

## Upcoming Events

### **Composer of the Year | Kabalevsky**

Sunday, March 19 | 1:00—6:00 p.m.

Barrett Hall

Free

Hear performances of Kabalevsky's music by students and faculty of the piano department.

### **Guitar Faculty Concert**

Friday, March 24 | 7:30 p.m.

Barrett Hall

Free

PCM guitar faculty present a concert in Barrett Hall.

### **Wicked GOAT | Folk**

Sunday, April 2 | 4:00 p.m.

Barrett Hall

Free

Join us for the third Wicked GOAT concert featuring music that incorporates folk elements. Wicked GOAT is a brand new immersive concert series at PCM featuring performances by faculty and friends.

### **Piano Master Class | Evan Pulgar**

Sunday, April 23 | 2:00 p.m.

Barrett Hall

Free

PCM presents master classes in Barrett Hall and the PCM Auditorium throughout the school year. These master classes offer students the opportunity to be coached by an esteemed professional in a formal setting and gain confidence as musicians.

*For more information, please visit [pasadenaconservatory.org](http://pasadenaconservatory.org)*



Do you require an **assistive listening device**?

Please feel free to ask a PCM staff member or volunteer for assistance!

*\* Masks are strongly recommended.*



100 North Hill Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91106



# Pasadena Conservatory of Music Piano Department Faculty Concert

Saturday, March 11, 2023  
5:00 pm  
Barrett Hall

## **ESTHER YUNE**

Esther Yune received her Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Piano Performance and Literature from the Eastman School of Music and her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the New England Conservatory of Music. While studying at Eastman, she earned the Performer's Certificate and the Graduate Award in piano accompanying. Among other performance experiences, Dr. Yune performed as a soloist at the Commencement Concert with the NEC symphony orchestra before leaving Boston. Her teachers include Wha Kyung Byun, Barry Snyder, and Soo-jung Shin.

Featured as a soloist, chamber musician, and collaborative pianist, Dr. Yune's inspiring interpretations have been greatly appreciated by audiences in various venues. She was invited as a solo performer at Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria, and also gave a performance and masterclasses at UKLIM University in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Since moving to Southern California in 2003, Dr. Yune has continued sharing her passion for music as she continued performing, adjudicating, and devoting her time nurturing students of all ages. Her students won numerous competitions and went to music schools including the New England Conservatory of Music and the University of Southern California. She taught at the Pasadena Conservatory of Music from 2004 to 2007 and continued performing through PCM's Mansion and Music Series. Her performance venues with PCM include the Huntington Library, Norton Simon Museum, and A Noise Within Theatre to name a few. Other local performance locations included the Muckenthaler Cultural Center, Long Beach City College, and the Walt Disney Concert Hall.

Dr. Yune is the director of the Doctor of Church Music program at the World Mission University in Los Angeles. Already established student leaders from many locations such as Korea, Indonesia, and across the country are under her guidance. Dr. Yune is a registered adjudicator at the Southern California Junior Bach Festival and also adjudicated in many other festivals and competitions including MTNA Sonata-Sonatina Festival and Youth Mozart Festival in San Diego. She serves as the co-chair for the Certificate of Merit Branch Honors Program at MTAC OCN Branch. Besides keeping her busy schedule as a musician, she loves gardening and spending time with her family in Chino Hills.

## **ALEXANDER ZHU**

Los Angeles based musician Alexander Zhu has performed solo recitals, concerti and chamber, orchestral, pop, fusion and film music coast to coast in the United States, across Europe and China. He is also an established film and TV composer whose work has been showcased in film festivals across the US and Europe, and can be heard on Disney+, Netflix and TF1 (France).

Alexander serves on the faculties of Occidental College, Pierce College and the Pasadena Conservatory of Music, where he teaches music theory, composition and piano. Prior to his current appointments, he taught at the University of Southern California. He holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music, where he studied with Stewart Gordon, while serving as a lecturer in the Piano Department. He earned a Bachelor of Music degree summa cum laude from New England Conservatory in Boston. He is the recipient of NEC's Tourjée Alumni Scholarship and Thornton's Distinguished Graduate Award. Alexander attended the Aspen Music Festival on fellowship, studying collaborative piano with Rita Sloan. Prior to his conservatory studies, he studied with Lydia Artymiw.

An avid proponent of new music, Dr. Zhu performed on the viral Yeethoven Kanye West/Beethoven mashup concert series, appearing in media outlets such as the USA Today, Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, Huffington Post, Reuters, and Agence France Presse. He is an expert in minimalism, performing the music of Terry Riley, Steve Reich, Philip Glass and John Adams in concert halls, art museums and nightclubs. He has presented lecture-recitals on the performance practice of minimalism; his dissertation focused on pioneering new analytical techniques for the style.

For two years, Alexander served as the principal keyboard of the Aspen Chamber Symphony, where he worked alongside principal players from the Los Angeles and New York Philharmonics, the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, and the Chicago Symphony. He has collaborated with soloists in Joshua Bell, Lynn Harrell, Sarah Chang, Midori and Gil Shaham, and performed under conductors including Leonard Slatkin, David Robertson, and Robert Spano. He has appeared on several film scores, including *The Harvest* (2013), directed by John McNoughton, as well as on radio programs on NPR, WGBH, KUSC and LACMA's Sundays Live. He toured China as piano soloist and principal keyboardist with Los Angeles Film Symphony, performing in 15 cities across the country.

## PCM FACULTY PERFORMERS (continued)

Ms. Ter-Kazaryan is a winner of International and local competitions, including the Los Angeles International Liszt Competition. She is a graduate of the Tchaikovsky School of Music for Gifted Children in Yerevan with a diploma in Piano Performance, and a Certificate in Piano Performance from the Colburn School of Performing Arts. She holds a Bachelor of Music degree, Cum Laude in Piano Performance and Vocal Arts from USC, and a Master of Music degree Magna Cum Laude in Vocal Arts. Ms. Ter-Kazaryan is the Chair of Vocal Arts Department of Pasadena Conservatory of Music, where she has been on the piano and voice faculty there since 1997. She is also an Adjunct Professor of Music at Pepperdine University and Glendale Community College.

### **KATELYN VAHALA**

Praised as a “highly accomplished pianist...with wonderfully rhythmic and robust playing” (New York Concert Review), Katelyn Vahala is a passionate soloist, chamber musician, educator, and arts advocate in the Los Angeles area. As Artistic Director and Co-Founder of the traveling outdoor concert series Insert Music Here, Katelyn brings carefully curated musical programs outside the concert hall and into nature – most recently through partnerships with the Eaton Canyon Nature Center, Ojai Valley Land Conservancy, and LA Times Festival of Books. Insert Music Here presents concerts in scenic locations with a hybrid grand piano and unique portable stage to expand access to the arts for new communities while supporting awareness for environmental conservation organizations.

In addition to winning the 2021 USC Thornton Concerto Competition, Katelyn is the first prize winner of the 2019 Rosalyn Tureck International Bach Competition, where she also won the contemporary music award. Upon completing her Masters degree, she was named a 2018 Outstanding Graduate at the University of Southern California’s Thornton School of Music. Katelyn’s upcoming engagements include performances in Leipzig as a Semifinalist in the Leipzig International Bach Competition, taking place in July 2022.

One of Katelyn’s greatest passions is chamber music. As pianist of the Callisto Piano Trio, Katelyn was a prize winner at the 2016 Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition, where the trio was the youngest ensemble to ever compete in the senior division finals. Since then, the Callisto Trio has toured throughout Holland and Slovakia as part of the International Holland Music Sessions’ Masters on Tour and has served as Artist-in-Residence at the Da Camera Society in Los Angeles. A recipient of the Heartwell Endowed Scholarship, Katelyn is pursuing a DMA in Piano Performance at USC’s Thornton School of Music with Dr. Lucinda Carver and Jeffrey Kahane. She completed her Bachelors and Masters degrees in Piano Performance at USC, in which she was a Trustee Scholar.

### **RUBY WANG**

Praised for the passion and authority she commands with her playing, award-winning pianist Ruby Wang made her solo debut at the age of eight in Mississauga, Canada. From there, she continued to earn top prizes and accolades competing and performing across the province of Ontario and abroad. Currently active as a solo recitalist, collaborative artist, lecturer, teacher, and adjudicator, Dr. Wang has performed throughout the United States, Canada, Taiwan, Spain, and Italy.

Beginning her studies at the age of four, Ms. Wang received her Doctor of Musical Arts degree in piano performance with a music theory minor from the University of South Carolina. Ruby also holds musical degrees from Brigham Young University (Master of Music) and the University of Utah (Bachelor of Music). Additional studies include graduate certificates of piano and theory from the Royal Conservatory of Music of Canada, as well as a baccalaureate degree in public relations.

An avid teacher, Dr. Wang’s students have garnered prizes from local, state, and national festivals and competitions. Dr. Wang is an active member of Music Teachers’ Association of California (MTAC), Music Teachers National Association (MTNA), California Association of Professional Music Teachers (CAPMT), and Southwestern Youth Music Festival (SYMF). Ms. Wang was recently appointed as the 2017-2019 Southern Festival Chair for CAPMT, the California affiliate of MTNA. She also led as the 2017-2018 Concert Series Event Coordinator for CAPMT’s Young Professional Leadership Network initiative.

Dr. Wang currently serves as adjunct faculty at Citrus Community College. She joined the piano faculty of Pasadena Conservatory of Music since 2017, and has also served on the School of Music faculty at California School of the Arts – San Gabriel Valley since its 2017 inaugural opening.

## PROGRAM

Sabre Dance

A. Khachaturian (1903-1978)  
arr. Anderson and Roe

Ruby Wang  
Alexander Zhu

Variations on a Theme by Paganini

W. Lutosławski (1913-1994)

Annie Chen  
Vatché Mankerian

Sonata for Piano Four Hands

F. Poulenc (1899-1963)

I. Prelude  
II. Rustique  
III. Final

Andrew Park  
Esther Yune

“America” from *West Side Story*

L. Bernstein (1918-1990)  
arr. Derison Duarte

Stephen Cook  
Vatché Mankerian  
Ruby Wang

Gazebo Dances

J. Corigliano (b. 1938)

II. Waltz  
IV. Tarantella

Katie Eames  
Katelyn Vahala

Hungarian Dances

J. Brahms (1833-1897)

I. Allegro molto (G minor)

Elizabeth Babor  
Katie Eames

Armenian Rhapsody

A. Babajanian (1921-1983)  
A. Harutiunian (1920-2012)

Vatché Mankerian  
Mariné Ter-Kazaryan



*Reception follows in the Courtyard*

## PCM FACULTY PERFORMERS

### **ELIZABETH BABOR**

Elizabeth Babor received her Master of Music degree in Piano Performance from The Cleveland Institute of Music and her Bachelor of Music degree from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. Her primary teachers were Olga Radosavljevich and Robert McDonald. Summer studies included lessons with Adeline Huss(organ), John Perry, Nelita True, Clifton Matthews, and Robert Taub. She also recorded Musica Para Cocinar by friend and former faculty member Enrique Gonzalez-Medina.

She has taught students from ages four to ninety five in North Carolina, Ohio, and California, and believes everyone can find joy and accomplishment at the piano at all skill levels. A member of the National Guild of Piano Teachers, and the Music Teachers' Association of California, Glendale Branch, she is also an organist at First Church of Christ Scientist, La Canada, Flintridge. In her free time, she volunteers with Soldiers' Angels and Ready to Care. She has taught at PCM since 1994.

### **ANNIE CHEN**

Annie Chen received her Bachelor and Master of Music degrees in Piano Performance from the University of Southern California, where she studied with Nancy Bricard, Bernandene Blaha, and James Bonn. Ms. Chen has performed in master classes with such world-renowned artists as Nelita True, Menahem Pressler, John Perry, Cecile Ousset, and Andre Watts. Privately she has also worked with Constance Keene, Cecile Ousset (Puyceli, France), and Bernardo Segall. Ms. Chen's has earned many awards and honors such as first prize in the International Piano Concerto Competition of Washington D.C., the International Young Artist Peninsula Music Festival and numerous Music Teachers Association of California (MTAC) piano solo/chamber music competitions and scholarships. Ms. Chen is an active board member of the Music Teachers' Association of California-Los Angeles Branch, Music Teachers National Association, and California Association of Professional Music Teachers. Ms. Chen maintains an active schedule as a solo artist and keyboard collaborative performer. Ms. Chen also serves as a member of MTAC's Certificate of Merit Council.

### **STEPHEN COOK, Department Chair**

Stephen Cook received his Bachelor of Arts and Master of Music degrees from the University of South Carolina where he studied composition and piano performance and pedagogy; additional studies were at the Aspen School of Music. While completing his Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Southern California, Dr. Cook served as an assistant lecturer in the Keyboard Studies Department under the direction of Stewart Gordon. From 1996-2012 he taught on the faculty of the Colburn School of Performing Arts and from 1996-2004 was the Director of the Pianist Program at the Orange County School of the Arts. He served on the Executive Board of the California Association of Professional Music Teachers and is a former Research Program Specialist with the Music Intelligence Neural Development Institute at the University of California, Irvine. From 2002-2017 Dr. Cook was Associate Professor of Music at Whittier College and currently is Dean of Arts at California School of the Arts | San Gabriel Valley while maintaining his position as Chair of the Piano Department at the Pasadena Conservatory of Music. Past activities included adjudication of the Pro-Romania International Piano Competition in Bucharest, performances and master classes in Tokyo, Japan, Montreal, Madrid, Barcelona, Carnegie Hall, and numerous concert appearances with Broadway talent Susan Egan.

### **KATHRYN EAMES**

Pianist Kathryn Eames completed her Doctoral studies at the University of Southern California, where she studied with Professor Bernadene Blaha. She also completed minors in Harpsichord performance with Dr. Lucinda Carver, as well as music theory, and music technology. Dr. Eames earned her masters degree at USC, and was named the Outstanding Graduate of the masters program at Thornton upon her completion. In her undergraduate degree, she also earned a minor in Linguistics and was inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa honors society. During her graduate studies at the Thornton School, Kathryn served as an assistant lecturer, teaching group and applied piano to both music majors and beginners.

Kathryn is an active orchestral pianist, having performed with the American Youth Symphony, the YMF Debut Orchestra, the USC Thornton Symphony, the USC Thornton Wind Ensemble, and the Downey Symphony. She has performed under the baton of such notable conductors as John Williams, James Conlon, David Newman, Gerard Schwarz, and Carl St. Clair. Kathryn is a member of the chamber group Helix Collective, a Los-Angeles based ensemble specializing in multi-media collaborative performance and recording. The group often commissions and premieres works by local composers and every year

is the resident ensemble for the Los Angeles Live Score Film Festival.

A native of Los Angeles, Dr. Eames is the graduate of many local programs, competing successfully in the Southwestern Youth Music Festival and the Southern California Junior Bach Festival for many years. She was a frequent participant in the MTAC State Convention, and was chosen to be a member of the Young Artist Guild in 2006. Kathryn has participated and performed in music festivals both in the United States and internationally, including the Prague International Piano Masterclass, the Summer Institute for Contemporary Performance Practice, the Seattle Piano Institute, the Pierre Monteux School for Conductors and Orchestra Musicians, and the Academie de Fourviere in Lyon. She has performed in masterclass with artists such as Ian Hobson, Jean-Philippe Collard, and Christopher O'Riley. Her recordings have been featured on KUSC 91.5's Thornton Center Stage.

### **ANDREW PARK, Artist-Teacher**

Dr. Andrew Park is a renowned solo pianist, chamber musician, and pedagogue who won the first prize of Virginia Waring International Piano Competition, formerly known as Joanna Hodges International Piano Competition in 1993. He is an honorable Shigeru Kawai Artist who performs nationally and internationally. He has appeared in venues such as Walt Disney Concert Hall, La Mirada Theatre, Marsee Auditorium, Alex Theatre, McCollum Theater, Zipper Hall, Thayer Hall, Newman Hall, No Won Art Center, POSCO Hyo Ja Art Center and many more. He has been invited as a soloist to perform with El Camino Symphony, Idyllwild Arts Academy Orchestra, OMC Orchestra, CTS Chamber Orchestra, and Dosan Philharmonic Orchestra.

Dr. Park is an assistant professor at Azusa Pacific University and an adjunct professor at Fullerton College. Recently, he was appointed as an "Artist-Teacher" at Pasadena Conservatory of Music. He has participated in teaching piano at the Idyllwild Arts Academy, and Los Angeles City College, Bethesda Christian University, Chong Shin University, and he also has worked as a first lecturer at USC Thornton School of Music. He was also a faculty of Gifted Student Scholarship program at Johns Hopkins University.

During summer, he teaches at John Perry Academy of Music, Montecito International Music Festival, ASIA International Piano Academy & Festival in Korea, and Idyllwild Summer Program. He is also invited as a judge and a masterclass teacher from many different competitions and institutes. Dr. Park received the honorary U.S. Presidential Award in 2011 from president Obama. Dr. Park completed his entire bachelor, masters, and doctoral degrees at the University of Southern California with a world renowned pianist, John Perry.

### **VATCHÉ MANKERIAN**

Vatché Mankerian has actively contributed to the cultural life of Los Angeles for more than two decades. A multi-faceted artist, he distinguishes himself as a pianist, composer, lecturer, author, and teacher. He has written works for piano, chamber ensembles, and electro-acoustic media, as well as incidental music for theatrical productions and cinema. He frequently appears as a soloist with orchestras, and, in 1995, gave an unprecedented performance of the complete solo piano works of Arno Babajanian in his debut at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall. He also performed Chopin in the Warner Brothers production of NBC pilot Witches of Eastwick and was one of the Rhapsody in Blue pianists at the Olympics opening ceremony in 1984 in Los Angeles. Dr. Mankerian holds a doctor of musical arts degree from USC's Thornton School of Music and began teaching at the Pasadena Conservatory of Music in 1988.

### **MARINÉ TER-KAZARYAN**

The Los Angeles Times called her "The Nightingale Who Sang on Los Feliz". Known for her colorful, crystal clear voice, and dramatic and expressive stage presence, soprano Mariné Ter-Kazaryan has been performing around the world as a singer and a pianist since she was a child. She made her Armenia Philharmonic debut at the age of 5, and her recordings since that age are still aired on the Armenian National Radio. She has been on numerous concert tours to different cities of Armenia, Russia, Latvia, Lithuania, Georgia, Canada, Mexico and the United States, receiving warm recognition and high ratings from music critics. Ms. Ter-Kazaryan is also a highly sought-after adjudicator of piano and vocal competitions, including the Southern California Bach Festival and the Virginia Hawk International Vocal Competition. Recently, she recorded the film-concert "Bel Canto", and also performed a solo concert of operatic arias with the Glendale Community Orchestra. She has been featured on the Life Changes radio show on the BBS network, where she gave an interview and a live performance.