



Manhattan School of Music *Distance Learning*

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Thursday, October 16, 2008, 7:30 pm
William R. and Irene D. Miller Recital Hall

FRIENDS & FAMILY ALUMNI REUNION WEEKEND STUDENT SHOWCASE CONCERT AND WEBCAST

*Presented jointly by the Distance Learning Program
and the Office of Student Life*

PROGRAM

Opening Remarks

Robert Sirota, *President*
Manhattan School of Music

FRANZ LISZT
(1811–1886)
(arr. Vladimir Horowitz)

Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2 in
C-sharp Minor, S. 244-2

Andrew Choi, *Piano* (South Korea)

JOHANN STRAUSS, JR.
(1825–1899)

Frühlingsstimmen, op. 410

Nina Berman, *Soprano*
(Great Neck, New York)
Jing Yang, *Piano* (China)

MARCEL GRANDJANY
(1891–1975)

Fantaisie sur un theme de Haydn, op. 31
Introduction
Theme
Variation II
Variation V

Brittany Hicken, *Harp*
(South Jordan, Utah)

CLAUDE DEBUSSY
(1862–1918)

L'Isle Joyeuse

David Alaverdian, *Piano*
(Yonkers, New York)

JOHANNES BRAHMS
(1833–1897)

Sonata No. 2 in A Major, op. 100
Allegro amabile

Anna Margrethe Haugland Nilsen,
Violin (Norway)
Jing Yang, *Piano* (China)

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH
(1685–1750)

Partita No. 4 in D Major, BWV 828
Sarabande
Menuet
Gigue

Hoang Pham, *Piano* (Australia)

GASPAR CASSADÓ
(1897–1966)

Requiebros

Jessica Lizardo, *Cello*
(San Francisco, California)
Stephen Bowden, *Piano*
(Boston, Massachusetts)

PHILIPPE GAUBERT
(1879–1941)

Fantaisie

Gina Choi, *Flute* (Brea, California)
Dahee Park, *Piano*
(South Korea)

FRANZ LISZT

Les Jeux d'eaux à la Ville d'Este
from *Années de pèlerinage*, S. 163

Jing Yang, *piano* (China)

BOB BECKER
(b. 1947)

Girlfriends: A Medley

Rajesh Prasad, *Xylophone*
(Grove City, Ohio)
Sean Kleve, *Marimba*
(Cleveland, Ohio)
Matt Prendergast, *Marimba*
(Litchfield, New Hampshire)
Kyle Ritenauer, *Marimba*
(Macedonia, Ohio)
Sean Ritenauer, *Marimba*
(Macedonia, Ohio)

BOB DOROUGH and
TERRELL KIRK, JR.
(arr. Camille DeVore)
(b. 1923 and n.d.)

Devil May Care

Camille DeVore, *Voice*
(Omaha, Nebraska)
Cyrus von Hochstetter, *Piano*
(Switzerland)
John Gray, *Double Bass*
(Phoenix, Arizona)
Jeffrey K. Witherell, *Drums*
(Portland, Maine)

ANDY AKIHO
(b. 1979)

Aka

Andy Akiho, *Steel Pan*
(Columbia, South Carolina)
Ruben Samama, *Double Bass*
(Netherlands)
Jake Goldbas, *Drums*
(Hartford, Connecticut)

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

ANDREW CHOI

Pianist Andrew Choi was born in Ann Arbor, Michigan and later moved with his family to South Korea, where he currently resides. He started playing the piano at the age of seven and has won numerous competitions. Recently, he won second prize at the Bradshaw and Buono Piano Competition and appeared at the Prizewinner's Concert at the Kosciuszko Foundation. He is currently a scholarship student at Manhattan School of Music.

NINA BERMAN

Nina Berman, soprano, received second place in both the 2008 Five Towns Young Musicians Competition and the 2008 Long Island Choral Society Competition. She was a finalist in the Kosciuszko Foundation's 2008 Sembrich Voice Competition. She has sung in master classes with Daniel Beckwith, Andrew Parrott, and Stephanie Blythe as part of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center's focus on American songs. Nina is currently a senior at Manhattan School of Music studying with Arthur Levy.

JING YANG

Jing Yang was born in China and began studying piano at the age of five. Jing studied at the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing from 1998 to 2006. In 2000, she won Third Prize in the Xinghai Cup Piano Competition in Beijing and in the Chopin International Piano Competition for Young Artists in Taipei. In 2005, she won Second Prize at Eastman's Young Artists International Piano Competition. Jing has given concerts in many cities in China, as well as the United States, Russia, Spain, Japan, and Taipei. In May 2007, she was invited to play at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall. She was a repeat winner of an annual scholarship awarded at the Central Conservatory of Music, and in 2004, also won a top scholarship named after Fu Chengxian at the Conservatory. She began studying with Dr. Solomon Mikowsky at Manhattan School of Music in 2006 with full scholarship.

BRITTANY HICKEN

Brittany Hicken is a sophomore at Manhattan School of Music studying harp with Susan Jolles. This past summer she was a top prizewinner in the Utah State Fair Music Competition. In 2007, she was a winner of the Utah Symphony Youth Guild Recital competition. Brittany enjoys orchestral playing and most recently performed in the Project Opera of Manhattan production of Benjamin Britten's *Rape of Lucretia*.

DAVID ALAVERDIAN

Pianist David Alaverdian, born in Kazakhstan in the former Soviet Union, completed five years of musical training at the Uspensky School for Gifted Children in Tashkent, Uzbekistan then immigrated with his family to the United States in 1994. Having no musical connections in New York City, David was encouraged by his parents

to perform in New York subways on a small electric keyboard, an endeavor that attracted the attention of *The New York Times* in 1995. His name at that time was David Allakhverdov. He subsequently studied with concert pianist Seymour Lipkin at the Juilliard School, where he received several prizes, including 1st Prize at the Chopin Piano Concerto Competition in 2000, an achievement that again drew the attention of *The New York Times*, which ran a review of a performance entitled, "Subway Soloist Takes the Stage at Juilliard." David is currently completing his Master's degree at Manhattan School of Music under the tutelage of Andre-Michel Schub. He is also currently majoring in Electrical Engineering at City College.

ANNA MARGRETHE HAUGLAND NILSEN

Anna Margrethe Haugland Nilsen began playing the violin at the age of four. From 2004 to 2006, she was a Young Musician at the Norwegian Academy of Music. She is now in her second year at Manhattan School of Music, studying with Patinka Kopec. At the age of nine, Anna was a soloist with the Norwegian Broadcasting Orchestra. She has since been a soloist with many other orchestras, among them the Novgorod Chamber Orchestra, Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra, Juenesses Musicales Orchestra, Norwegian Opera Orchestra, and the St. Petersburg State Philharmonic Orchestra. Anna toured Norway with the State Chamber Orchestra of Belarus in 2002, 2003, and 2004. In 1999 and 2004, she won the first prize in the Sparre Olsen Competition. In 2002, she took the first prize in the National Violin Competition for Youth in Norway. Anna performed the Beethoven and Mendelssohn Violin Concertos with the St. Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra in Russia in May 2008.

HOANG PHAM

Pianist Hoang Pham was born in Vietnam and moved to Australia with his parents at an early age. Hoang has performed as a soloist with the Melbourne, Queensland, and Tasmanian Symphony Orchestras, and is the recipient of the Presser Foundation's Undergraduate Scholar Award and the Manhattan School of Music's Mieczyslaw Munz Scholarship. Hoang has also won prizes at the Bösendorfer, Cleveland, Hilton Head, and Sydney International Piano Competitions. Currently, Hoang is a senior studying with Marc Silverman. Previously, he studied at the Australian National Academy of Music with Rita Reichman.

JESSICA LIZARDO

Jessica Lizaro, a former student of Irene Sharp's, started studying the cello at age five. She is a graduate of the San Francisco School of the Arts. As an avid chamber musician, Jessica has participated in the San Francisco Conservatory of Music chamber music program, where her trio performed in the Yehudi Menuhin Seminar. She was also principal cellist of the Peninsula Youth Orchestra (PYO) in the San Francisco Bay area. She has participated in various competitions and was the first place winner in the string category for the Burlingame Music Club competition in 2007. Jessica performed in the Bach Festival in 2004 and 2006, played the Elgar Concerto as a soloist with her school orchestra, and participated in a master class with Mark Kosower in 2005. With her orchestra, she toured Italy in 2003, and Spain and France in 2005.

STEPHEN BOWDEN

Stephen Bowden, born in Boston, Massachusetts, grew up in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, where he began his piano studies at the age of eight. He attended high school at the North Carolina School of the Arts, where he studied with Clifton Matthews, and is currently a sophomore at Manhattan School of Music, studying with Marc Silverman. He has played for such notable artists as Claude Frank, Jerome Lowenthal, Joseph Kalichstein, and Robert McDonald.

GINA CHOI

Gina Choi was born in Orange County, California, where she began her studies in flute at the age of ten. She has performed in venues such as Segerstorm Hall at the Orange County Performing Arts Center, Zipper Hall at the Colburn School in Los Angeles, Schoenberg Hall at the University of California at Los Angeles, and the Gilles-Lefebvre Concert Hall in Quebec. Gina has placed first in various competitions, including the Music Teacher's Association of California's State Master Class competition, Tomorrow's Stars at the Orange County Performing Arts Center competition, the Atwater Kent All-Star Competition, the Performing Arts Foundation for Asian-Americans competition, the Southern California Junior Bach Festival, and the Southwestern Youth Music Festival. She was previously the flutist for the Pacific Symphony Youth Orchestra and for the Philharmonia of the University of California at Los Angeles, where she was a scholarship student studying with Sheridan Stokes. Gina is presently studying with Linda Chesis at Manhattan School of Music on scholarship.

DAHEE PARK

Pianist Dahee Park was born in Seoul, Korea and began studying the piano at age six. She was first in her class throughout her years at SunHwa Art High School, and continued her studies as a scholarship student at KyungWon University. Upon her graduation, she started working as a staff accompanist at Seoul National University, SukMyung Women's University, DongDuk Women's University, and Seoul Art High School. Currently, she is studying accompanying with Heasook Rhee as a scholarship student at Manhattan School of Music. Outside of music, Dahee is an ardent lover of animals and animation; she enjoys taking walks when she has time and is very much interested in fashion design.

RAJESH PRASAD

Percussionist Rajesh Prasad is currently pursuing a Master's degree in the Orchestral Performance Program at Manhattan School of Music. Previously, Rajesh was an undergraduate student at Northwestern University, where he graduated in 2007. While at Northwestern, Rajesh played as a section percussionist in the Civic Orchestra of Chicago for two seasons. He also performed with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and MusicNOW, the Chicago Symphony's contemporary music series. Rajesh has played under some of the world's top conductors, including Michael Tilson-Thomas, Alan Gilbert, and Ricardo Muti. Rajesh's teachers have included Jeremy Bradstreet, Michael Burritt, Christopher Lamb, Duncan Patton, James Ross, and She-e Wu.

CAMILLE DEVORE

Camille DeVore was born into a family of singers. Her path became clear when, at the age of ten, she pointed out Mel Torme at the Denver airport. Camille worked regularly as a studio vocalist in Boston and Nashville, singing everything from jingles to background vocals. She sang songwriter demos for Warner Chappell and Polygram, as well as choral publishing demos for Integrity Music and Benson Publications. Camille also supplied background vocals for many showcases and concerts, including Brenda Lee and Loretta Lynn. She has been a featured vocalist at the Glenn Miller Festival and was recently a headliner at the LSU Hot Summer Nights, Cool Jazz Festival. Her first CD of jazz standards, *Easy to Love*, was released in 2006. *Dream in Color*, a collection of her jazz/gospel arrangements, came out in 2008. Camille has taught at Berklee College of Music in Boston and been a clinician for NCDA. She is currently pursuing her Master's degree in Jazz Vocal Performance at Manhattan School of Music, where she studies with Kate McGarry and Theo Bleckmann.

CYRUS VON HOCHSTETTER

Cyrus von Hochstetter was born in Zurich, Switzerland and started playing classical piano at the age of six. In 2004, he moved to New York City, where he currently attends Manhattan School of Music and studies jazz piano. Cyrus performs on a regular basis at The Garage, in New York City, and has performed at the Montreux Jazz Festival, the Bimhuis in Amsterdam, and the Moods jazz club in Zurich.

JOHN GRAY

John Gray is a bassist and composer who is currently studying at Manhattan School of Music. He started playing bass with school jazz bands in the Phoenix area at age ten, and, with the Thunderbird High School Jazz Band, traveled around the country, playing in California and Las Vegas, as well as at the IAJE Conference in New York in 2004. He was also a member of the Young Sounds of Arizona, which gave him the opportunity to play with James Moody, Wayne Bergeron, Chris Brubeck, and Bobby Shew. While in high school, John also began to compose. He wrote several pieces for various small groups, including one piece that was showcased at the NAU Jazz Festival. John studied with Steve Millhouse, Larry Ridley, Richard Sussman, and Linda McKnight before deciding to attend Manhattan School of Music, where he has continued to compose. He has written for school ensembles and performs frequently in many school functions.

JEFFREY K. WITHERELL

Jeffrey K. Witherell is originally from a small seaside village in Maine called Cape Elizabeth. There he learned of the serene beauty of nature in its purest form; this beauty is reflected in his sensitive drumset playing. After the untimely and unexpected death of his father in April 2008, Jeffrey has dedicated all his musical endeavors to his late father.

ANDY AKIHO

Andy Akiho is an award-winning composer and performer whose interests range from steel pan to Western classical music. A finalist in 2008 for ASCAP's Morton Gould Young Composers Awards, Akiho was recently featured as a composer on PBS's "News Hour with Jim Lehrer" and as a percussionist at Carnegie Hall in New York City. His compositions have been recognized by Bang on a Can, the Syracuse Society for New Music, and the World Steelband Music Festival. He studied at the University of South Carolina and the University of North Texas and is currently a graduate student in Manhattan School of Music's Contemporary Performance Program, on a full scholarship. Andy is a member of Manhattan School of Music's Claremont Ensemble and TACTUS, groups that recently commissioned and premiered his works *Subconscious Inconsistency* and *I falleN TwO*. He studies composition at MSM with Julia Wolfe, co-founder of *Bang on a Can*. As a percussionist Andy has performed with ensembles such as the South Carolina Philharmonic Orchestra, Ethos Percussion Group (NYC), Djoliba Don West African Drum and Dance Ensemble, Gamelan Lila Muni (Eastman School of Music), Island Close By Steel Band, and chamber ensembles throughout New York. His immersion in various genres has given him a unique approach to his primary instrument, the steel pan. In Trinidad, he performed at the world's premier steel pan event, *Panorama*, with the PCS Starlift Steel Orchestra and the Petrotrin Phase II Pan Groove Orchestra. Andy also won second prize in the 2002 World Steelband Music Festival solo competition, where he premiered his own composition, *Macqueripe*.

RUBEN SAMAMA

At the age of twelve, Ruben Samama started playing the mighty double bass. A year later he was admitted to the Royal Conservatory of the Hague, where he also studied classical composition. After experimenting with classical music, he focused mainly on jazz. In 2004, Ruben made his debut as a composer when he wrote music for ZTHollandia's *Richard the III*. In 2006, Ruben started to collaborate with Eef van Breen as the writing duo Soundkraft. They have since composed and produced music for numerous films in the international art house scene. In 2007, Ruben finished his studies in the Hague with Hein van de Geyn and Frans van der Hoeven. He is currently pursuing his Master's degree in New York at the Manhattan School of Music with the help of Prins Bernhard Cultuur fonds, VSB fonds, the Fulbright Foundation, and Het Nederlands Fonds voor Podiumkunsten. He won the AJTA award in 2006

JAKE GOLDBAS

Jake Goldbas grew up outside of Hartford, Connecticut, and attended the Greater Hartford Academy for the Performing Arts. Before graduating from high school, he had already performed with Bon Jovi, Jimmy Greene, Paul Brown, Terence Blanchard, Alex Nahkimofsky, Jeremy Pelt, and Steve Davis. Jake has received many awards, most notably the Level I NFAA Arts Award in 2007 for the IAJE Clifford Brown/Stan Getz Fellowship All Stars. He has toured Siberia, France, the Netherlands, and Puerto Rico. Jake is currently in his second year of undergraduate studies at the Manhattan School of Music under the tutelage of John Riley.

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FOR ANOTHER GREAT PERFORMANCE AT MANHATTAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC!

OCTOBER 21 / TUE

MANHATTAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC JAZZ ORCHESTRA A 50TH ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE TO BOSSA NOVA!

7:30 PM Borden Auditorium

Justin DiCioccio, *Conductor* / **Toninho Horta**, *Guitar and Vocals*
Steve Wilson, *Saxophone* / **Cliff Korman**, *Piano*

Free, Tickets Required

OCTOBER 31 / FRI

MANHATTAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

7:30 PM Borden Auditorium

Kenneth Kiesler, *Conductor*
David Alaverdian, *Piano*

ENESCU *Prelude in Unison*
LISZT *Piano Concerto No. 2 in A Major*
STRAVINSKY *The Rite of Spring*

\$10 adults; \$5 seniors & students

NOVEMBER 2 / SUN

TITO PUENTE CELEBRATION PANEL DISCUSSION TITO PUENTE: AN AMERICAN MASTER

2 PM Miller Recital Hall

Bobby Sanabria, *Director*

Free, Tickets Required

NOVEMBER 3 / MON

TITO PUENTE CELEBRATION MANHATTAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC AFRO-CUBAN JAZZ ORCHESTRA

7:30 PM Borden Auditorium

Bobby Sanabria, *Director*

Free, Tickets Required

120 Claremont Avenue at 122nd & Broadway, New York, New York 10027-4698 tel 212 749 2802 fax 212 749 7561

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DISTANCE LEARNING @ MANHATTAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC

The Distance Learning and Orchestral Performance Programs at Manhattan School of Music are proud to present the 2007-2008 season of Art of Orchestral Performance: A Videoconference Master Class Series. This program presents a series of collaborative master classes featuring distinguished artist-faculty members from the graduate program in Orchestral Performance and world-class performers from around the nation via interactive videoconferencing technology.

The Master Class Series facilitates a one-of-a-kind teaching exchange among faculty and students at conservatories and music schools internationally, while also sparking interest in other Manhattan School of Music faculty members and students who are invited to attend.

Since the inception of this program, partnerships have been initiated with the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, the Cleveland Institute of Music, McGill University, Northwestern University, and the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University, among others.

For further information about this series, please contact:
Juliana Han, Distance Learning Program Coordinator
jhan@msmnyc.edu 917 493 4488 WWW.MSMNYC.EDU