



SCHOOL OF  
**MUSIC, THEATRE & DANCE**  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

# PIANO DEPARTMENT DMA CONCERTO CONCERT

ANN ARBOR SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

DEAN WHITESIDE, CONDUCTOR

MINJI KIM, PIANO

CEREN SU SAHIN, PIANO

SIWON KIM, PIANO

*Friday, February 24, 2023*

*Hill Auditorum*

*8:00 PM*

**Piano Concerto no. 2 in G Minor, op. 22** (1868)

Andante sostenuto

Allegro scherzando

Presto

Camille Saint-Saëns

(1835–1921)

Ceren Su Sahin, piano

**Piano Concerto in F** (1925)

Allegro

Adagio – Andante con moto

Allegro agitato

George Gershwin

(1898–1937)

Minji Kim, piano

*Intermission*

**Piano Concerto no. 1 in B-flat Minor, op. 23** (1875)

Allegro non troppo e molto maestoso

Andantino semplice- Prestissimo

Allegro con fuoco

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

(1840–1893)

Siwon Kim, piano

*The use of all cameras and recording devices is strictly prohibited.  
Please turn off all cell phones and pagers or set ringers to silent mode.*

## ANN ARBOR SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Dean Whiteside, Guest Conductor

The Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra (A<sup>2</sup>SO) is a versatile professional orchestra, performing the gamut of musical styles – from Beethoven to Bolcom. Equally at home giving shining performances of the revered classical symphonic masterpieces as it is with platforming newly minted commissions, the A<sup>2</sup>SO performs to 70,000 listeners every year in the Ann Arbor area. Founded in 1928, the A<sup>2</sup>SO (then known as the “Ann Arbor Community Orchestra,” and later the “Ann Arbor Civic Orchestra”) offered its first major program in November 1931. In 1941, distinguished music educator Joseph Maddy, who had founded what would later become the Interlochen Center for the Arts, became the fourth conductor of the Symphony, which at this time was still made up of amateur players. By 1986, the A<sup>2</sup>SO had become a fully professional orchestra under conductor Carl St.Clair, and has continued to grow in artistic quality ever since. On June 9, 2022, the orchestra announced the appointment of Earl Lee as the orchestra’s 14th Music Director, ushering in a new chapter in the A<sup>2</sup>SO’s mission and vision.

The orchestra’s 2021-22 concert season was one of renewal and reunion as we welcomed main-stage audiences back to our concert halls for the first time since January 2020. Following an extensive search that evaluated over 225 Music Director candidates across every continent except Antarctica, six finalists were selected to conduct ten concerts across nine months in Ann Arbor’s Hill Auditorium and the Michigan Theater. Featuring internationally-renowned soloists including cellists Zlatomir Fung (Gold Medalist at the 2019 Tchaikovsky International Cello Competition) and Paul Watkins (member of the Emerson Quartet), pianists Gloria Chien, Christopher Harding, and Arthur Greene, violinists Soovin Kim (Winner of the 1996 Paganini Competition), Aaron Berofsky, clarinetist Chad Burrow, and more, the season also celebrated the works of living composers including Carlos Simon, Alejandro Basulto, Michael Kropf, and Bright Sheng.

One of the Midwest’s leading symphony orchestras, the A<sup>2</sup>SO is critically acclaimed for innovative programming and a deep commitment to artistic excellence. Its musicians are the finest professional performers in the region and around the globe and present concerts in all venues – from area farmers markets to school classrooms, and from libraries to day care and senior centers. Each year, more than 20,000 youngsters in Southeast Michigan experience the A<sup>2</sup>SO in their schools, libraries and communities. Through these interactions they grow their musical curiosity, listening skills, and their love of music.

Beginning in 2021, the A<sup>2</sup>SO launched the innovative My Song program, equipping kids with tools and resources to create their own melodies. The culmination of this process is the opportunity for students to hear their compositions performed by a professional musician, building on their foundations and demonstrating the basics of writing for a variety of instruments. Demonstrating the orchestra’s deep commitment to supporting teachers and learning initiatives across the region, the A<sup>2</sup>SO developed new resources for its Teacher Resource Hub, presented the virtual Link Up 2022 performance in partnership with Carnegie Hall, and re-launched its KinderConcerts series in Ann Arbor, Saline, Ypsilanti, Chelsea and Dexter libraries, as well as planning for special performances at C.S. Mott Children’s Hospital this season. A<sup>2</sup>SO concerts can be heard in person and by broadcast on WKAR and WRCJ radio stations. Whether on your device or radio, in the concert hall or the classroom, the A<sup>2</sup>SO is passionately committed to lead and enrich the culture of the region. We attract, inspire and educate the most diverse audience possible, foster a growing appreciation for orchestral music and regional talent, and provide imaginative programming through community involvement.

Earl Lee	Music Director
Sarah Calderini	Executive Director
Jennifer Balch Hale	Director of Development & Donor Services
Alexis Berry	Orchestra Librarian
Jeff Beyersdorf	Production Manager
Yi-Ching Chen	Director of Artistic Operations
Kemper Edwards	Director of Marketing & Communications
Marissa Honig	Learning & Community Program Manager
David Lamse	Orchestra Personnel Manager
Kathryn Marks	Learning & Community Senior Manager
Vicki J. White	Director of Finance

Dean Whiteside is Resident Conductor of the Atlantic Music Festival and director of the Nashville Sinfonietta. He is cover conductor of the Alabama Symphony Orchestra for its 2022-23 season. A recipient of a Career Assistance Award and the 2023 Elizabeth Buccheri Opera Residency from the Solti Foundation U.S., he will be in residence this year at the Lyric Opera of Chicago.

Mr. Whiteside is winner of the 2018 American Prize in Conducting and the 2021 Ernst Bacon Memorial Award. He received second prize and the Zagreb Philharmonic Orchestra Award at the Sixth International Competition of Young Conductors Lovro von Matačić. Other distinctions include the 2017 Mahler Conducting Fellowship, Bruno Walter Memorial Foundation Conducting Scholarship, Croatian Composers' Society Award, David Efron Conducting Fellowship at the Chautauqua Institution Music Festival, Bayreuth Festival Scholarship, and David Rabin Performance Prize.

Mr. Whiteside has served as cover conductor to the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Naples Philharmonic, Orchestra of St. Luke's, and San Francisco Symphony. Mr. Whiteside's professional engagements have included appearances with the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra, Daejeon Philharmonic Orchestra, Orlando Philharmonic, Sibiu State Philharmonic, and Zagreb Philharmonic, and he has conducted the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Danish National Symphony Orchestra, Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra, and Tonhalle Orchestra Zurich as part of workshops and competitions. He co-conducted the Vanderbilt University Orchestra on a five-city tour of China.

Mr. Whiteside completed a three-year fellowship with the New World Symphony and artistic director Michael Tilson Thomas, and he has worked closely with conductors including Roberto Abbado, James Conlon, Bernard Labadie, Timothy Muffitt, Robert Spano, Osmo Vänskä, and HK Gruber. He graduated with distinction from the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna and Vanderbilt University's Blair School of Music.

## ABOUT THE SOLOISTS

**CEREN SU SAHIN** - Born and raised in Turkey, Ceren Su Sahin started her piano education at Bilkent University Preparatory School of Music at the age of 4, continuing at the Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University with Prof. Seher Tanrıyar from middle school through college, earning her first BM in Piano Performance. She was an Erasmus exchange student at the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw, Poland as a student of Prof. Jerzy Sterczyk. After coming to the US, she went to Florida Gulf Coast University to study with Dr. Michael Baron, graduating summa cum laude and receiving her second BA.

Sahin has won numerous performance prizes, including 1st Prize in “3rd Mozart International Piano Competition” held in Rome/Italy, 3rd Prize at “Young Talents 2012 Piano Competition”, 3rd Prize in “2nd Sergey Rachmaninov Piano Competition”, 3rd Prize and the Best Cemal Reşit Rey Interpretation Prize at “1st National Vedat Kosal Piano Competition”. She participated in various masterclasses and festivals throughout Turkey and Europe, studying with world-famous pianists such as Andras Schiff, Ilya Itin, Peter Katin, Jerzy Sterczyk, Idil Biret, Stephane Blet, Misha Dacic, Nikolai Demidenko, Julian Gorus, Denis Kozhukhin, Wolfram Schmitt-Leonardy, Paul Barnes, Gülsin Onay, Rolf Plagge, Hüseyin Sermet, and Johan Schmidt.

She performed in many concerts including performances with MSGSU State Symphony Orchestra, Istanbul State Symphony Orchestra and Eskisehir Metropolitan Municipality Symphony Orchestra. She was awarded the “Turkish Educational Foundation Eclat Scholarship” for her outstanding accomplishments.

Ceren Su Sahin is currently a DMA candidate and a Graduate Student Instructor at the University of Michigan in Piano Pedagogy & Performance, where she also received her MM degree as a student of Prof. Logan Skelton and Prof. John Ellis. She is also a piano instructor at Schoolcraft College. As an active performer and a pedagogue, she passionately advocates for the use and accessibility of the ergonomically scaled piano keyboards (ESPK) to enable a wider range of people to play the piano.

**MINJI KIM**, a native of South Korea, is an active soloist and chamber musician who has performed across the United States, South Korea, Czech Republic, and Russia. Since she moved to the United States, she has performed in Michigan at venues such as Detroit Steinway Gallery, The Alger House at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial and the Downriver Council of the Arts. She has also been invited to perform solo recitals at the Crystal Valley Concert Series in Middlebury, Indiana, as well as the Music for Meditation Series at St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church in Ann Arbor, Michigan. She won the first prizes in prestigious competitions such as the Chung-Ang University Competition, Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra Competition, and was a finalist in both the 2021 Jacqueline Avenet Concerto Competition in Sewanee, Tennessee as well as the 2019 Beardsley Piano Prize Competition in Elkhart, Indiana. She joined the Fiorire Soloists in September 2019, which was created with the idea of offering more performance opportunities for young professional musicians.

Minji Kim graduated from Seoul National University with a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance and a Bachelor of Arts in Art History, ranking first in her Department. She then moved to the United States to attend the University of Michigan, where she received Master of Music degrees in both Piano Performance and Chamber Music Performance. She was awarded

numerous scholarships including the Graduate Merit Scholarship, Karen. A. Mayer Scholarship, and a scholarship from Tuesday Musicale of Detroit. Minji is currently a candidate for a Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the University of Michigan under the tutelage of Christopher Harding, as a full scholarship recipient. She is also pursuing a Certificate in Art Leadership and Entrepreneurship. Her other teachers include Hie-Yon Choi and Hyungmin Lee.

**SIWON KIM** was born in Seoul, South Korea. She began studying piano at the age of three.

She studied at Seoul Arts High School and graduated from Seoul National University, where she studied with Hyoung-Joon Chang. Afterwards she studied at Indiana University South Bend (A.D, M.M) with Alexander Toradze. Currently, she is pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts in Piano Performance at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor with Arthur Greene.

Siwon Kim won prizes at numerous competitions including the Indianapolis Matinee Musicale Competition and the W. Byrd international piano competition in Flint, Michigan. She has performed with the Gunpo Prime Philharmonic and the South Bend Symphony Orchestra, as well as giving recitals in Korea, Japan, and the United State.

Most recently, Siwon was invited to perform at Mariinsky II, St. Petersburg, Russia, with Mr. Toradze and the Mariinsky Orchestra conducted by Valery Gergiev, as well as at the State Palace of Ceremonies in Tbilisi, Georgia to perform in the Presidential Order of Excellence award ceremony.

# ANN ARBOR SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

## Dean Whiteside, Guest Conductor

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### VIOLIN I

Michael Romans, Concertmaster  
Alena Carter, Associate Concertmaster  
Jennifer Berg  
Emily Hauer  
Debra Terry  
Yung-Hsuan Lo  
Emelyn Bashour  
Judy Blank  
Stuart Carlson

### VIOLIN II

Nathaniel Cornell, Principal  
Annamaria Vazmatzidis  
Katie Rowan  
Cyril Zilka  
Ellen Hayashi  
Bethlehem Kelley  
Zoe Dweck  
Allyson Cohen

### VIOLA

Scott Woolweaver, Principal  
Barbara Zmich-McClellan  
Janine Bradbury  
Mateo Calderon  
Margot Cunningham

### CELLO

Benjamin Maxwell, Principal  
Sabrina Lackey  
Sarina Zhang  
Yun Han

### BASS

Gregg Emerson Powell, Principal  
Jon Luebke  
Abimelec Guerra

### FLUTE

Trey Bradshaw, Principal  
Melissa Mashner  
Emily Olson

### OBOE

Stephanie Shapiro, Principal  
Kristin Reynolds  
Yuki Harding

### CLARINET

Chad Burrow, Principal  
Elliott Ross  
Janet Sommerfeld

### BASSOON

Christian Green, Principal  
Daniel Fendrick

### HORN

Kurt Civilette, Principal  
Ben Wulfman  
Colin Bianchi  
Paulina Aguirre

### TRUMPET

Justin Rowan, Principal  
Eriko Fujita  
Becky Bloomer

### TROMBONE

Donald Babcock, Principal  
Zongxi Li  
Gary Hellick

### TUBA

Jarrett McCourt

### TIMPANI

Zachary Masri

### PERCUSSION

John Dorsey, Principal  
Cary Kocher  
Jason Ihnat  
Jason Quay

### HARP

Brittany DeYoung



