Beethoven Society of America

At the German Embassy Monday evening the Beethoven Society of America presented a concert featuring four young artists; two recently received advanced degrees from the Indiana University School of Music and two are completing studies there. The overall caliber of musicianship was impressive, and speaks well for the acclaimed music school.

Harpist Sirin Pancaroglu and violinist Ignace Jang opened the recital with a selection of delightful romantic miniatures. Pancaroglu's fluid and graceful accompaniment nicely complemented Jang's warm-toned and sensitive colorations. The violinist's fine phrasing and expressive vibrato showed an excellent sense of style in works by Donizetti, Tournier, Saint-Saens and Chopin.

Substantial Sonatas by Beethoven (G Major, Op. 30, No. 3) and Brahms (D Minor, Op. 108, No. 3) took up the concert's second half, with violinist Jennifer Gordon and pianist Joo-Soon Kim. Gordon's tone seemed to wane a bit in some quiet passages, but her otherwise strong bowing arm lent a full-bodied sound and crisp rhythms to the music.

Kim appeared on sure footing throughout, with good dynamic balance and control. The pair closed with a lively reading of Ravel's tricky and exotic "Tzigane."

-Kate Rivers