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HYDE PARK HERALD

Review

By M.L. Rantala, February 12, 2014

"Alon Goldstein (piano), Amit Peled (cello) and Alex Fiterstein (clarinet) gave a glorious performance of the Beethoven Piano Trio in B-flat Major. The allegro was pert and snappy, with the clarinet remarkably adept in the rapid passages and the piano feathery light. The adagio was both engaging and pretty. The conclusion, some wonderful variations, was rendered with perfect ensemble coordination. The sound was invigorating and the trio's light touches seemed perfect. The building of intensity led to an exciting conclusion."

The University of Chicago Presents hosted the Goldstein-Peled-Fiterstein trio the last day of January at Mandel Hall and my only real complaint is that this very talented ensemble ought to have a more memorable, less cumbersome name!

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Pianist **Goldstein** took the stage alone for Liszt's Paraphrase on Verdi's "Aida" (Sacred Dance and Finale Duet). His playing was luminescent and direct. His easiness when rattling off rapid passages with clarity was impressive, as was his raw power.

The "Première Rhapsodie" by Debussy saw clarinetist Fiterstein move readily through some complex music, adeptly aided by Goldstein.

After the intermission, cellist **Peled** had the hot seat with Kopytman's Kaddish for cello and piano. His introductory remarks helped the listener understand the piece and its interesting structure. The music evoked the anger, love and admiration of a son for his father, with Peled giving full expression to all these emotions.

The concert closed with all three musicians once again on stage for a perfectly fine reading of the Brahms Trio for piano, clarinet and cello in A minor. It was the least interesting music on the program, but **the three men gave it lots of passion.**