

Yang and Olivia Sample Program Descriptions

Silence to Hysteria

This program bends time and expectation, inviting the listener into shifting textures and unexpected turns. Here, silence speaks, sound provokes, and hysteria emerges not as an ending, but as a transformation. Repertoire ranges from Chinese folk and European classical to 21st-century multicultural works.

Storm!

This program explores composers' creative depictions of storms, both in nature and within the emotional turmoil of their own lives. Music is a powerful medium to artistically express the physical and psychological realms of human experience. Join us as we journey through the tempestuous and transformative power of music storms.

Searching the Soul

Award Winning violin and piano duo, Yang and Olivia, present a soul-searching program, opening with Returning soul by Shi-Hui Chen, based on a Taiwanese indigenous tribe's legends. This piece is followed by Chihchun Chi-sun Lee's Isolation and Hysteria, a reflection of the soul's agony during the covid lockdowns. Other pieces include Cantiga by Grammy-Award nominee Dmitri Cervo, and Double Play by Michael Sidney Timpson.

Lost in Diversity

In recent years, people are more aware of and embrace the diversity of races and genders. However, certain groups are lost in diversity - the Westerners residing in Asian countries. This presentation focuses on selected Western composers who are established in Taiwan and Korea. Their compositions reflect interesting cultural influences combining musical elements of the East and West. We will acknowledge their musical contributions and their compositions will give the listeners a feast with many different flavors and spices.

5000 Mile Journey

Throughout history, people have traveled thousands of miles to trade between the West and the East: produce, spices, gold, leather...etc. Music traveled along with them. In our program, you will hear works by a Taiwanese female composer who incorporates ethnic children's folk songs in her music, an American composer incorporates Cuban dance music, and ancient Chinese folk tunes arranged for Western instruments during a dark time in China when anything Western was banned. You will even hear the story of Mozart traveling hundreds of miles to advance his career and how that effort came to a disappointing end. We are fortunate to live in an era where the music of all the cultures of the world are easily accessible and musicians are able to draw upon this diversity of cultures. This program showcases the richness of different music styles and the stories behind them.

Possible Repertoire

Classical:

- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791): sonata for piano and violin in E minor K. 304
- FAE Sonata by Robert Schumann (1810-1856) and Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)
- Henryk Wieniawski (1835-1880): Capriccio-Valse Op. 7
- Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741): Sonata in D minor op.2 no.3
- Selections from Jean Sibelius (1865-1957): 5 Pieces for Violin and Piano Op. 81

Contemporary multicultural:

João Guilherme Ripper: Seagull from From My Window No. 8 (2020)—Brazilian

- Joe Hoffmann: Selections from What the West Wind Says (2020)—American with Taiwanese influence

- Michael Sidney Timpson: Spheres (2022)-- American residing in Korea

Chihchun Ch-sun Lee: Isolation and Hysteria for Solo Piano (2021), and Gin-A Koa (1996)— Taiwanese American female

- Selections from Shih-Hui Chen's: Returning Souls for Solo Violin (2013)—Taiwanese American female

- Kevin Wilt: Out in the Storm (2020)-- American

- Michael Daugherty: Summer Rains (2014) and Fourth Violin Sonata (2020)

Chinese folk:

- The Celebration of Bumper Harvest
- Flowing Creek
- Fisherman's Song at Sunset

Sample Program 1:

Mozart: sonata for piano and violin in E minor K. 304

Dmitri Cervo: Cantiga (dedicated to Yang and Olivia)

FAE Sonata by Schumann and Brahms

Intermission

Fisherman's Song at Sunset (Chinese folk)

Kevin Wilt: Out in the Storm Wieniawski: Capriccio-Valse Op. 7

Sample Program 2:

Chihchun Chi-sun Lee (b. 1970): Gin-a Koa (1997)

It ê Chhá Bí-Phang

Goéh Nîu-nîu & Hóe-Kim-Kò

Sio Sio Sio

Traditional Chinese folksong: Fisherman's Song

Traditional Chinese folksong: Spring of Xinjiang

Intermission

Fritz Kreisler (1875-1962): Love's Joy and Love's Sorrow

Michael Daugherty 4th Violin Sonata

Traditional Chinese folk song: The Celebration of the Bumper Harvest

Pablo De Sarasate (1844-1908): Zigeunerweiser

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