



A Must Listen for Chiara Quartet's Hyeyung Yoon & Soyeon Kate Lee's Upcoming Sirota Premiere

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Between the attempts to create contemporary works that sound “unique” and “evolving,” more often than not the symbolism behind a bunch of notes on paper is lost. Not so is the case for the upcoming premiere of composer Robert Sirota’s “Pange Lingua Sonata for violin and piano.”



Though not originally intended as a dedication, the piece was commissioned in 2012 by Chiara Quartet violinist Hyeyung Julie Yoon in memory of her late grandfather, Myung Il Paek. But the piece is not a somber or even tranquil ode as you’d expect to choose for a dedication. Sirota’s “Pange Lingua Sonata for violin and piano” is incredibly lively and imaginative, molding various tones of symphonic color in drastic ways. A theme spread throughout, the Pange Lingua Sonata develops an increasingly mysterious nature as it progresses, climaxing with an intense if not heightened sense of a closure. For those new to his works, it’s trademark Robert Sirota at his best; crafty, sharp shifts in pacing, and even a bit snarky at times that really packs an energetic punch.

Chiara Quartet violinist Hyeyung Julie Yoon along with pianist Soyeon Kate Lee have seldom played Sirota’s Pange Lingua Sonata live before but its uniqueness beholds new details at every listen. Yoon/Lee will be performing the New York premiere of composer Robert Sirota’s Pange Lingua Sonata at NY’s SubCulture venue on March 26 along with Bach’s Sonata in C Minor, Brahms’ Piano Trio in C Major with cellist Gregory Beaver and a highly recommended choice of “Agitato/Calmo” and “Tender Rage” from Robert Sirota’s Mixed Emotions for solo piano.

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