

## DOLCI BY THE BAY, CONCERT NO. 11 September 20, 2013

### Two Piano Pieces

*Allegretto – Adagio*  
performed by Viva Knight, piano

As a child, Schubert was an excellent singer and also played the violin, organ and piano. He studied composition with Salieri and produced works of genius from his early teens onward. His talent lay in his ability to adapt to almost any musical form, and he produced works with rich harmonies and legendary melodies for a variety of genres. These short piano pieces were composed in 1817. In the year of his death, having completed over 1,000 compositions, Schubert gave his only public concert of his own works. It was successful enough that he was finally able to buy himself a piano.

Only after his death did Schubert's musical genius receive the recognition it deserved. His influence proved considerable with later composers like Robert Schumann and Johannes Brahms. These pieces were published more than fifty years after Schubert died.

### Franz Schubert (1797-1828)



### Three Romances, opus 94



### Robert Schumann (1810-1856)

*Nicht schnell – Einfach, innig – Nicht schnell*  
performed by Dolci

*Three Romances* are a set of instrumental love songs Robert Schumann wrote in 1849 as a Christmas present to his young bride Clara. They open with confessional intimacy, the oboe personifying Robert, the piano Clara. At first the couple sing tentative questions and answers, but in the second Romance the voices become agitated as they interrupt each other in a staggered rhythm. In the last Romance, the lovers declare love in a recurring unison motive, but Clara's piano answers each unison with a solo cadence, sadly prefiguring for us her long life alone after Robert's suicide.

Next Friday we will play Clara's response, a set of three romances for violin and piano, composed in her charming, extroverted style, and a set of songs by the Schumanns' young friend and protégé Johannes Brahms.