



SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Presents

Music She Creates
- A Celebration of Asian Women Composers -

Cecilia Lo-Chien Kao, piano
with
Haerim Elizabeth Lee, violin
Guest Artist: Gyungsun Im, bassoon

March 1st, 2023

7:00 PM

PepsiCo Recital Hall

Program

Romance and Dance for Violin and Piano

I. Romance of Hsiao and Ch'in
II. Dance

Chen Yi

(b. 1953)

Crystalline II for Piano

Karen Tanaka

(b. 1961)

Spring Fever for Bassoon and Piano

I. Pastoral
II. Fever

Cindi Hsu

(b. 1970)

Glimpses for Prepared Piano

I. Kotekan
II. Snow
III. Chant

Vivian Fung

(b.1975)

The use of recording equipment or taking photographs is prohibited.
Please silence all electronic devices including watches, pagers, and phones.

Biographies

Korean violinist, **Haerim Elizabeth Lee** captivates audiences by “leaving them breathless with impeccable phrasing and relevant musicality.” (*El Norte*, Mexico). Elizabeth has developed a playing style indicative of the very essence of her personality: passionate and deliberate. In 2015, Ms. Lee performed as the concertmaster with Yo-Yo Ma at the Kennedy Center Honors concert in Washington, D.C. to recognize Maestro Seiji Ozawa, which was attended by former President Barack Obama. Following her solo debut with orchestra at nine years old, she has been a guest soloist with the Winston-Salem Symphony, Symphony of the Mountains, Orquesta Sinfonica de la Unal, Seoul Virtuosi, Daejeon Philharmonic Orchestra and Filharmonie Bohuslava Martinu. As a performing artist and scholar, Ms. Lee has established herself as a visionary and was the first recipient of the Tarisio Young Artist Grant as the Artistic Director of MoKo Musik for promotion and commission of Korean music. She is also the Co-Artistic Director of the Innsbrook Institute in Missouri.

Performing within the intimate setting of chamber music, one of Ms. Lee’s most cherished experiences, has enabled her to collaborate with world-renowned artists such as Robert McDuffie, Stephan Picard Barry Shiffman, David Halen, Christopher Rex, and Todd Palmer. Elizabeth has participated in numerous music festivals including Prussia Cove International Music Seminar, Banff Centre, Aspen Music Festival, Tanglewood Music Center, Music Academy of the West, Heifetz International Music Festival, Spoleto Music Festival USA, Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival, and Sarasota Music Festival.

Ms. Lee possesses a progressive philosophy when it comes to exploring and premiering works by living composers. She has worked with Thomas Adès and has performed the Canadian premiere of Bright Sheng’s piano quintet at the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity. Ms. Lee has performed the North American premiere of Unsuk Chin’s *Double Bind?* Her deep-rooted love for collaboration has resulted in some innovative relationships with complementary but also unconventional art forms such as exhibits with the Boston Architecture School and performances with choreographers and dancers. Ms. Lee immigrated from Daejeon, South Korea, at the age of eight to pursue scholarship in music at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. She went on to obtain her Bachelor of Arts from the New England Conservatory and, subsequently, her Masters in Music from Rice University Shepherd School of Music. While pursuing her Doctorate of Musical Arts at the University of Michigan, Elizabeth was profoundly inspired by her experiences abroad at the Paris Conservatoire.

Elizabeth’s debut album, *My Time is Now*, is the first ever recording to feature George Gershwin’s recently restored Steinway piano from his New York apartment. Inspired by George Gershwin’s quote, “My people are American, my time is today. Music must repeat the thought and aspirations of the times,” she has taken this opportunity to juxtapose classical works by Gershwin with contemporary works by living composers and collaborators. The album will be out on INNOVA label in fall of 2019.

Gyungsun Im, a native of Korea, completed her Doctoral of Musical Arts degree in Bassoon Performance and Pedagogy at the University of Colorado at Boulder under the guidance of Dr. Yoshiyuki Ishikawa. She received a bachelor’s degree at the Ewha Womans University in Seoul and a master’s degree at the university of Colorado at Boulder. An active orchestral performer, Gyungsun has served as the principal bassoonist of the Seoul Royal Orchestra, the Gwacheon Orchestra, and the Lindenbaum Festival Orchestra under Charles Dutoit. Gyungsun is a member of the Korean Bassoon Society (KBS) and has performed with the KBS at the Sejong Center. Gyungsun is currently principal bassoonist of Arapahoe

Philharmonic, second bassoonist of Boulder Philharmonic, and winner of the National Bassoon Orchestral Excerpts Competition. She is an instructor at the Boulder Symphony Music Academy and a substitute musician for New World Symphony.

Taiwanese pianist **Cecilia Lo-Chien Kao** is a dynamic performer that is in demand as a chamber musician. She has collaborated with several distinguished artists including Lynn Harrell, Stefan Jackiw, Robert McDuffie, Bion Tsang, Gerardo Ribeiro, David Coucheron, and Jennifer Stumm, members of the Tokyo, Emerson, Juilliard String Quartets, among many others.

Kao is an Assistant Professor of Professional Practice in Music and Collaborative Piano Artist at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth. She is also the Coordinator of Collaborative Piano at the prestigious Meadowmount School of Music in Westport, New York. She has been a collaborative pianist at Columbus State University and Mercer University in Georgia, where she worked with students of the Robert McDuffie Center for Strings.

She has appeared at Carnegie Weill Hall and can be heard with cellist Bion Tsang on his CD *The Blue Rock Sessions*. She was also a member of the Boulder Altitude Directive, a modern music ensemble dedicated to commissioning and performing new music, during their inaugural season. Cecilia has received fellowships for both the Aspen School of Music and the Music Academy of the West. She also was a chamber music artist at the Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival in Florida.

Kao holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Collaborative Piano from the University of Colorado Boulder and a Master of Music degree in Collaborative Piano from the University of Texas at Austin, where she studied with the pioneer pedagogue, Anne Epperson. Prior to her move to the U.S., she was one of the first pianists to receive the Master of Arts degree in Collaborative Piano from National Taiwan Normal University in Taipei, where she also received her bachelor's degree in Piano Performance. Her principal teachers include Anne Epperson, Margaret McDonald, Alexandra Nguyen, Elizabeth Pridgen, Chi-Chen Wu, and Shu-Cheng Lin.

Cecilia Lo-Chien Kao is a Yamaha Artist.