

Sunday, September 21, 2008, 3pm
Hertz Hall

Rudolf Buchbinder, *piano*

PROGRAM

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770–1827) Piano Sonata No. 3 in C major, Op. 2,
No. 3 (1795)
Allegro con brio
Adagio
Scherzo: Allegro
Allegro assai

Beethoven Piano Sonata No. 22 in F major, Op. 54 (1804)
In tempo d'un Menuetto
Allegretto

INTERMISSION

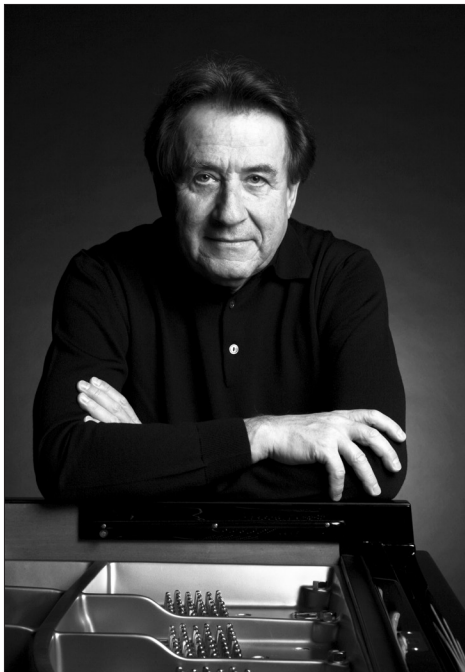
Beethoven Piano Sonata No. 24 in F-sharp major,
Op. 78 (1809)
Adagio cantabile — Allegro ma non troppo
Allegro vivace

Beethoven Piano Sonata No. 25 in G major, Op. 79 (1809)
Presto alla tedesca
Andante
Vivace

Beethoven Piano Sonata No. 28 in A major, Op. 101 (1816)
Allegretto, ma non troppo
Vivace alla marcia
Adagio, ma non troppo, con affetto —
Tempo del primo pezzo — Allegro

This performance is made possible, in part, through the generosity of The Hon. Kathryn Walt Hall and Craig Hall.

Cal Performances' 2008–2009 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.



Alexander Batta

Pianist **Rudolf Buchbinder** has been called “the Viennese oracle on the core literature of Haydn, Beethoven and Brahms” by *The Philadelphia Inquirer*. Firmly established as one of the most important pianists on the international scene, Mr. Buchbinder is a regular guest of such renowned orchestras as the Berlin Philharmonic, Vienna Philharmonic, New York Philharmonic, Orchestre de Paris, London Philharmonic, National Symphony and the Philadelphia Orchestra. He has collaborated with the world’s most distinguished conductors, including Claudio Abbado, Christoph von Dohnányi, Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos, Carlo Maria Giulini, Nikolaus Harnoncourt, Lorin Maazel, Zdeněk Mácal, Kurt Masur, Zubin Mehta, Jukka-Pekka Saraste and Wolfgang Sawallisch, and is a regular guest at the Salzburger Festspiele and other major festivals around the world.

Mr. Buchbinder has over 100 recordings to his credit, covering an enormous range of repertoire, including the complete cycle of Beethoven sonatas, the complete Beethoven concertos, the complete Mozart piano concertos, all of Haydn’s works for piano, both Brahms concertos, and all of the rarely

performed *Diabelli Variations* collection written by 50 Austrian composers. His 18-disc set of Haydn’s works earned him the Grand Prix du Disque, and his cycle of Mozart’s complete piano concertos with the Vienna Symphony Orchestra, recorded live at the Vienna Konzerthaus, was chosen by Joachim Kaiser as CD of the Year. Mr. Buchbinder’s latest CDs are live recordings—Brahms’s piano concertos with the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra under Nikolaus Harnoncourt, and all five Beethoven piano concertos as soloist and conductor with the Vienna Symphony Orchestra. In 2006, in celebration of his 60th birthday, he performed 12 Mozart piano concertos with the Vienna Philharmonic at the Vienna Festwochen, the live DVD recording of which has recently been released by EuroArts.

Rudolf Buchbinder is the founding artistic director of the Grafenegg Music Festival, a major international music festival near Vienna which launched in August 2007. During the 2007 festival, he performed Beethoven’s Concerto No. 5 with the London Symphony Orchestra and conductor Valery Gergiev. Other recent highlights include the Jubilee Concert for the 50th anniversary of the Großer Musikvereinssaal in Vienna (where Mr. Buchbinder made his debut at age 11 in 1958); a performance with the Orchestra Filarmonica della Scala at Teatro alla Scala; Beethoven sonata cycles in Warsaw, Berkeley and at the Vienna Musikverein; performing with the Philadelphia Orchestra under Leonard Slatkin; and performances of all five of Beethoven’s piano concertos over three days, with the Dresden Philharmonic.

In May 2008, Mr. Buchbinder appeared at the Musikverein in a recital of works by Schubert and Schumann; he repeated the program in Munich later that month. In June, he presented recitals in Milan at Sala Verdi, and in Prague. This summer, he performs with the Sinfonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks under Christoph Eschenbach, and the NDR Symphony Orchestra under Peter Ruzicka. In September, he will tour with the Dresden Staatskapelle conducted by Fabio Luisi. In addition, that month he will continue his Beethoven sonata cycle at Cal Performances, and he will perform with the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra as soloist and conductor, in a Cliburn Concert featuring piano concertos by Haydn,

Mozart and Beethoven. Mr. Buchbinder will visit Munich several times throughout the season, performing the complete cycle of Beethoven sonatas at the Prinzregententheater. In October and November, he will tour the United States with the Dresden Staatskapelle under Luisi, performing at Avery Fisher Hall in New York and Symphony Hall in Boston, as well as in Bloomington, Indiana and Brooksville, New York; in December, he will perform with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, led by Gustavo Dudamel. In February 2009, Mr. Buchbinder returns to the United States to perform Brahms’s Piano Concerto No. 1 with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, led by Manfred Honeck.

Mr. Buchbinder attaches considerable importance to the meticulous study of musical sources. He owns more than 18 complete editions of Beethoven’s sonatas and has an extensive collection of autograph scores, first editions and original documents. In addition, he possesses the autograph scores and piano parts of both Brahms concertos as copies. He was admitted to the Vienna Musik Hochschule at age five, and remains the youngest student to gain entrance in the school’s history.

Mr. Buchbinder is managed in North America by Tanja Dorn at IMG Artists.