

“Listen Hear” Program Performances and Performer Bios

November 5, 2022

2 p.m., Thomas McGuire Hall

Beethoven in the Home with Max Tan and TianYi Li

The Listen Here series kicks off with TianYi Li and Max Tan performing an 1886 arrangement of Beethoven’s Fifth Symphony. TianYi Li, a current Juilliard doctoral candidate, also premieres his arrangement of Beethoven’s Leonore Overture for solo piano, launching a discussion into how rearrangements of instruments affect our musical experiences.



Max Tan, violin, viola, and series curator

Praised as "eloquent" by the New York Times and "warmly rhapsodic" by the Boston Globe, Taiwanese American violinist Max Tan has appeared on stages across the United States, Europe, and Asia, forging a varied career as performer and educator. A founding member of the diplomacy-centered Versoi Ensemble, a tenured member of the Sarasota Orchestra, and an alumnus of the Perlman Music Program, Mr. Tan is committed to community-building through the arts. His recent projects involve

connecting musicians to isolated audiences and recovering Covid-19 patients during the pandemic, producing a monthly livestream concert series, and organizing chamber music residencies. He curates the new Listen Hear music salon series at the Sarasota Art Museum.

Mr. Tan is the recipient of the Richard F. French Award, the Sylff Fellowship, the Kovner Fellowship from The Juilliard School, and the Arthur Foote Prize from the Harvard Musical Association. He was a semifinalist at the 2019 Queen Elisabeth International Violin Competition. Recent performances include recitals and chamber music in Taipei, Los Angeles, Boston, Chicago on WFMT’s live broadcast of the Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concerts, and New York at the Chelsea Music Festival where he gave the North American premiere of Phylogenie by Japanese composer Misato Mochizuki. Committed to the music of our time, Mr. Tan works with young composers at Juilliard and Sunset Chamberfest (Los Angeles) in performance, writing, and public speaking. He has performed works by notable composers including Sarah Gibson, Sang Tong, Virgil Thomson, Stefano Gervasoni, and Jean-Frédéric Neuberger. A Harvard graduate with a major in Human Developmental and Regenerative Biology and a minor in Music, Mr. Tan is pursuing his doctorate at Juilliard, where he also received his Master's and Artist Diploma degrees. His mentors include Catherine Cho, Donald Weilerstein, Itzhak

Perlman, Lynn Chang, and Albert Markov. Mr. Tan holds an assistant faculty position at The Juilliard School Pre-College.



TianYi Li, piano

A native of Shenzhen, China, TianYi Li has received accolades at piano competitions in China and around the world. He is an alumnus of the Professional Children's School in New York City and New York University Steinhardt where he graduated cum laude from a six-year high school and undergraduate program. During this time, he studied with Eduardus Halim and competed at the 2017 Tbilisi International Piano Competition where he was awarded Third Prize (First Prize vacant) along with three additional special prizes. Mr. Li is currently pursuing his doctorate at The Juilliard School under the tutelage of Jerome Lowenthal, where he also is a Teaching Fellow for Sight Reading and Secondary Piano. As an advocate for new music, he has performed in AXIOM and the New Juilliard Ensemble at Lincoln Center. A devoted pedagogue, Mr. Li is faculty at the Bronx Conservatory of Music, teaching courses in music theory, history, and electronic music production in addition to his piano studio.

December 3, 2022

2 p.m., Thomas McGuire Hall

Brahms and the Magic of Time with Max Tan and Stephanie Tang

The Listen Here series continues with Stephanie Tang and Max Tan exploring Brahms' Violin Sonata No. 2 in A Major, perhaps the most loving of his three violin sonatas. Using historical recordings from before the Second World War, the artists discuss time versus timing, and will share insights on how our understanding of these concepts has changed throughout the last century.



Stephanie Tang, piano

Chinese-American pianist Stephanie Tang is establishing an active career in solo and chamber performance in the U.S., Canada, U.K. and Europe. She has appeared in major concert halls such as Carnegie Hall (New York), Walt Disney Concert Hall (Los Angeles), Shenzhen Concert Hall, Himalayan Concert Hall (Shanghai), Sendai Concert Hall, throughout the Netherlands, Place Flagey (Brussels), Wigmore Hall, Barbican Centre (London), Banff Centre, and Koerner Hall (Toronto). Recent concert highlights from this past season include performances at the Four Seasons Chamber Festival, Toronto Summer Music, Wigmore Hall, and a concerto debut at the Barbican Centre performing Brahms Piano Concerto No. 1 with the Guildhall Symphony Orchestra under Adrian Leaper.

This year, Ms. Tang won the Guildhall Gold Medal, the school's most prestigious music prize previously awarded to such artists as Jacqueline du Pre, Tasmin Little, and Bryn

Terfel. She has also won 1st prize at the Young Pianists' Beethoven Competition, 2nd prize at the Louisiana International Piano Competition, and the Jury's Discretionary Prize at the Los Angeles Philharmonic's Bronislaw Kaper Awards. In 2021, she was a semi-finalist in the Montreal International Piano Competition and performed at Place Flagey in Brussels at the Queen Elisabeth International Piano Competition.

Ms. Tang holds degrees from the Colburn Conservatory of Music (B.M.), Glenn Gould School (A.D.) and the Yale School of Music (M.M.). Her principal teachers have been John Perry, David Louie, Peter Serkin, and Boris Slutsky. She currently studies at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama with Ronan O'Hora.

December 17, 2022

2 p.m., Thomas McGuire Hall

Folk Music Inspiration with Timothy Chooi and ChangYong Shin

Listen Hear returns again with Timothy Chooi and ChangYong Shin presenting a short program of works inspired by folk music throughout Europe. Centered on Edvard Grieg's Violin Sonata No. 3, the artists will also present works by Dvorak, Szymanowski, and Sarasate, sharing how folk music in the lives of each composer informs their understanding and performance.



Timothy Chooi, violin

Internationally acclaimed violinist Timothy Chooi is a popular soloist, recitalist, and chamber musician, widely sought after for his passionate performances and wide-ranging repertoire. The 2nd Prize Winner at the 2019 Queen Elisabeth Competition (Belgium), 1st Prize Winner at the 2018 Joseph Joachim International Competition (Germany), and 1st Prize Winner at the 2018 Schadt Violin Competition (USA), he is also recipient of the highly coveted Prix Paternot from the Verbier Festival (Switzerland).

Mr. Chooi's recent engagements on the world stage include his debut at the Berlin Philharmonie, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, Toronto Symphony Orchestra, European tours with the Wiener Concert-Verein, Amsterdam's Royal Concertgebouw, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, collaboration with Anne-Sophie Mutter at Vienna's Musikverein and Paris' Theatre Champs-Elysses,

to name a few. He is a founding member of The VISION Collective, an ensemble of musicians who raise awareness about global refugee crises by giving voice to immigrants and displaced victims, and by producing diverse, meaningful art. The ensemble received the 2020 Harold W. McGraw Family Foundation's Robert Sherman Award for Music Education and Community Outreach.

A graduate of The Juilliard School from the studio of Catherine Cho, Mr. Chooi is passionate about developing violin pedagogy and is Professor of Violin at the University of Ottawa. His mentors include Anne-Sophie Mutter, Pinchas Zukerman, Christian Tetzlaff, Patinka Kopec, Ida Kavafian, and Pamela Frank.



ChangYong Shin, piano

Pianist ChangYong Shin is the 1st Prize Winner of the Gina Bachauer International Artist Competition, Seoul International Music Competition, and the Hilton Head International Piano Competition. His numerous solo performances have graced some of Classical music's most important venues and festivals throughout Asia, North America, and Europe, including Carnegie's Weill Hall, Paris' Salle Cortot, Korea's Lotte Concert Hall and Seoul Arts Center, WQXR's Midday Masterpieces Series (New York), Steinway Hall Artist Series, Newport Music Festival, Italy's Barletta Piano Festival, Kumho Cultural Foundation's Artist Series, and many more. Concerto appearances include with such orchestras as the Utah Symphony, Hilton Head Symphony, Oakland Symphony, Seoul Philharmonic, KBS Symphony, Korean Chamber Orchestra, and the Daegu, Gwacheon, Bucheon, Sendai, Daejeon, and Incheon Philharmonics, to name a few.

Mr. Shin's budding discography has received wide acclaim. His debut CD was listed as one of the "Best New Recordings of 2018" by WQXR. His second album of Beethoven, Chopin, and Liszt, released by Steinway & Sons, received rave reviews from ClassicToday. His latest album *Gaspard de la Nuit* was released on Korea's Stomp Music label. A native of South Korea, ChangYong Shin graduated from the Curtis Institute of Music and The Juilliard School both as a student of famed American-pianist Robert McDonald.

January 28, 2023

2 p.m., Thomas McGuire Hall

Is Music Finite or Infinite? Improvisation, Notation, and Performance with Michelle Ross

The Listen Here series returns to explore improvised music, a mysterious intersection of creation and interpretation. Michelle Ross, an alumna of the Perlman Music Program, discusses the creative process, including her library of personal voice memos and galleries of her own manuscripts. In this recreation of her workspace, the salon features premieres of new works that Ross will improvise for all to enjoy.



Michelle Ross, violin, composition

Michelle Barzel Ross is a violinist, composer, and multi-instrumental improviser. A protege of Itzhak Perlman-turned-multidisciplinary artist, Ms. Ross is known for her debut album, pop-up project and blog "Discovering Bach: Complete Sonatas and Partitas of J.S. Bach." Ross is featured on 'Movement 11' of Jon Batiste's GRAMMY winning Best Album of the Year: *We Are*, and nominated for Best Classical Composition. Passionate about expanding the bounds of contemporary music as both creator and performer, Ms.

Ross is a member of Ensemble Échappé, a guest with International Contemporary Ensemble, co-curator of Lucerne Festival Forward, and faculty at Lucerne Festival Contemporary. Ms. Ross was recently the soloist in Arvo Pärt's *Fratres* with James Blachly and EXO at the Met's Temple of Dendur celebration of Arvo Pärt. Collaboration highlights also include Bach's Double Violin Concerto with Itzhak Perlman, Michael Tilson Thomas and the San Francisco Symphony, guest concertmaster of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, London Symphony Orchestra, and Mahler Chamber Orchestra, leading the Lucerne Festival Contemporary Orchestra with Patricia Kopatchinskaja, Teodor Currentzis at The Shed, and Musicians from Marlboro tours. Recent album releases also include her solo cello composition "The Whale Song," for Saeunn Thorsteinsdottir, and her featured performances on Samuel Adler: Chamber and Instrumental Music. Ms. Ross is the recipient of the 2012 Leonore Annenberg Fellowship Fund, and was recently Artist-in-Residence at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA. Ms. Ross holds degrees from the Juilliard School and Columbia University.

April 15, 2023

2 p.m., Thomas McGuire Hall

Textures and Timbres with Max Tan, Sam Boutris, and Chelsea Wang

Tan, Boutris, and Wang will perform works by Mozart, Brahms, Bruch, and other gems of the chamber music repertoire revolving around the viola and clarinet. Elements of the instruments' singing, breathing, and speaking characteristics will be compared as the artists discuss their interplay—and exchangeability—in classical music.



Sam Boutris, clarinet

Recipient of the 'Music Solis' Grand Prize at the 2019 Chamber Music Northwest International Clarinet Competition, Sam Boutris regularly performs as a concerto soloist, recitalist, and chamber musician. In addition to recordings, his concerts have been featured on ClassicFM and broadcasted on The Violin Channel.

Recent performances include the Mozart Clarinet Quintet (Rolston String Quartet) and Clarinet Concerto at Chamber Music Northwest, a featured recital on the

award-winning Crypt Sessions series in New York City, a live broadcast solo recital on WQXR's Midday Masterpieces Series at the Greene Space, solo recitals at Dame Myra Hess (Chicago), Lincoln Centers' Paul Hall and Wilson Theater, the Harvard Club of New York, La Maison Française at New York University, and a featured recital of the Mozart and Brahms Clarinet Quintets with the Attacca Quartet on the Rockefeller Noon Series. Mr. Boutris has also appeared in concerto performances with the Vermont Mozart Festival Orchestra and the Yale Undergraduate Chamber Orchestra. As an orchestral musician, Mr. Boutris has performed as guest principal clarinet with the Louisville Symphony Orchestra and 'Symphony in C.' He has also appeared as guest clarinet with the New Haven and Princeton symphonies.

Mr. Boutris is an alumnus of the Curtis Institute of Music, Yale University, and The Juilliard School.



Chelsea Wang, piano

Praised by the New York Times as an “excellent young pianist”, Chelsea Wang has appeared as a soloist and chamber musician throughout North America, Europe and Asia in venues including Kennedy Center, Merkin Hall, Konzerthaus Berlin, Chamber Hall of Warsaw Philharmonic, Taipei National Concert Hall, and Seoul Arts Center. She is a prizewinner and finalist of many national and international piano competitions including the Seoul International Piano Competition, Washington International Piano

Competition, and New York International Piano Competition.

After making her orchestral debut at the age of six, Ms. Wang has performed with many orchestras including the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, Des Moines Symphony Orchestra, musicians from the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, among others. She has collaborated alongside Ida Kavafian, Ani Kavafian, Steven Tenenbom, Peter Wiley, Roberto Diaz, Anne-Marie McDermott, Anton Nel, Randall Scarlata, Dmitri Murrath, and other inspirational mentors. Festival appearances include Music@Menlo, Ravinia Steans Institute, Bravo!Vail, Music Academy of the West, Fontainebleau, Music from Angel Fire, and Norfolk Chamber Music Festival.

A native of West Des Moines, Iowa, Ms. Wang is a graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia where she studied with Meng-Chieh Liu and Ignat Solzhenitsyn and was awarded the prestigious Sergei Rachmaninoff Award upon graduation. She received her Master of Music degree and Graduate Performance Diploma at the Peabody Conservatory under the tutelage of Leon Fleisher and Yong-Hi Moon. Ms. Wang is currently pursuing her Doctor of Musical Arts at Northwestern University’s Bienen School of Music with James Giles.