



The Marion Rubin Berman '31 Piano Honors Concert

Ravel at 150

Bruce Brubaker, Curator of Piano Programming

Sunday, April 13, 2025 7:30 p.m., NEC's Jordan Hall



In celebration of the life of Marion Rubin Berman '31 (known by her friends as "Mitzi"), her two children, Dr. Harris A. Berman and Phyllis E. Berman, and her daughter-in-law Ruth Nemzoff, have chosen to honor her memory by sponsoring NEC's Honors Piano Competition and Concert.

Music, and piano in particular, was the driving force in Mitzi's life. Although she married shortly after graduating from New England Conservatory at age 19, she continued her piano career by teaching – first in Lawrence, Massachusetts where, according to family legend, young Lenny Bernstein was a pupil in the synagogue children's choir she led.

In 1937, Mitzi and her husband, Frederick P. Berman, moved to Concord, New Hampshire, where she was reunited with her NEC friend Angela Annichiarico

'32. Together they played duo piano for community events for years – Broadway Musical shows, Concord Music Club concerts, and many community programs. They were both leading piano teachers in Concord for years.

Angela tragically died at a young age in a house fire, a terrible loss for Concord, her family and for Mitzi, who continued to be active in the musical life of Concord for over 65 years, inspiring young people and new generations of piano teachers. Although she died at the age of 92 in 2004, she would have been very proud to be honored here tonight at the school that shaped her career.

NEC is grateful for the generous support of Dr. Harris A. Berman, Ruth Nemzoff, and Phyllis E. Berman in sponsoring the Annual Piano Honors Competition and Concert

The students performing this evening were chosen through the annual NEC Piano Honors Competition. The 2025 Marion Rubin Berman Honors Concert marks the 150th anniversary of the birth of composer Maurice Ravel.

PROGRAM

Maurice Ravel

(1875 - 1937)

Miroirs (1904–05)

Noctuelles

Oiseaux tristes

Une barque sur l'océan

Alborada del gracioso

La vallée des cloches

Bowen Li

Gaspard de la nuit (1908)

Ondine

Le gibet

Scarbo

Geonwoo Isaac Yi

Le tombeau de Couperin (1914–17)

Prélude

Fugue

Forlane

Rigaudon

Menuet

Toccata

Hsin-Hao Yang

La valse (1920)

Jiongli Wang

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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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