

M Manhattan
School of Music

LIVES OF THE PIANO

***The Piano and
Malediction***

Lisa Yui (DMA '05), Director

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2024 | 7:30 PM
GORDON K. AND HARRIET GREENFIELD HALL

This year's performance season has been inspired by a unifying theme: ***Humanity in Harmony: Rituals, Resistance, and Resilience***. We hope during this election year, the biggest in human history with over half the world's population having the opportunity to vote in 72 countries, that this theme reflects the power of the arts to unite us even in moments of discord and differences. The collective experience of collaboration – creating together – reminds us that even in our differences we can find common ground, stand up to tyranny and oppression, and elevate our work as artists to fulfill the hope and promise of a better tomorrow.

James Gandre, President

Joyce Griggs, Executive Vice President and Provost

Faculty and Administration of the Artistic Planning Committee



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PROGRAM

FRANZ LISZT
(1811–1886)

Mephisto Waltz No. 1, S. 514
Xiaoru Wen

HENRY COWELL
(1897–1965)

The Banshee
Three Irish Legends
I. The Tides of Manaunaun
Ruben Høgh

MAURICE RAVEL
(1875–1937)

Gaspard de la nuit, M. 55
III. *Scarbo*
Dmitry Yudin

FREDERIC CHOPIN
(1810–1849)

Sonata No. 2 in B-flat minor, Op. 35
III. *Marche funèbre: Lento*
IV. *Finale: Presto*
Dayeon Jin

FRANZ LISZT

Réminiscences de Don Juan, S. 418
on themes from Mozart's *Don Giovanni*
Luke Macgee

Coming up on February 13, 2025 at 7:30pm: Lives of the Piano: The Piano and Benediction

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Ruben Høgh

Ruben Høgh is a NYC-based prizewinning Danish pianist and performer, fully dedicated to exploring the realms of contemporary music. Having earlier obtained a master's degree in classical piano performance at The Royal Danish Academy of Music in Copenhagen, Denmark, as well as studies in Düsseldorf and Berlin, Germany, he is now enrolled as a Fulbright scholar in Manhattan School of Music's Contemporary Performance Program with piano teachers Margaret Kampmeier and Anthony de Mare. Finding inspiration in everything from post-rock music to composers such as D. Shostakovich, John Adams and Julia Wolfe, Ruben was especially drawn to New York when discovering Bang on a Can with its multifaceted aesthetical profile. In the summer of 2024, he was selected as a fellow at Bang on a Can's annual summer festival at MASS MoCA in North Adams, fully funded by Art Music Denmark. This culminated in several performances at Loud Weekend, including works by Meredith Monk and Mathew Rosenblum - both of whom he got to work directly with at the festival. Ruben currently enjoys exploring and developing his musicianship at the very epicenter of his motivations.

Dayeon Jin (BM '24)

Dayeon Jin is a promising young pianist, quickly establishing herself as a thoughtful and expressive interpreter. She has performed at numerous venues across the United States, including Bruno Walter Auditorium at Lincoln Center and in Philadelphia for the Dunwoody Village Performance Series, where she gave a solo recital. She also had the honor of performing at the Grevin Museum's invitation concert alongside Lang Lang. Dayeon has won several prestigious awards, including First Prize at the YEUM Classical Music Competition, which included a winner's recital and a solo performance at Mozart Hall, hosted by the Korea Young Artist Association. She also won Second Prize at the Liszt Competition and Performance, hosted by the Hungarian Embassy. Dayeon completed her Bachelor of Music degree under the guidance of Dr. Solomon Mikowsky and is currently pursuing her Master's degree with Dr. Marc Silverman at the Manhattan School of Music.

Luke Magee

Luke Magee is a 19 year old pianist studying with Professor Jeffery Cohen at the Manhattan School of Music. Prioritizing spontaneity and creative freedom in his performances, Luke spends his time experimenting with new musical concepts and unconventional techniques. He is passionate about creating new solo transcriptions, sourced from many different genres: from operas by Gershwin to propaganda film-scores by Shostakovich, and from symphonic masterpieces by Rimsky-Korsakov to more recent music from video game soundtracks. Apart from his solo work, Luke Magee frequently collaborates with other artists and large ensembles. He was selected to play with the World Youth Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Roderick Cox, the director of the Operá Orchestra National Montpellier. He also played in an orchestra directed by Maestro Leonard Slatkin in 2023. Luke has years of experience with chamber music and is especially fond of piano duets. In 2022, he and his duet partner were interviewed and recorded by From the Top, who would also feature Luke a second time individually a few months later. In the long run, Luke hopes to establish a performing career with an emphasis on new works and unique performance practices.

Dmitry Yudin (BM '23)

Dmitry Yudin began his musical studies at Moscow's Gnessin School of Music under Lydia Grigoryeva. He has performed extensively across Russia and abroad, both as a solo recitalist and concerto soloist, with orchestras such as the Rimsky-Korsakov Music College Orchestra of St. Petersburg, the Baltic States Youth Symphony Orchestra, the Baltic Music Academy Symphony Orchestra, Musica Viva Moscow Chamber Orchestra, the National Philharmonic Orchestra of Russia, the St. Petersburg State Academic Symphony Orchestra, and the Tomsk Academic Symphony Orchestra. Dmitry has also been invited to numerous music festivals, including the Aspen Music Festival and the Tel-Hai Piano Master Classes in Israel, where he was awarded the Diploma of the Best Participant. Since August 2019, Dmitry has been studying with Horacio Gutierrez at the Manhattan School of Music on a full scholarship. In February 2022, he won the MSM Eisenberg-Fried Concerto Competition, performing Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 2 under the baton of George Manahan. His most recent achievement was winning the Second Prize at the prestigious Géza Anda Competition in June 2024.

Xiaoru Wen (BM '21, MM '23)

Xiaoru Wen is a Chinese pianist who won first prize at the DEBUT International Piano Competition in New Jersey, earning her a solo recital at Carnegie Hall in 2014. At age 13, she signed with Chinese Poly Grand Theater, performing in solo and concerto tours across China, including major cities like Beijing, Wuhan, and Chongqing. She has since given over 40 recitals, including a 2019 performance at Beijing's Forbidden City Concert Hall. Xiaoru also won first prize at the Rosario Marciano International Piano Competition in Vienna in 2012. Currently pursuing her DMA at Manhattan School of Music (MSM), Xiaoru has been studying with Marc Silverman since 2021. As an undergraduate at MSM, she studied with André-Michael Schub and received Honorable Mention in the MSM Piano Concerto Competition in 2018. She also participated in the Curtis Institute Summer Festival in 2016, performing both solo and chamber works.

Lisa Yui (DMA '05)

Described as “a musical phenomenon” (*Pianiste*), Yamaha Artist Lisa Yui enjoys a multifaceted musical career as pianist, lecturer, educator, author, and musical director. Since making her concerto debut at the age of seven, she has performed throughout North America, Europe, and Asia. She is the top prizewinner of the Senigallia International Piano Competition in Italy and has twice been the recipient of a Canada Council Scholarship. Dr. Yui has performed as soloist with prominent orchestras including the Tokyo Symphony, the Polish National Radio, the Toronto Symphony, and the Krakow State Philharmonic. Dr. Yui's insightful writing on a variety of topics has appeared in numerous publications, and she has served as a member of numerous competition juries including the International Stepping Stones of the Canadian Music Competition and the Canadian Chopin Competition. Dr. Yui's principal teachers and mentors include Byron Janis, Marc Silverman, Giovanni Valentini, Oxana Yablonskaya, Edna Golandsky, David Dubal, and Leonid Hambro. Lisa Yui is on the faculties of Manhattan School of Music and Juilliard Extension. She received Manhattan School of Music's President's Medal for Distinguished Service in 2018.

ABOUT MANHATTAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Founded as a community music school by Janet Daniels Schenck in 1918, today MSM is recognized for its 1,025 superbly talented undergraduate and graduate students who come from 54 countries and nearly all 50 states; its innovative curricula and world-renowned artist-teacher faculty that includes musicians from the New York Philharmonic, the Met Orchestra, and the top ranks of the jazz and Broadway communities; and a distinguished community of accomplished, award-winning alumni working at the highest levels of the musical, educational, cultural, and professional worlds.

The School is dedicated to the personal, artistic, and intellectual development of aspiring musicians, from its Precollege students through those pursuing doctoral studies. Offering classical, jazz, and musical theatre training, MSM grants a range of undergraduate and graduate degrees. True to MSM's origins as a music school for children, the Precollege Division is a professionally oriented Saturday music program dedicated to the musical and personal growth of talented young musicians ages 5 to 18. The School also serves some 2,000 New York City schoolchildren through its Arts-in-Education Program, and another 2,000 students through its critically acclaimed Distance Learning Program.

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Land Acknowledgment

We want to acknowledge that we gather as Manhattan School of Music on the traditional land of the Lenape and Wappinger past and present, and honor with gratitude the land itself and the people who have stewarded it throughout the generations. This calls us to commit to continuing to learn how to be better stewards of the land we inhabit as well.

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