



Bard College Conservatory of Music

Noon Concert

Monday, April 1, 2024, at Noon

László Z. Bitó '60 Conservatory Building

Program

Sonata No. 2 in F-sharp minor, Op. 2

Johannes Brahms (1833-97)

- III. Scherzo: Allegro — Poco più moderato
- IV. Finale: Sostenuto — Allegro non troppo e rubato — Molto sostenuto

Sophia Cornicello, *piano*

Piano Sonata No. 1, Op. 22

Alberto Evaristo Ginastera (1916-83)

- I. Allegro marcato
- II. Presto misterioso
- III. Adagio molto appassionato
- IV. Ruvido ed ostinato

Tianxiang Ni, *piano*

Tanguito

Dante Yenque (b. 1965)

Alberto Arias Flores, *french horn*

Violin Sonata in E-flat major, Op. 18

Richard Strauss (1864-1949)

- II. Improvisation: Andante cantabile

Yuchen Zhao, *violin*

Tianxiang Ni, *piano*

Conservatory Students Performing Today

Sophia Cornicello is a second-year at Bard, where she studies piano with Rieko Aizawa. She also studies harpsichord with Renée Anne Louprette and is a member of Bard's Baroque Ensemble. She is the recipient of the undergraduate scholarship from the 2023 Evelyn Bonar Storrs Scholarship Fund and won first place and best performance of the commissioned work in the 2020 Renee B. Fisher competition. Her second major is mathematics.

Alberto Arias Flores '23 is a French horn player from Venezuela studying under the tutelage of Barbara Jöstlein Currie and Hugo Valverde at Bard Conservatory of Music in the graduate Advanced Performance Studies Program. He began his musical studies in 2010 at the Conservatory Vicente Emilio Sojo and El Sistema in Barquisimeto, Lara. He was a member of the National Children's Symphony Orchestra of Venezuela in 2013, and participated in the Salzburg Festival under Sir Simon Rattle. In addition, he performed with the Lara Youth Symphony Orchestra in 2014 and Lara Symphony Orchestra in 2017 with great conductors like Gustavo Dudamel and Christian Vásquez.

He graduated in 2023 from Bard Conservatory of Music with a double degree in music performance and French studies. He has a particular interest in history, philosophy and languages aside from music, something he portrayed in his senior thesis titled *French Composers as Intellectuals: Music and Politics in Early 20th Century France*, receiving the William Weaver Prize. Alberto also has performed in the Miami Music Festival, the Bard Music Festival and other institutions like the Classical Music Institute of San Antonio Symphony Orchestra, The Opera of San Antonio Orchestra and The Orchestra Now.

Tianxiang Ni, from Beijing, China, is a first-year student at the Conservatory in Rieko Aizawa's piano studio. She won the 2023 Conservatory Concerto Competition that took place last semester. Tianxiang has performed concerts throughout China, and has won many awards, including first prize in the BIMFA international competition, the first prize in the Chicago international competition young artists group, and the Latin GRAMMY Foundation Scholarship.

Violinist **Yuchen Zhao** is a second-year Instrumental Arts Program graduate student at the Bard Conservatory. Last spring he served as the concertmaster for the Bard Conservatory Orchestra with Maestro Tan Dun at Fisher Center. He graduated from Zhenjiang Conservatory of Music where he served as first concertmaster with the Philharmonic Angel Orchestra. Yuchen has won many competition honors, including a silver award at the Alba Music Competition, gold award at the Royal Music Competition, and bronze award at the New Talent Music Competition.