

Simons Center for Geometry and Physics Art and Outreach Program Presents

# SUMMER 2023 TUESDAY CONCERTS

Tuesday, July 18

Performance By

Zhenni Li, Piano  
Yezu Woo, Violin

Program:

Mozart - E minor Sonata - for violin and piano

Debussy - Sonata for violin and piano

Brahms - Sonata in G major for violin and piano

# Performance by Zhenni Li and Yezu Woo

## Zhenni Li

Hailed as "...an artist of tremendous conviction, who fascinates even as she provokes..." by Gramophone Magazine, "...a thrillingly good pianist..." by The New Yorker and for her "...big, gorgeous tone and a mesmerizing touch" by The Philadelphia Inquirer, Ms. Li-Cohen has performed in such notable venues as Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall, Merkin Concert Hall, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, WQXR's Greene Space in New York, the Smithsonian Museum in Washington, D.C., Philadelphia's Kimmel Performing Arts Center, the Helsinki Music Centre in Finland, the Grieghallen in Norway, and the Berliner Philharmonie in Germany. She has appeared as a soloist with ensembles such as the Bergen Philharmonic, the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia and the Knoxville, Fairbanks, Bucks County, Dominican Republic and Johns Hopkins Symphony Orchestras and recently released her second album for the Steinway & Sons label featuring works by Sergei Bortkiewicz (A Letter); her third and fourth albums featuring Beethoven (Beethoven's Apotheosis), and traditional Chinese works (Legend of the Phoenix Queen) are upcoming. Ms. Li-Cohen has garnered worldwide recognition as the winner of the New York Concert Artists Worldwide Debut Audition, Astral Artist's National Auditions and the Grieg International Competition in Norway. Ms. Li-Cohen is currently the Associate Professor of Piano at University of Alberta. She holds a Bachelor and Master of Music degree, both on a full scholarship, from The Juilliard School, under the tutelage of Seymour Lipkin and Joseph Kalichstein. After obtaining her Artist Diploma with Peter Frankl at Yale School of Music, she completed her doctorate studies at the McGill School of Music under Dr. Stéphane Lemelin.

She is the co-founder and Artistic Director of Opus 71 Concerts, a multimedia concert series near New York's Lincoln Center. In her spare time, she enjoys learning jazz and new languages, looking forward to becoming pentalingual, traveling and meeting people of different cultures. Zhenni Li-Cohen is a Steinway Artist.

## Yezu Woo

Praised for "her technical quality, beauty of sound, and above all, the projection of an uncommon musical sensibility" (El Norte, Monterrey), Violinist Yezu Elizabeth Woo made her debut at Carnegie Hall at age 16, where she became the youngest performer to play all 24 of Niccolò Paganini's Caprices for solo violin. Yezu has been invited to perform at the Lincoln Center, United Nations (NY), the Smetana Hall (Prague), Musikverein (Vienna), Elbphilharmonie Hamburg, and the Berlin Philharmonie, and has recorded for EMI Classics and MOOK Sound. She was the Artistic Director and co-founder of Shattered Glass, a NYC string ensemble, which debuted to great acclaim in 2012. Winner of the Korean national award, "Outstanding International Musician of the Year" by the Arts Critics Association, as well as "Artist of the Year" by the Gangwon Foundation, Yezu was appointed as Honorary Ambassador of the City of Chuncheon, where she is currently serving as the Artistic Director of New York in Chuncheon Music Festival. Her commitment to Korean traditional and new music has led her to performances at the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) 'ART FESTA' as part of the ongoing peace process between the two Koreas, as well as seeing collaborations with the KBS Korean Traditional Orchestra. Born in Freiburg, Germany, Yezu moved to the U.S. from South Korea at age ten to study with Albert Markov. She received her B.M. Degree from the Manhattan School of Music, M.M. Degree at The Juilliard School, Performance Certificate from Bard Conservatory, and her Doctorate Degree at the Stony Brook University. Her principal teachers include Albert Markov, Catherine Cho, Laurie Smukler, Arnaud Sussmann and the members of the Emerson Quartet. Yezu is a recipient of Fulbright Scholarship ('19-20) in Germany, where she was a member of the Ensemble Modern Academy, Frankfurt, and a researcher at the Isang-Yun-Haus in Berlin. She currently resides in New York City.