

CLARA AND ROBERT SCHUMANN: MUSIC AND MADNESS IN THE FAMILY

Cast of Characters

Friedrich Wieck (1785-1873)	Felix Mendelsohn (1809-1847)
Robert Schumann (1810-1856)	Franz Liszt (1811-1886)
Clara Wieck Schumann (1819-1896)	Frederick Chopin (1810-1849)
Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)	Richard Wagner (1813-1883)

. . . and the 8 children of Clara and Robert, from Marie (b. 1841) to Felix (b. 1854)

Chronology

1810 Robert Schumann born
 1819 Clara Wieck born
 1828 Clara gives her first public concert
 1830 Robert leaves the study of law to study piano with Wieck in Leipzig;
 lives in the Wieck household
 1831 Robert breaks his little finger; begins composing more seriously
 Robert reviews and praises Chopin's music
 1834-1844 Robert founds and edits the New Magazine for Music
 1835 Clara and Robert seriously in love
 1836 Friedrich Wieck forbids Clara to have anything to do with Robert
 1840 Marriage of Clara and Robert
 1843 Robert becomes teacher at Mendelsohn's new Conservatory in Leipzig
 Robert begins to publish a complete edition of the works of J. S. Bach
 1845 Robert moves to Dresden as conductor and teacher
 1848 Revolution: ignored by Robert; Wagner active in the revolutionary cause, flees
 1850 Robert moves to Dusseldorf as conductor
 1853 Brahms meets the Schumanns; Robert reviews and praises Brahms' music
 1854 Robert attempts suicide, is placed in asylum
 1856 Robert dies 1896 Clara dies 1897 Brahms dies

The Music (by Robert Schumann unless otherwise noted)

"Traumerai" (Opus 15, 1833), arranged for bassoon and piano
 . . . Carolyn and Michael Briggs

"Papillons" (Op. 2, 1829-1832) . . . Linda Schaldach

Two Songs from "Frauenliebe und Leben" (Op. 42, 1846)
 . . . Dodie Chapru and Laura Smail

"Knecht Ruprecht" from the Album for the Young (Op. 68, 1843)
 . . . Susan Hagstrom

Romance #2 for violin and piano (Op. 94, 1849), transcribed for mandolin
 and piano by George Calden . . . George and Ruth Calden

"Widmung" and "Der Nussbaum" from Myrthen (Op. 25, 1840),
 and "Zigeunerliedchen" (Op. 79, 1849) . . . Holly Loring and Aileen Nettleton

Selections from "Symphonic Etudes" (Op. 13, 1834) . . . Laura Smail

Two Minuets from Brahms' Serenade in D for Orchestra (Op. 11, 1857),
 arranged for recorders by John Grindrod . . . The Recorder Group