



COLLEGE OF MUSIC

University of North Texas
College of Music

Doctoral Lecture | Sunday, April 23, 2023 | 8:00 pm | Recital Hall

Jingshu Zhao, piano

**A PERFORMANCE GUIDE TO A FORGOTTEN PIECE BY CARL CZERNY:
*FANTAISIE SUR DES MÉLODIES DE BEETHOVEN, OP. 752***

Carl Czerny (1791–1857) was an Austrian piano teacher, composer, pianist, historian, and theorist, who made many contributions to the musical world. He wrote many pieces of music over the course of his life, the most familiar to us being his exercises. His other types of work are less known and studied nowadays for various reasons. Yet it cannot be denied that Czerny was a very important figure who should not be allowed to fade away. We must delve deeper into his life and uncover more of his pieces, to reveal aspects of his work that are unknown for us. This study concentrates on the forgotten piece *Fantaisie sur des mélodies de Beethoven, Op. 752*. This is one of the pieces that I included in a world premiere release recording issued by Toccata Classics. The intent of the program for the recording was to change the traditional concept of Czerny's work and show that his compositions are worth adding to today's recital repertoire. The program included five forgotten pieces by Czerny, of which Op. 752 was the most complicated and virtuosic. The purpose of this study is to analyze the piece and illustrate practicing methods or solutions for the technical challenges of different types that it requires, thus constituting a performance guide. Furthermore, this dissertation also gives suggestions for using the piece in teaching. The aim is to help pianists and teachers to understand and successfully perform the piece on the modern piano. Moreover, I hope that this study will draw more attention to Czerny and inspire others to uncover more of his works.

Seven hundred eighty-ninth program of the 2022–2023 season
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