

A Faculty Recital by

Meng-Chieh Liu
piano

Tuesday, October 4, 2022
7:30 p.m.
NEC's Jordan Hall

PROGRAM

Frédéric Chopin

(1810–1849)

Three Nocturnes

Op. 32 No. 1 in B Major

Op. 15 No. 1 in F Major

Op. 48 No. 1 in C Major

Sergei Rachmaninoff

(1873–1943)

Variations on a Theme by Chopin, op. 22

Theme: Largo

No. 1: Moderato

No. 2: Allegro

No. 3: L'istesso tempo

No. 4: L'istesso tempo

No. 5: Meno mosso

No. 6: Meno mosso

No. 7: Allegro

No. 8: L'istesso tempo

No. 9: L'istesso tempo

No. 10: Più vivo

No. 11: Lento

No. 12: Moderato

No. 13: Largo

No. 14: Moderato

No. 15: Allegro scherzando

No. 16: Lento

No. 17: Grave

No. 18: Più mosso

No. 19: Allegro vivace

No. 20: Presto

No. 21: Andante

No. 22: Maestoso - Meno mosso - Presto

Intermission

Leoš Janáček
(1854–1928)

Sonata "1.X.1905"

Foreboding (*Předtucha*): Con moto
Death (*Smrt*): Adagio

Enrique Granados
(1867–1916)

El amor y la muerte: Balada from *Goyescas*

Franz Liszt
(1811–1886)

*Après une lecture du Dante – Fantasia quasi
sonata*

from *Années de pèlerinage, Deuxième année: Italie*

A recipient of the prestigious Avery Fisher Career Grant, **Meng-Chieh Liu** first made headlines in 1993 as a 21-year-old student at The Curtis Institute of Music when he substituted at last minute's notice for André Watts at the Academy of Music in Philadelphia. The concert earned high acclaim from critics and audience alike and was followed by a number of widely praised performances, including a recital at the Kennedy Center and a concert on the Philadelphia All-Star Series. Already an accomplished artist at the time, Mr. Liu had made his New York orchestral debut two years earlier.

Following Mr. Liu's triumph in Philadelphia, an appearance with the Philadelphia Orchestra was immediately scheduled, but it was not to be. The stellar beginning of his career was abruptly halted by a rare and debilitating illness that affected his connective tissues. Hospitalized and almost immobile for a year, doctors believed his chances for survival were slim and, should he survive, playing the piano would be "absolutely impossible."

With arduous determination and relentless physical therapy, Mr. Liu has been restored to full health and is now once again performing on the concert stage. Since then, he has performed throughout the world in recitals and as a soloist with orchestras under conductors Christoph Eschenbach, Gustavo Dudamel and Alan Gilbert. In 2002, Liu received the Avery Fisher Career Grant and the Philadelphia Musical Fund Society Career Advancement Award. A sought-after musician and strong advocate of chamber music, Liu performs in music festivals across the globe and has worked with renowned musicians Shmuel Ashkenasi, David Soyer, Bernard Greenhouse, James Buswell, Wendy Warner, Kim Kashkashian, Donald Weilerstein as well as the Borromeo and St. Lawrence Quartets. Liu also collaborates with artists in varied disciplines, such as Mikhail Baryshnikov and the White Oak Dance Project, among other dance companies. His concerts have been heard over the airwaves around the world, and a biography on his life was broadcast on Taiwanese National Television.

Born in Kaohsiung, Taiwan, Meng-Chieh Liu began his piano studies early, and at age thirteen was accepted by The Curtis Institute of Music to study with Jorge Bolet, Claude Frank, Gary Graffman and Eleanor Sokoloff, and received first prizes in the Stravinsky, Asia Pacific and Mieczyslaw Munz piano competitions. His reputation as a teacher/mentor has brought him across the globe in summer festivals, masterclasses, and lecture recitals. Since 1993, Liu served on the piano and chamber music faculties at The Curtis Institute of Music, and since 2013 added the New England Conservatory to his itinerary. He is in high demand as a mentor, sought out by young pianists the world over. Recently his students have been finalists of major competitions, including Aimi Kobayshi in Chopin Competition, and Tianxu An in the Tchaikovsky Competition.

He served as a faculty member of Roosevelt University in Chicago from 2006-2014. During this time Liu joined Chicago Chamber Musicians and served as Artistic Director of the ensemble from 2011-2014. While artistic director, he championed the works and worked closely with many composers including John Corigliano, Esa Pekka Salonen, Gabriella Lena Frank, Steven Mackey, Paquito D'Rivera, and Lowell

Liebermann.

Liu is known for his versatility, performing music from Scarlatti and Bach to Szymanowski, Messiaen and composers of our times, including Zhou Tian and David Ludwig. In recent years, he embarked on several immersive projects, performing the complete piano music by Johannes Brahms and complete piano sonatas by Franz Schubert.

In 2011, Liu experienced another medical setback requiring open heart surgery. Once again the predictions of medical doctors were grim. He pursued many courses of treatment both modern and traditional. Despite the debilitating effects, he still managed to keep up his concert activities and wouldn't reduce his artistic output. Liu has taken on new challenges, both in recital and in concerto programs and has focused his energy more and more on making recordings.

Upcoming Concerts at NEC

Visit necmusic.edu for complete and updated concert and ticketing information

NEC WIND ENSEMBLE, Charles Peltz, conductor: **"20th Century Giants"**

Schuller *Franfare*; Strauss *Serenade in E-flat Major, op. 7*; Brant *Ghosts and Gargoyles*; Hindemith *Konzertmusik, op. 41*; Varèse *Intégrales*; Debussy *L'Isle Joyeuse*
Thursday, October 6, 2022 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

NEC CHAMBER ORCHESTRA, Donald Palma, artistic director

Grieg *Holberg Suite, op. 40*; Clyne *Stride*; Dvořák *Serenade for Strings in E Major, op. 22*
Wednesday, October 12, 2022 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

FACULTY RECITAL: MARYANN McCORMICK, mezzo-soprano & **JJ PENNA**, piano

Thursday, October 13, 2022 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

NEC SYMPHONIC WINDS, William Drury, conductor

Huling *Into the Forest of Strange Beasts*; Blake *Sinfonietta for 10 Brass Instruments*; Holst *Suite in E-flat*; Rimsky-Korsakov *Capriccio Espagnol*; Bassett *Quartet for Trombones*; Van Heusen *Like Someone in Love, Beija Flor* - Jason Palmer, trumpet
Tuesday, October 18, 2022 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

TUESDAY NIGHT NEW MUSIC

New music by NEC student composers, performed by their peers
Tuesday, October 18, 2022 at 8:00 p.m., Williams Hall

LIEDERABEND LXI

Wednesday, October 19, 2022 at 6:00 p.m., Williams Hall

Upcoming Concerts at NEC

–continued

NEC SYMPHONY, David Loebel, conductor

Beethoven *“Leonore” Overture No. 1*; Nash *In Memoriam: Sojourner Truth*;
Rimsky-Korsakov *Scheherazade*

Wednesday, October 19, 2022 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

NEC JAZZ ORCHESTRA: “If You Could See Me Now”

Ken Schaphorst, conductor, leads the ensemble in works composed/arranged for voice and jazz orchestra by Calloway, Dameron, Evans, Hollenbeck, Schneider, and Strayhorn

Thursday, October 20, 2022 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

“CONNECTIONS” CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES, Max Levinson, director

Chamber music performed by students and faculty

Thursday, October 20, 2022 at 8:00 p.m., Burnes Hall

NEC CHAMBER SINGERS: “Beyond the Night Sky”

Conductor Erica J. Washburn leads the Chamber Singers in a nocturnal journey with works by Rheinberger, Ligeti, Whitacre, Brahms, Frances-Hoad, Ešenvalds, Saindon, McDowall, and Barber

Tuesday, October 25, 2022 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

PERKIN OPERA SCENES

Graduate opera students perform scenes from the Yiddish theater including Gilrod and Rumshinsky's Yiddish operetta, *Di Goldene Kale (The Golden Bride)*

Wednesday-Friday, October 26-28, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

Plimpton Shattuck Black Box Theatre

NEC PHILHARMONIA, Earl Lee, guest conductor

Wang *Labyrinth of Light*; Mahler *Symphony No. 1 in D Major “Titan”*

Wednesday, October 26, 2022 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

SONATA NIGHT 42, Pei-Shan Lee, director

Thursday, October 27, 2022 at 6:30 p.m., Burnes Hall

NEC CONTEMPORARY ENSEMBLE

Tower *Black Topaz*; Davis *Wayang II*; Takemitsu *Rain Spell*;

Crumb *Ancient Voices of Children*; Heiss *Eloquy and Serenade for Flute and Harp*

Monday, October 31, 2022 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

[NEC]SHIVAREE, Steven Drury, artistic director

Tuesday, November 1, 2022 at 8:00 p.m., Williams Hall

Upcoming Concerts at NEC

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LIEDERABEND LXII

Wednesday, November 2, 2022 at 6:00 p.m., Williams Hall

SONG & VERSE, Brett Hodgdon, director

Friday, November 4, 2022 at 7:30 p.m., Burnes Hall

FIRST MONDAY IN JORDAN HALL, Laurence Lesser, artistic director

All-French program: Saariaho *Clouds*; Poulenc *Babar*;

Messiaen *Quartet for the end of time*

Monday, November 7, 2022 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

NEC SYMPHONY, Paul Biss, conductor

Mussorgsky *Night on Bald Mountain*; Simon *A Cry from the Grave*;

Tchaikovsky *Symphony No. 4 in F Minor*

Wednesday, November 9, 2022 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

NEC WIND ENSEMBLE, Charles Peltz, conductor: “NEC Favorites”

Tomasi *Fanfares liturgiques*; Adams *Strange Birds Passing*; Tippett *Mosaic*;

Ives *Charlie Rutlage and Decoration Day*; Lully/Philidor *Musique pour les douze oboi*

Thursday, November 10, 2022 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

NEC CHAMBER ORCHESTRA, Donald Palma, artistic director

Veress *Transylvanian Dances*; Netsky *Chagall’s Mandolins* – G Rockwell ‘24, mandolin;

Stravinsky *Apollon Musagète*

Monday, November 14, 2022 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

CMA DEPARTMENT: “Pushing the Limits”

A retrospective concert directed by CMA co-chair Hankus Netsky showcasing the innovative legacies of CMA faculty and alumni, featuring CMA student and faculty performances of music and arrangements by Carla Kihlstedt, Anthony Coleman, Peter Row, Magdalena Abrego, Hankus Netsky, Ted Reichman, Ran Blake, Joe Maneri, Linda Chase, and Lautaro Mantilla.

Tuesday, November 15, 2022 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

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Food and drink are not allowed in the concert hall,
and photography and audio or video recording are prohibited.
Assistive listening devices are available for all Jordan Hall concerts;
contact the head usher or house manager on duty or inquire at the Coat Room.
Latecomers will be seated at the discretion of management.

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