and improvised melody and it contains a wide range of notes, and later in the form of a waltz, which finishes with a playful glissando.

Programmes Notes by Clarissa Joy Lee