

Bowen Chen  
*violin*

Recital in partial fulfillment of the  
Doctor of Musical Arts degree, 2026  
Student of Paul Biss

with  
Yu-Ann Chen, piano

Tuesday, March 12, 2024  
8:00 p.m.  
Keller Room

## PROGRAM

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**Eugène Ysaÿe**  
(1858–1931)

**Violin Sonata No. 2 in A Minor, op. 27**

Obsession: Prelude (Poco vivace)

Malinconia: Poco lento

Danse des ombres: Sarabande (Lento)

Les furies: Allegro furioso

**Edvard Grieg**  
(1843–1907)

**Violin Sonata No. 2 in G Major, op. 13**

Lento doloroso – Allegro vivace

Allegretto tranquillo

Allegro animato

Yu-Ann Chen, piano

*Intermission*

**Johannes Brahms**  
(1833–1897)

**Violin Sonata No. 3 in D Minor, op. 108**

Allegro

Adagio

Un poco presto e con sentimento

Presto agitato

Yu-Ann Chen, piano

*Bowen Chen is the recipient of a scholarship made possible by  
the E. Power Biggs Scholarship Fund.*

*If we were to say the most valuable thing in life is to bring warmth and joy to others,  
then the happiest thing might be having a group of people who are willing to share life with  
you. Even if my journey in music is not always smooth,  
without the help and encouragement of benefactors,  
it would have been even harder to achieve what I am now.*

*Thank you to my professor and mentor, Mr. Paul Biss,  
for sharing so much insight into music with me during my busy first year of DMA studies  
and for guiding me with great patience to do better.*

*Thank you to my accompanist, Yu-Ann,  
without whom this concert would not have been possible.  
I am delighted to have collaborated with you and enjoy our chats together.  
P.S. I will never forget your hearty laugh.*

*Thank you to my parents  
for continually supporting me in fulfilling my dreams  
and serving as important guides in my life.*

*Thank you to Ms. Cathy,  
who always generously contributes to students and music.  
I appreciate your sponsorship and encouragement.*

*Thank you to God  
for allowing me to grow a lot during the dark last year and mature mentally.*

*Lastly, thank you to the audience.  
Regardless of whether I was satisfied with today's performance,  
your presence has motivated me to strive for better music.  
Thank you for your support.*

*Bowen, although the future path is unclear, please remember to be brave.*

*"The path before you belittles you, the path behind you magnifies you" ~Jerry Chen*

### **Ysaÿe: Violin Sonata, op. 27 no. 2**

Eugène Ysaÿe's Sonata for Solo Violin in A minor, op. 27 no. 2, is dedicated to Jacques Thibaud, a French violinist and close friend of Ysaÿe. This sonata, part of a set of six, mirrors Ysaÿe's fascination with the solo violin's expressive capabilities and his admiration for J.S. Bach's sonatas and partitas. Known as "Obsession," the second sonata uniquely combines Baroque elegance with romantic expressiveness, featuring recurring motifs from Bach's Partita No. 3, alongside the *Dies Irae* plainchant, symbolizing an obsession with past musical forms. Its four movements—Prelude, Malinconia, Danse des Ombres, and Les Furies—showcase dramatic contrasts, technical virtuosity, and deep emotional range, making it a pinnacle of the solo violin repertoire.

### **Grieg: Violin Sonata No.2, op.13**

Edvard Grieg's Violin Sonata No.2 in G major, op.13, showcases the composer's distinctive melding of Norwegian folk elements with classical forms. Composed in 1867, this work reflects Grieg's deep connection to his Norwegian heritage through its use of folk melodies and rhythms. The sonata is characterized by its emotional depth, ranging from the passionate and energetic opening movement to the lyrical and expressive slow movement, culminating in a lively, dance-like finale.

### **Brahms: Violin Sonata No.3, op.108**

Johannes Brahms' Violin Sonata No. 3 in D minor, op. 108, is the last of his violin sonatas, embodying the depth and maturity of his late compositional style. Comprising four movements, it contrasts from his earlier sonatas by including an additional movement, which allows for a greater range of expression. The sonata is known for its lyrical themes, complex rhythms, and rich harmonic textures, weaving together elements of classical form with the romantic emotional intensity characteristic of Brahms' music. This piece is a staple of the violin repertoire, celebrated for its technical demands on the performers and its profound musical depth, making it a favorite among musicians and audiences alike.

## Upcoming Student Recitals at NEC

*all programs subject to change*

Visit [necmusic.edu](http://necmusic.edu) for complete and updated concert information

**Jeong Won Choe**, *flute* (MM)

Student of Paula Robison

*Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 8:00 p.m., Burnes Hall*

**Thompson Wang**, *violin* (MM)

Student of Donald Weilerstein and Ayano Ninomiya

*Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 8:00 p.m., Keller Room*

**Logan From**, *jazz saxophone* (MM)

Student of Ken Schaphorst, Jerry Bergonzi, Melissa Aldana, and Donny McCaslin

*Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 8:00 p.m., Pierce Hall*

**Alyssa Peterson**, *double bass* (BM '25)

Student of Donald Palma

*Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 8:00 p.m., Williams Hall*

**Yoonsu Cha**, *harp* (MM)

Student of Jessica Zhou

*Friday, March 15, 2024 at 8:30 p.m., Brown Hall*

**Lihyeon Kim**, *piano* (MM)

Student of Alessio Bax and Pavel Nersessian

*Friday, March 15, 2024 at 8:30 p.m., Williams Hall*

**Felix Ko**, *percussion* (MM)

Student of Will Hudgins, Daniel Bauch, and Tim Genis

*Friday, March 15, 2024 at 8:30 p.m., Burnes Hall*

**Hang Zhong**, *piano* (MM)

Student of Bruce Brubaker

*Sunday, March 24, 2024 at 8:00 p.m., Keller Room*

**Zoe Beck**, *bassoon* (BM)

Student of Suzanne Nelsen

*Monday, March 25, 2024 at 8:00 p.m., Pierce Hall*

**Man To Kwong**, *viola* (GD)

Student of Nicholas Cords

*Monday, March 25, 2024 at 8:00 p.m., Keller Room*

## **Upcoming Student Recitals at NEC**

*—continued*

**Emily Mitchell**, *contemporary musical arts* (BM)

Student of Dominique Eade and Amanda Monaco

**Monday, March 25, 2024 at 8:00 p.m., Williams Hall**

**Letian Cheng**, *violin* (DMA '27)

Student of Paul Biss

**Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at 8:00 p.m., Keller Room**

**Clayton Hancock**, *violin* (BM)

Student of Ayano Ninomiya

**Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at 8:00 p.m., Brown Hall**

**G Korth**, *contemporary musical arts* (BM)

Student of Liz Knowles and Malcolm Barsamian

**Wednesday, March 27 2024 at 8:00 p.m., Williams Hall**

**Yilei Yin**, *violin* (MM)

Student of Nicholas Kitchen

**Wednesday, March 27, 2024 at 8:00 p.m., Burnes Hall**

**Charles Berofsky**, *piano* (MM)

Student of HaeSun Paik

**Thursday, March 28, 2024 at 8:00 p.m., Williams Hall**

**Guanlong Shen**, *saxophone* (MM)

Student of Kenneth Radnofsky

**Thursday, March 28, 2024 at 8:00 p.m., Pierce Hall**

**Juchen Wang**, *saxophone* (MM)

Student of Kenneth Radnofsky

**Friday, March 29, 2024 at 8:30 p.m., Brown Hall**

**Michele Zimmerman**, *contemporary musical arts* (MM)

Student of Anthony Coleman and Eden MacAdam-Somer

**Friday, March 29, 2024 at 8:30 p.m., Eben Jordan**

**Song Hyeon Kim**, *piano* (BM)

Student of HaeSun Paik

**Saturday, March 30, 2024 at 8:00 p.m., Williams Hall**

## **Upcoming Student Recitals at NEC**

*—continued*

**Tristan Leung**, *collaborative piano* (DMA '25)

Student of Jonathan Feldman and Cameron Stowe

**Saturday, March 30, 2024 at 8:00 p.m., Brown Hall**

**Justin Park**, *trumpet* (BM)

Student of Michael Dobrinski

**Saturday, March 30, 2024 at 8:00 p.m., off-campus**

**Richard Stanmeyer**, *jazz trumpet* (MM)

Student of Jerry Bergonzi

**Saturday, March 30, 2024 at 8:00 p.m., Burnes Hall**

**Bram Fisher**, *viola* (BM)

Student of Melissa Reardon

**Sunday, March 31, 2024 at 12:00 noon, Brown Hall**

**Ari Freed**, *cello* (UC)

Student of Paul Katz

**Sunday, March 31, 2024 at 12:00 noon, Keller Room**

**Ross Jarrell**, *percussion* (MM)

Student of Will Hudgins

**Sunday, March 31, 2024 at 12:00 noon, Eben Jordan**

**Lemuel Marc**, *jazz trumpet* (BM)

Student of Davide Ianni and Stratis Minakakis

**Sunday, March 31, 2024 at 12:00 noon, Williams Hall**

**Garrett Comrie**, *bassoon* (BM)

Student of Marc Goldberg

**Sunday, March 31, 2024 at 4:00 p.m., Keller Room**

**Taewan Gu**, *piano* (MM)

Student of Pavel Nersessian

**Sunday, March 31, 2024 at 4:00 p.m., Williams Hall**

**Claire Deokyong Kim**, *cello* (GD)

Student of Laurence Lesser

**Sunday, March 31, 2024 at 4:00 p.m., Pierce Hall**

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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