



Bard College Conservatory of Music

Faculty Recital

Yi-Wen Jiang, violin

Frank Corliss, piano

Sunday, March 12, 2023, at 3:30pm

László Z. Bitó '60 Conservatory Building

Program

Largo for Violin and Piano in F Sharp Minor

Francesco Maria Veracini (1690-1768)

Scherzo in C Minor, WoO 2

Johannes Brahms (1822-97)

Violin Sonata No. 2 in A major, Op. 100

Allegro amabile

Andante tranquillo; Vivace

Allegretto grazioso (quasi Andante)

Viennese Rhapsodic Fantasetta

Fritz Kreisler (1875-1962)

Intermission

from Spanish Dances, Op.26, No.1, Vito

Pablo de Sarasate (1844-1908)

“Auf Flügeln des Gesanges”

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-47)
(transcribed by Joseph Achron)

“Clair de Lune”

Claude Debussy (1862-1918)
(transcribed by A. Roelens)

Nocturne in E minor, Op.posth.72, No.1

Frédéric Chopin (1810-49)
(transcribed by Leopold Auer)

Lensky’s Aria from Eugene Onegin

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840-93)
(arr. by Leopold Auer)

The Sea-shell (arr. Efrem Zimbalist)

Carl Engel (1883-1944)

Tzigane

Maurice Ravel (1875-1937)

About the Musicians

Violinist **Yi-Wen Jiang** was born into a musical family in Beijing where both parents were professional musicians – his father a concertmaster for over 35 years and his mother a soprano soloist. After hearing Beethoven's violin concerto at the age of three, Jiang understood his life's path: to become a professional violinist.

His rise in the musical world was meteoric. Jiang made his concerto debut at the age of 17 in Beijing. He won the top prize at the first China Youth Violin Competition, paving the way for him to study with Professor Han Li at the Central Conservatory of Music. Afterward, he received a full scholarship from McDonnell-Douglas at the St. Louis Conservatory, and moved to the U.S. in 1985 to study with Taras Gabora and Michael Tree. After St. Louis, he enrolled in the graduate program of Rutgers University, where he studied four years with Arnold Steinhardt. Jiang credits Steinhardt with having the most influence on his playing, followed by highly influential master classes with Pinchas Zuckerman. After his prize-winning performance at the Montreal International Competition, he appeared as a soloist with the Victoria Symphony and Montreal Symphony, and was featured at many international music festivals by the age of 22.

In 1994, Jiang joined the Shanghai Quartet, and over the next 26 years performed more than 3000 concerts in 37 countries. Innumerable collaborations with eminent artists included the Tokyo, Juilliard, and Guarneri Quartets; cellists Yo-Yo Ma and Lynn Harrell; pianists Menahem Pressler, Peter Serkin, Jean-Yves Thibaudet, and Yuja Wang – many of whom became lifelong friends. The ensemble featured at many of Europe's and North America's most prominent music festivals.

Active as a composer, Jiang has arranged dozens of pieces for string quartet and other instruments, many of which marry Eastern repertoire with Western influence. The most famous of these arrangements is a collection of Chinese folk songs called *Chinasong*, featuring music arranged by Jiang reflecting on his childhood memories of the Cultural Revolution in China. The set of 24 pieces was recorded by the Shanghai Quartet with Eugenia Zuckerman and released on the Delos International label in 2002. In 2018, 38 of these arrangements were published by Flower City Publisher in Guangzhou.

Jiang is Artist-in-Residence at the John J. Cali School of Music at Montclair State University and a faculty member at the Bard College Conservatory of Music.

Frank Corliss is the director of the Bard College Conservatory of Music. Prior to coming to Bard he was for many years a staff pianist for the Boston Symphony Orchestra and the Tanglewood Festival Chorus, and the director of music at the Walnut Hill School for the Arts. He was a frequent performer on the Boston Symphony Prelude Concert series and he has also performed throughout the United States as a chamber musician and collaborative pianist. Corliss has worked as a musical assistant for Yo-Yo Ma and has assisted Ma in the musical preparation of many new works for performance and recording, including concertos by Elliot Carter, Richard Danielpour, Tan Dun, John Harbison, Leon Kirchner, Peter Lieberson, Christopher Rouse, and John Williams.

A graduate of the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, he received his Master of Music from SUNY at Stony Brook, where he studied with Gilbert Kalish. While at Oberlin he received the Rudolf Serkin Award for Outstanding Pianist and was a member of the Music from Oberlin Ensemble, which toured throughout the U.S. He has also studied at the Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria, and the Cracow Academy of Music in Cracow, Poland, and performed in summer festivals, including the Tanglewood Music Festival, the Taos Chamber Music Festival, and the Aspen Music Festival.

He was appointed as an Artistic Ambassador for the United States Information Agency and in that capacity went on a three-week concert tour of Eastern Europe. He received a Rockefeller Foundation grant from the Cultural Contact US-Mexico Fund for Culture to commission works for flute and piano by American and Mexican composers and premiered them in Boston and in Mexico City.

Corliss can be heard in recording on Yo Yo Ma's Grammy-winning SONY disc "Soul of the Tango," as well as on the Koch International disc of music by Elliot Carter for chorus and piano with the John Oliver Chorale.