

ILYA KALER

Ilya Kaler's Mastery at TBC's Seully Hall

Running almost two hours in length, the recital showcased Kaler's mastery of both violin and bow in a program spanning music of the last two hundred years. The interpretation ranged from formal to fiery, the music spanned sonatas and bravura-piece. Throughout Ilya Kaler played with certitude and conviction, luxuriant phrases yielding to rapid volleys of notes executed with a bow barely discernible through the blur of the violinist's arm. His sound retained the darkness that is a hallmark of violinists of the so-called "Russian school." (Kaler's physical attitude toward the instrument testifies to his training in this genealogy of violin technique). I was pleased to note a full house for this concert, the more to experience first-hand this master of the violin.

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