



Bard College Conservatory of Music

Degree Recital: Yilin Li, *piano*

Monday, May 6 at 7 pm

László Z. Bitó '60 Conservatory Building

Fantasia in F minor, D.940

Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

Neilson Chen, *piano*

Piano Trio in B-flat major, Op. 97

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

- I. Allegro moderato
- II. Scherzo (Allegro)
- III. Andante cantabile, ma però con moto
- IV. Allegro moderato

Christopher Nelson, *violin*

Raman Ramakrishnan, *cello*

Yilin Li, a pianist from Shenyang, China, is a fifth-year student at Bard Conservatory of Music where she is pursuing a dual-degree program in piano performance and French studies on full scholarship. She is currently under the instruction of Professor Rieko Aizawa and has previously studied with Professors Gilles Vonsattel, Benjamin Hochman, and Vladimir Petrov. Yilin has appeared as a soloist with The Orchestra Now, the East Tennessee Symphony Orchestra and the Todi Music Master Orchestra. In 2022, she was named a winner of the Bard Conservatory Concerto Competition. Recent Performance engagements have brought her to varied locations such as the Bowdoin International Music Festival, the Maine Chamber Music Festival, the East Carolina Piano Festival, the Todi International Music Master in Italy, and the Shenyang Culture Artistic Center which is one of the most renowned performance venues in

China. Besides music, Yilin is interested in French philosophy, French musicals, and has contributed writing to the Bard translation magazine *Sui Generis*. Yilin will be pursuing her Master of Music degree at Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University with professor Alexander Shtarkman, as a recipient of the Kaye Scholarship for post grad studies.

Dr. Neilson Chen, a native of Taiwan, is a highly sought-after recitalist and collaborative pianist, whose thoughtful interpretations and dazzling technique have been described by the L.A. Times as “stunning.” The recipient of two Master’s degrees and Doctor of Musical Arts from Arizona State University, Neilson has studied under such esteemed teachers as Constance Lee, Anne Epperson and Dr. Andrew Campbell. Currently, he is a Collaborative Pianist at The Orchestra Now (TÖN) and Bard College-Conservatory of Music as well as a Collaborative Pianist in Residence at Meadowmount School of Music. Over the course of his career, Neilson has been the recipient of many prestigious honors and awards, including winning the inaugural Duo Competition at Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara, in 2019. Performing extensively throughout the United States and internationally, he has concertized in Germany, Luxemburg, France, Ireland, Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan. Honored to have performed in renowned venues, he appeared at the National Concert Hall in Taiwan, Carnegie Hall, Tempe Center for the Performing Arts and Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts. Recent collaborations with prestigious artists include Joshua Bell, Luosha Fang, Janet Sung, Raman Ramakrishnan and members of the Juilliard String Quartet. Committed to fostering the talent of younger musicians, Neilson is esteemed by many musicians as a colleague and a mentor.

Raised in Southern California, **Christopher Nelson** is a violinist that has performed music ranging in style from Monteverdi to Kurtág. He has attended several prominent music festivals including the Aspen Music Festival, National Repertory Orchestra, Round Top Festival Institute, Taconic Chamber Intensive, and the Fellowship String Quartet Program at Madeline Island Chamber Music. Influential teachers Christopher has studied with include William Fitzpatrick, Moni Simeonov, Daniel Phillips, Paul Kantor, and Gail Mellert. During his studies at Chapman University (BM ‘20), Christopher developed an engulfing interest in the history of the Soviet Union through the music of Dmitri Shostakovich. In 2022, Christopher began studies at the Bitó Conservatory of Music at Bard College (MM ‘24) where he is currently a student of Carmit Zori in the Graduate Instrumental Arts Program.

Cellist **Raman Ramakrishnan** enjoys performing chamber music, old and new, around the world. For two decades, as a founding member of the Horszowski Trio and the Daedalus Quartet, he toured extensively through North and South America, Europe, and Asia, and recorded for Bridge Records and Avie Records, including, most recently, the complete piano trios of Robert Schumann. Mr. Ramakrishnan is currently an artist member of the Boston Chamber Music Society, and is on the faculty of the Bard College Conservatory of Music. He plays a Neapolitan cello made by Vincenzo Jorio in 1837.