1-12-1983

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PIANIST TO PERFORM AT UD CONCERT

DAYTON, Ohio, January 12, 1983 -- On Thursday, January 20, at 8 p.m. in the University of Dayton Ball Theatre, Panayis Lyras, a native of Greece and winner of the silver medal in the Sixth Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, will perform as part of the UD Arts Series. Lyras, labeled as "The Prince of Pianists," is known for his selection of difficult pieces and has been referred to as "a one-man symphony."

Lyras was born in Athens, Greece, in 1953. He studied piano at the Athens Conservatory in Greece from the age of seven until coming to the United States in 1966. Within a month of his arrival in the U.S. he was awarded a full scholarship to the New York College of Music. He also attended the High School of the Performing Arts in New York and The Juilliard School. He has studied with such well-known teachers as Helen Moore, Robert Armstrong, Adele Marcus, and William Masselos.

In addition to the Van Cliburn award, Lyras also holds first prize awards from the University of Maryland International Competition, the Gina Bachauer International Competition and the Three Rivers Competition, as well as the coveted Silver Medal of the 1980 Arthur Rubinstein Competition in Israel. Lyras is a master of music graduate of the Juilliard School and currently coaches with Jorge Bolet.

(more)
During his UD performance, Lyras will perform three short sonatas by Domenico Scarlatti, Six Variations on an Original Theme in F Major Op. 34 by Beethoven, Samuel Berber's Sonata in E Flat Minor, Op. 26 and Modest Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition.

Other events in this year's Arts Series include the National Opera Company's performance of "Cosi Fan Tutti," on Wednesday, February 16, at 8 p.m. in Boll Theatre; the Clarsach Harp Ensemble on Monday, March 7, at 8 p.m. in the UD Chapel; and a Madrigal Dinner in the Kennedy Union Ballroom on Saturday, March 19, at 6 p.m. The dinner will be presented by the Cleveland State University Collegium Musicum.

For ticket information on Lyras' piano performance or any of the remaining Arts Series events, call Nora Duffy at 229-2347.