LUNAR NEW YEAR

PIANO CONCERT SERIES

WITH THE SIS-ILIA TRIO

HYERIM LEE | JASMINE LUCIA WONG | KHANH NHU LƯƠNG
Sis-ilia Trio, comprised of Doctoral Candidates in Piano Performance at the University of Michigan, Hyerim Lee, Khanh Nhi Luong, and Jasmine Lucia Wong (Performance & Pedagogy) shared many special memories at the Sicily International Piano Festival in Italy 2023. Bound by their love for music, these three friends found themselves drawn to performing together for different audiences.

The Lunar New Year Piano Concert Series shows one of the ways Sis-ilia Trio is dedicated to the pursuit of musical appreciation. The LNY Piano Concert Series is a newly established cultural concert series dedicated to the celebration of diverse East Asian traditions through the integrated performance of diverse folk music-inspired compositions hailing from Korea, Vietnam, and China beginning February, the month of Lunar New Year. Fueled by their shared passion, the trio envisioned a piano concert series that would spotlight the folk songs of their respective homelands.

In this collaborative venture, Hyerim, Nhi, and Jasmine aim to weave a musical tapestry that transcends borders. The piano concert series serves as a celebration of the diverse folk traditions that have shaped their identities. Join Sis-ilia Trio on a captivating journey through the melodies of East Asia, as they harmonize cultural richness with musical elements.
Date:  Monday, February 5, 2024

Time:  8:00 - 9:00 pm

Place:  Stamps Recital Hall, 1226 Murfin Ave., Ann Arbor, Michigan

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**Bunches of Flowers of Vietnam**

Dang Huu Phuc (b. 1953)

- **Chùm Hoa Việt Nam**
  
  I.  Spring - Mùa xuân
  
  II.  Rain - Mưa rơi
  
  III.  Loving Look - Lúng liếng
  
  IV.  Butterfly and Flower - Bướm Hoa
  
  V.  Drums - Trống cöm

  **Nhi Luong, piano**

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**Shingo Mountain Song**

Il-Nam Chang (1932–2006)

- 신고산 타령

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**Bluebird, Bluebird**

Teddy Niedermaier (b. 1983)

- 새야 새야 파랑새야

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**Me-Ah-ri**

Grace Ann Lee (b. 1996)

- 메아리

  **Hyerim Lee, piano**

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**INTERMISSION**
Eight Memories in Watercolor, Op. 1

Tan Dun (b. 1957)

I. Missing Moon
II. Staccato Beans
III. Herdboy’s Song
VII. Floating Clouds
VIII. Sunrain

Colorful Clouds Chasing The Moon

Arr. Wang Jian-Zhong (1933-2016)

- 彩雲追月

Jasmine Lucia Wong, piano

The Wood Dragon

Nguyen Le Binh Anh (b. 1996)

(World premiere commissioned for the Lunar New Year Piano Concert Series of 2023-2024)

Hyerim Lee, Jasmine Lucia Wong, Nhi Luong, piano six hands
Vietnamese pianist Nhi Luong has enjoyed an international career spanning over three continents. Born and raised in a musical family, Nhi started playing piano at the age of four. In 2014, Nhi was the only candidate who got chosen to study in Kunstuniversität Graz (Austria) with full scholarship, after a series of auditions which were held by the ASIA-Uninet and OeAD in the South-East Asia region. During her time in Austria, she was engaged in numerous performances throughout Europe, such as Bad Goisern (Austria), Karlsruhe (Germany) and Aarhus (Denmark).

Nhi is the prize winner of the Yong Siew Toh Concerto Competition (2017), Lee University International Piano Competition (2021), MTNA National Piano Competition (2023), the University of Michigan School of Music Concerto Competition (2023), and recently the Sicily International Piano Competition, which gained her a five-concert tour in Italy and England in 2024.

Nhi was selected to perform in various international festivals such as the Amalfi Music Festival (Italy), Engadin Summer Piano Academy (Samedan, Switzerland) and Musical Chairs (Montreal, Canada). She has worked alongside Andras Schiff, Gabor Takacs-Nagy, Stephen Hough, Shlomo Mintz, Nelson Goerner and David Fray.

Nhi obtained her Bachelor’s Degree in Piano Performance with full scholarship at the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music (Singapore) and Master of Music Degree in Piano Performance and Chamber Music at the University of Michigan—where she continues to pursue her Doctoral of Musical Arts degree under the tutelage of Prof. Christopher Harding.
Born in South Korea, Hyerim Lee is an active pianist, chamber musician, and pedagogue. In her teenage, Hyerim won the second prize at the OSAKA International Competition and became a laureate at the Ettlingen International Piano Competition. After moving to the United States, she became a finalist of the William C. Byrd Competition (2019) and won the second prize at MTNA Young Artist Piano Competition (2020). She was a finalist of the Lewisville Lake Symphony International Competition (2021) and a semi-finalist of the International Piano Festival of Rio de Janeiro (2022). In 2023, She won the first prize at the Music International Grand Prix in New York and became a semi-finalist of the Campillos International Piano Competition.

Hyerim has been invited to perform in prestigious venues such as Carnegie Hall, Merkin Hall, and Hill Auditorium in which she presented a wide range of repertoire. In 2023, she presented her lecture recital on Robert Schumann’s Kreisleriana at the Grand Valley State University where she also gave a masterclass.

With a consistent passion for chamber music, Hyerim participated in a lot of ensembles and performed in many chamber concerts. Her piano trio (Trio Belkorim) won the third prize at 2020 MTNA Chamber Music Competition and her piano trio with woodwinds (Trio Blank Slate) became a semifinalist of the Plowman Chamber Music Competition as well as the third prize winner at the Briggs Chamber Music Competition. Also, having a fascination with the period instruments, she organized and presented her solo recital and chamber recital on fortepianos. Hyerim earned her Bachelor degree from Seoul National University and earned her Master degree at the University of Michigan where she is currently pursuing her Doctoral degree with Christopher Harding.
Highly devoted to performance and education, Chinese-Canadian pianist Jasmine Lucia Wong is a passionate musician always discovering new ways to learn and teach the piano. Her accomplishments in performance and pedagogy have established her as a recipient of numerous full-tuition academic and music scholarships, and have brought her to perform in venues around Italy, the USA, and Canada. She has won various first-place prizes from city and province-wide competitions while having been the chosen solo pianist representative of Ontario, Canada for many consecutive years. Jasmine has also been presented with institutional awards including the Sicily International Music Festival Scholarship, the Menahem Pressler Scholarship, the Adamant School Scholarship, and the Alice Kern Award. In 2023, Jasmine was recruited as the music department pianist of the globally acclaimed film, *American: An Odyssey to 1947*. The film is recognized with multiple awards across North America, South America, Europe, and Australia.

Jasmine is a returning adjudicator for the Michigan Federation of Music Clubs Festival and an RCM-certified teacher at the Royal Conservatory of Music in the USA and Canada. She has been named a Michigan Artist Citizen and appointed the newest Head Teaching Artist for the Willis C. Patterson OOT Piano Program in Ann Arbor this 2024. Excitement builds as she prepares for her performances in Gijón, Spain this upcoming August.

Jasmine received her Bachelor’s Degree in Honours Piano Performance at the University of Western Ontario under the tutelage of Gwen Beamish. She has completed her dual Master’s Degree and is now pursuing her Doctoral Degree in Piano Performance and Pedagogy at the University of Michigan on full scholarship with Christopher Harding and Dr. John Ellis. Jasmine was the only student accepted into her dual Master’s (2019) and Doctorate program (2021).
We want to thank the following partnerships with the LNY Piano Concert Series that helped make this series of performances possible:

- SMTD EXCEL Enterprise Fund
- Flight88 Cincinnati Concert Series
- Chinese Canadian National Council (London Chapter)
- Ann Arbor Piano Teachers Guild
- The James and Anne Duderstadt Center Audio Studios
- University of Michigan, School of Music, Theatre & Dance
- Bloomfield Township Public Library
- Cedars of Dexter

Supported in part through the EXCEL Enterprise Fund.