

VIOLIN VIOLA CELLO BASS FIDDLE
STRINGS

Review

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BY EDITH EISLER

On March 1 at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall, violinist **Sylvia Rosenberg** with pianist **Barry Snyder** opened her program with Bach's Sonata No. 1 and closed it with Mozart's Sonata K.380, flanking Prokofiev's Sonata No. 1 and three of John Harbison's *Songs of Solitude* for solo violin.

She, too, is a splendid violinist. Her instrumental mastery is complete, her tone is warm, vibrant, and variable in color and nuance; her playing is thoughtful, involved and expressive, and she identified equally with every style from baroque to contemporary.

The two players are frequent partners and their ensemble is always excellent. However the piano is too big for Weill Hall's relatively small space and if kept open, as is customary, usually too loud. Snyder, to his everlasting credit, kept it almost closed without making it sound weak or remote, and the balance was exemplary.

An enthusiastic capacity audience clamored for an encore and was rewarded with Szymanowski's *Chant de Roxanne*. It shimmered with a myriad colors and sounded enchantingly beautiful.

