



Grace Molinaro, *cello*
Undergraduate Degree Recital
May 18, 2024 at 1pm
Conservatory Performance Space

Sonata for Cello and Piano

Sergei Rachmaninoff (1901)

- I. Lento – Allegro Moderato*
- II. Allegro Scherzando*
- III. Andante*
- IV. Allegro Mosso*

Pei-Hsuan Shen, piano

Intermission

Strum

Jessie Montgomery (2008, rev. 2012)

Elizabeth Chernyak, violin
Katherine Chernyak, violin
Sam Rehorst, viola

Peace On Earth: A Thrush Singing In Deep Woods

Kathy Wonson Eddy (2001)

Timothy Morrow, piano

Taqsim Bayati

Grace Molinaro, improvisation

يا طالعين الجبل + ترويدة شمالي

**Palestinian Traditional
arr. Grace Molinaro**

Ya Tal3een Al Jabal + Tarweeda Shamaly

Juan Diego Mora Rubio, darbuka
Abby Wolf, cello drone

Afrika! Afrika!

Akua Dixon (1972)

- I. Movement I*

Katherine Chernyak, violin
Mina DeVore, violin
Gabo Cassell-Ramirez, viola
Abby Wolf, cello
Stan Legan, bass

Grace Molinaro is a fifth year student at Bard College Conservatory, majoring in Cello Performance and Middle Eastern Studies with Arabic. She currently studies with Raman Ramakrishnan and has also studied with Peter Wiley. In addition, she studies jazz cello with Akua Dixon. Grace hails from the Washington, D.C. area, where she is a member of the Ictus Quartet, and she won an Honorable Mention in the 2017 U.S. Army Band’s Young Artist Competition. In her time at Bard, she has premiered new chamber works by Bard, Hong Kong, and Australia-based composers. In Spring 2021, she performed the first movement of Shostakovich Cello Concerto no. 1 with the Bard College Community Orchestra, after winning the 2019 Music Program Concerto Competition. She also served as principal cellist in the Bard College Community Orchestra in 2019 and 2020. Grace has co-organized two benefit concerts at Bard– one for the Afghan-student-led Arezo project, and one for earthquake relief in Turkey and Syria. In Summer 2022, Grace attended the New Directions Cello Festival virtually and coached students in Cali, Colombia through the TLS project *Cuerdas Para Cali*. Grace also studied Arabic cello with Dr. Alaa Abdsalam while abroad in Cairo, Egypt in Fall 2022, which she continued to engage with in Amman, Jordan in Summer 2024 while living with a Palestinian-Jordanian family and interning for a local NGO. In Fall 2023, Grace completed her senior project in Middle Eastern Studies about the “fusion” of Arabic music and jazz. As she reaches graduation, she aspires to keep exploring the intersection between the arts, languages, and social justice and connection.

Pei-Hsuan Shen, from New Taipei City, Taiwan, is a collaborative piano fellow at Bard Conservatory. While studying music, she discovered her passion for collaborative piano and earned a BA in piano performance and MM in collaborative piano at National Taiwan Normal University. She was a graduate diploma student at New England Conservatory, and attended Bard College’s APS program and studied with Frank Corliss. As a rehearsal pianist, she played for the conducting studios of Harold Farberman and James Bagwell at Bard College. Pei-Hsuan attended Music Academy of the West in 2019 and 2022 as a collaborative piano fellow.