



University of Maryland School of Music Presents

FACULTY ARTIST SERIES

Joseph Grimmer, bassoon

Thursday, October 24, 2024 • 8PM

GILDENHORN RECITAL HALL

AT THE CLARICE SMITH PERFORMING ARTS CENTER



**SCHOOL OF
MUSIC**

University of Maryland School of Music
Presents

FACULTY ARTIST SERIES

Joseph Grimmer, bassoon

Trio for Oboe, Bassoon & Keyboard.....Madeleine Dring
(1923–1977)

- I. Drammatico
- II. Dialogues — Andante sostenuto
- III. Allegro con brio

Emily Tsai, *oboe*
Rita Sloan, *piano*

Bassoon Set for Solo BassoonAdolphus Hailstork
(b. 1941)

- I. Moderato con anima
- II. Vivo
- III. Lento e teneramente
- IV. Allegretto

Andante e rondo ongarese, Op. 35.....Carl Maria von Weber
(1786–1826)

Quartet for Bassoon, Violin, Viola & Cello François Devienne
Op. 73 No. 3 in G Minor (1759–1803)

- I. Allegro con espressione
- II. Adagio, non troppo
- III. Rondo — Allegretto poco moderato

Michelle Kim, *violin*
Philippe Chao, *viola*
Igor Zubkovsky, *cello*



JOSEPH GRIMMER is principal bassoon of the Kennedy Center Opera House Orchestra/Washington National Opera Orchestra and assistant professor of bassoon at the University of Maryland, College Park. He also holds the principal bassoon positions with the Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra and the Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music in Santa Cruz, California. He previously served as principal bassoon with the Jacksonville Symphony, was a member of the Houston Grand Opera Orchestra, was acting assistant principal bassoon with the Naples Philharmonic, and spent six summers as assistant principal bassoon with the Colorado Music Festival Orchestra in his hometown of Boulder, Colorado.

He has performed as guest principal bassoon with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Grand Rapids Symphony, Miami City Ballet Orchestra, Annapolis Symphony Orchestra, IRIS Orchestra and Wolf Trap Orchestra, among others. He has also performed with the National Symphony, Milwaukee Symphony and Arizona Musicfest Orchestras. He has performed as a soloist with the International Double Reed Society Conference Orchestra in an arrangement of Sarasate's Carmen Fantasy and with the Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra in David Ludwig's Pictures from the Floating World. He has taught at the Shenandoah Conservatory, Howard University, Catholic University and the Miami Music Festival and presents masterclasses at music schools across the U.S. and internationally.

Grimmer was a fellow at the Lucerne, Aspen and Sarasota Music Festivals and a prize winner at the International Double Reed Society's Young Artist Bassoon Competition in Birmingham, England. He serves on the executive board of Washington, D.C.'s Local 161-710 of the American Federation of Musicians. Grimmer earned his master of music degree from Rice University's Shepherd School of Music, where he studied with Benjamin Kamins. He also studied with William Winstead at the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music, where he received his bachelor of music degree.



Quoted by DMV Classical as "[having] a consistently lovely tone and [taking] her melodic twists and turns with stylish assurance," and by The Washington Post's opera critic, Michael Andor Brodeur, as "frequently catching my ears from the pit," **EMILY TSAI** is a world renowned orchestral musician, chamber musician and educator. She is the assistant principal oboe of the Washington National Opera and Kennedy Center Opera House Orchestra and can be seen playing regularly at the prestigious Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. on opera, ballet and musical theater productions. She is also on faculty at the University of Maryland, College Park School of Music.

Tsai is also an MKI Artist as the oboist and touring director of the internationally renowned wind quintet, WindSync, a gold medalist at the International Fischhoff Competition, and a medalist at the M-Prize Chamber Arts Competition. She has performed with WindSync in prominent venues such as Ravinia, IL, the Library of Congress, D.C., the Grand Tetons Music Festival, WY and Strathmore, MD, and has taught artist residencies at many colleges and universities, including the Eastman School of Music, Northwestern University, Orchestra of the Americas and New World Symphony.

She has made solo appearances with the Lafayette Symphony Orchestra, the River Oaks Chamber Orchestra, the Alba Music Festival Orchestra, the Paragon Philharmonia, the Amadeus Orchestra and others. Besides WindSync, Tsai has had the privilege of performing chamber music with such prominent musicians as Nathan Hughes, Frank Morelli, Clive Greensmith, Martin Chalifour and Matthew Lipman.

Tsai has been featured on a number of albums and singles, including WindSync's most recent album release "All Worlds, All Times," which debuted at No. 2 on the Classical Billboard charts. Other recordings include WindSync's "Pulcinella Suite" and D'amore Duo's "Behind the Moon," among others. She has also arranged and recorded many pieces for wind quintet and double reed choir. Most recently, she finished recording WindSync's newest album, which will be released in 2024, at the famous Abbey Roads Studio in London, UK.

Tsai began her musical studies at the age of 4 on the violin and started the oboe when she was 10. Her main teachers include Mark Hill, Richard Killmer and Malcolm Smith. Tsai received her bachelor of music degree in oboe performance with a performer's certificate and the chamber music award from the Eastman School of Music, and her bachelor of science degree in ecology and evolutionary biology from the University of Rochester, graduating magna cum laude. She received her master of music degree from the University of Maryland, College Park, where she was part of the Graduate Fellowship Quintet.

In her downtime, Tsai has completed a number of half marathons, a full marathon, an Olympic triathlon and a Tough Mudder, and can be found on the pickleball court many weekends with her husband, Karl. Inside, she can be found playing video games and spoiling her two adorable cats, Xenia and Perch.

Tsai is a Lorée Artist and plays on a Lorée Royal oboe and a Lorée English Horn. Follow her on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube, and visit her website for more information.



RITA SLOAN is acknowledged internationally as a leading teacher of piano, collaborative piano and chamber music. In 1999, she was appointed a piano faculty member and director of the collaborative piano program at the University of Maryland, College Park. As an artist faculty member at the Aspen Music Festival, Sloan founded their collaborative piano program. She has performed as soloist with both the Aspen Festival Orchestra and Chamber Symphony as well as in chamber music with many of Aspen's distinguished guest artists including pianists Wu Han and Orli Shaham, violinists Sarah Chang and Nadia Salerno-Sonnenberg, cellist Gary Hoffman, bassist Edgar Meyer and flutist Emmanuel Pahud. Her teaching residencies and masterclass presentations have included Tainan National University of the Arts and National Normal University in Taiwan; the China Conservatory in Beijing, China; leading universities in Seoul, Korea; London's Royal College of Music; and several American universities and conservatories including numerous visits to the Juilliard School in New York. Sloan has performed with orchestra, in recital and in chamber music settings throughout the U.S., Europe, South America and Japan. She has been a guest in many chamber music venues and has performed with members of the Emerson and Guarneri String Quartets. Born in Russia to Polish parents, Sloan graduated from the Juilliard School, where she studied with Martin Canin and Rosina Lhévinne. Further studies were with Leon Fleisher, Aube Tzerko, Herbert Stessin and Vladimir Ashkenazy.



MICHELLE KIM is a violin virtuoso who has won numerous solo competitions, performed across the United States and around the world, and performed in festivals in Aspen, Salzburg, Banff, New York and Porto, Portugal.

She has played at Carnegie Hall, at the Kennedy Center Honors and at numerous charity and diplomatic events on the acoustic and electric violin. For the last three years, she has performed the electric violin at the Italian Embassy for Becky's Fund Walk This Way Fashion Show. Kim played Bach's Partita No. 3 for the Institute for Korean-American Studies Liberty Award Dinner honoring Ambassador Christopher R. Hill at the U.S. Senate Russell Building. In 2014, she performed for Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel and South Korean Defense Minister Han Min-koo at the U.S. Institute of Peace.

Kim has been a first violin section member of the Washington National Opera Orchestra at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts since graduating from the Manhattan School of Music with a master's degree. She also has a bachelor's degree in statistics from the University of California at Berkeley.

Kim is also the founder and chief cultural officer of "Culture Saves," a global non-for-profit organization that restores hope and promotes peace through the arts.



Texas Tech University Assistant Professor of Viola **PHILIPPE CHAO** brings to TTU experience from an expansive career as an orchestral, solo and collaborative performer and as a respected teacher and coach.

A tenured member of the Kennedy Center Opera House Orchestra, he has performed with the Pittsburgh, National, Detroit, Minnesota and Baltimore symphonies and was previously the assistant principal violist of the Virginia Symphony. He is a longstanding member of the Grand Teton Music Festival and is on the faculty of the Sewanee Summer Music Festival.

As a concerto soloist, Chao has appeared with several orchestras including the Newark Symphony Orchestra, the Virginia Symphony and the Eclipse Chamber Orchestra. In 2024, he was the featured soloist for both the TTU Symphony Orchestra and the Symphonic Wind Ensemble.

As a chamber musician and recitalist, he has performed with the renowned international artists Robert Koenig, James Buswell, Nathaniel Rosen, Simone Porter, Susan Platts, the Coull Quartet and Julian Rachlin and with numerous chamber music societies including The Pressenda Chamber Players, the Smithsonian Chamber Orchestra and the Chamber Music Series at the United States Holocaust Museum. Other appearances have included performances at the Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage, the Supreme Court, the Garth Newell Music Center and NPR Broadcasts for Performance Today hosted by Fred Childs. He performed on Broadway in Steve Martin and Edie Brickell's Tony-nominated musical *Bright Star* and can be heard on Naxos' album featuring the music of Bernard Herrmann. As a member of the Lehner String Quartet, he has premiered several new works for Vox Novus' Virtual Concert Hall Series.

In demand as a pedagogue, Chao was invited to present clinics at both the 2022 and 2024 Texas Music Educators Association Conferences in San Antonio. In addition to being invited as the pre-college masterclass teacher for the 2023 ASTA Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida, he frequently serves as an adjudicator and panelist for a number of competitions, most recently for the Primrose International Viola Competition screening round, the American Viola Society's 2021 Orchestral Excerpt Competition, the Virtual Concert Hall Series' Sound Espresso Competition and several iterations of the American Virtuoso International Music Competition. He previously held professorships at George

Mason University and The Catholic University America, has been a faculty member of the American Festival for the Arts and the Eastern Music Festival, and was a guest artist-teacher for the State Department's Artist Exchange Program at the Kennedy Center.

Reflecting his continuing interest in expanding the viola repertoire, he has set and edited several works of Marco Anzoletti (1867–1929) in their premiere editions, has transcribed and published an accompanying second viola part to the Bach Cello Suites and Kreutzer Etudes, and commissioned and premiered new works dedicated to him by the acclaimed Russian composer Sergey Akhunov and the renowned American composer Adolphus Hailstork. Of note was a 2023 All-Hailstork recital with Robert Koenig presented at the Chadwick Boseman College of Fine Arts at Howard University, Hailstork's alma mater.

His mentors include the esteemed pedagogues Roland and Almita Vamos, the Boston Symphony's Michael Zaretsky, international soloists Gérard Caussé and Donald McInnes, and the Cleveland Orchestra's former principal violist Robert Vernon.



IGOR ZUBKOVSKY started playing cello in his native Russia. He first appeared as a soloist with the Minsk State Philharmonic Orchestra at the age of 12, performing the Haydn C Major Cello Concerto. Later, he studied at the Moscow Conservatory with Natalia Shakhovskaya, the Gold Medalist of the 1962 Tchaikovsky Competition. Zubkovsky won top prizes at international competitions, including second prize at the International Cello Competition in Minsk, Belarus and the grand prix at the Tansman Competition in Lodz, Poland. As a member of The Brahms Trio in Moscow,

he won Second Prize at the Trapani, Italy and First Prize at the Weimar, Germany International Chamber Music Competitions. With a remarkable record of performances, awards and academic distinctions, Zubkovsky was awarded a full scholarship to the Peabody Conservatory of Music where he earned a graduate performance diploma. Since 2003, Zubkovsky has been a member of the Kennedy Center Opera House Orchestra, and continues to perform extensively as a soloist and chamber musician. He has appeared at Merkin Concert Hall in New York, at the prestigious Newport Music Festival, and has since performed recitals in Massachusetts and at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. Live recordings of those concerts are frequently broadcast on TV and over the internet. Recent engagements include performances of the Brahms Double Concerto with the West Chester University Orchestra and Tchaikovsky's Rococo Variations with the Altoona Symphony. He has since performed in a series of chamber music concerts in Paris with the Marquis ensemble as well as performances at the Moscow Conservatory Rachmaninov Hall. Trio concerts with Anna Ouspenskaya and Elisabeth Adkins (as part of the Levine Presents Performance series) were aired on WETA, Washington Classical Music Radio station. Zubkovsky is the author of numerous arrangements and transcriptions of duets and trios featuring the cello. He premiered the Cello Sonata by Isaac Mikhnovsky and has several CD recordings to his credit.

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