



College of Music  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Joanne and Bill Church  
**WEST CIRCLE SERIES**

# Vive la France

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Suren Bagratuni, cello  
Yvonne Lam, violin  
Deborah Moriarty, piano  
Eric Nowlin, viola  
Richard Sherman, flute  
Zhihua Tang, piano

*Generously sponsored by  
Dr. Roy and Christine Meland*

Monday, December 2, 2024  
Fairchild Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

# PROGRAM

Pièces Romantiques, Op. 55

Primavera

La chaise à porteurs

Idylle arabe

Sérénade d'automne

Danse hindoue

Rigaudon

Cécil Chaminade

(1857–1944)

Zhihua Tang, Deborah Moriarty, piano

Sonata for Flute and Piano, FP 164

Allegro malinconico

Cantilena: Assez lent

Presto giocoso

Francis Poulenc

(1899–1963)

Richard Sherman, flute

Zhihua Tang, piano

Piano Quartet No 1 in C Minor, Op. 15

Allegro molto moderato

Scherzo. Allegro vivo

Adagio

Allegro molto

Gabriel Fauré

(1845–1924)

Yvonne Lam, violin

Eric Nowlin, viola

Suren Bagratuni, cello

Deborah Moriarty, piano

## ARTIST FACULTY BIOS

**Suren Bagratuni**, professor of cello at the MSU College of Music – winner of the Silver Medal at the 1986 International Tchaikovsky Competition while still a student at the Moscow Conservatory – has gone on to a distinguished international career as a soloist, recitalist and chamber musician. Born in Yerevan, Armenia, Professor Bagratuni began his musical education there at the age of six. After winning several national and international competitions, he continued his studies at the Moscow Conservatory and later in the United States, at the New England Conservatory of Music. Performing since age ten and as a soloist since age thirteen, he has appeared in solo recitals and as a soloist with all the major orchestras in the former Soviet Union, throughout Europe, North and South America, Asia, and South Africa. His chamber music appearances have included invitations to major festivals throughout North, South, and Central America, Europe, Asia, and Australia. Mr. Bagratuni has been invited to judge and chair in numerous international competitions such as the Tchaikovsky, I San Yun, and Khachaturian, to name a few. He has won critical acclaim for his recordings on several labels, and he is artistic director of MSU's Ken and Sandy Beall Cello Plus Chamber Music Festival, and founder of International Music Academy in Todi, Italy.

Grammy Award-winning violinist **Yvonne Lam** has appeared as a soloist with such renowned orchestras as the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, the Pacific Symphony, the Auckland Philharmonia, and the American Youth Symphony. She was the violinist/violist and Co-Artistic Director of contemporary super-ensemble Eighth Blackbird for eight years, and commissioned and premiered major works by composers such as Steve Reich, David Lang, Nico Muhly, and Bryce Dessner. In addition to winning top prizes at international competitions including the Michael Hill World Violin Competition, the Liana Issakadze Violin Competition, and the Holland-America Music Society Competition, Ms. Lam served three seasons as Assistant Concertmaster of the Washington National Opera Orchestra. Ms. Lam is now an Assistant Professor of Violin and Coordinator of Chamber Music at Michigan State University. She received her Bachelor of Music from the Curtis Institute of Music and her Master of Music from the Juilliard School

## ARTIST FACULTY BIOS (cont.)

**Deborah Moriarty** is professor of piano and chair of the piano area at the Michigan State University College of Music, where she is a recipient of the Distinguished Faculty Award. A Massachusetts native, she made her debut with the Boston Symphony Orchestra at age eleven. She has also served on the piano faculty at the New England Conservatory of Music and the University of Lowell.

Moriarty attended the Curtis Institute of Music, the Juilliard School, and the New England Conservatory of Music, where she received her Master of Music degree with honors. She has studied with Russell Sherman, Theodore Lettvin, and Beveridge Webster.

An active recitalist and soloist with orchestras throughout the eastern United States, she has also performed in Belgium, Japan, Colombia, Mexico, and the Soviet Union. Moriarty is a founding member of the Fontana Ensemble of Michigan, and as an advocate of new music, has participated in numerous premiere performances including Milton Babbitt's "Whirled Series" at Merkin Hall in New York City. She has recordings on the Crystal and CRI labels.

Violist **Eric Nowlin** has performed extensively throughout the United States as well as abroad. Eric's performance of Berlioz' *Harold in Italy* with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and conductor Leonard Slatkin was described by Classical Source as "outstanding... his distinctive timbre and sovereign musicianship at one with Slatkin's perfectly paced account... totally compelling." Past accomplishments include receiving second prize in the prestigious Walter W. Naumburg Competition; first prize in the Irving Klein International String Competition; first prize in the Hellam Young Artists Competition; grand prize in the Naftzger Young Artists Competition; and winner of the Juilliard Viola Concerto Competition. Performances have included solo engagements with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Springfield Symphony in Missouri, Santa Cruz Symphony, Peninsula Symphony, and the Kumamoto Symphony in Japan, as well as recitals in New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Toronto, and Mexico. Eric is Assistant Professor of Viola at Michigan State University and has previously been Assistant Professor on the Faculty of Music at the University of Toronto, as well as Instructor of Viola at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto. He received his Bachelor and Master degrees from The Juilliard School as a scholarship student of Samuel Rhodes. Eric plays on a 1757 J.B. Guadagnini viola on generous loan from the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

## ARTIST FACULTY BIOS (cont.)

Flute soloist, orchestral musician, recitalist, and recording artist **Richard Sherman** is a dynamic performer of outstanding dramatic power. He is principal flute with the Chautauqua (New York) Symphony Orchestra, the International Chamber Orchestra of Puerto Rico, the Lansing Symphony Orchestra, and the Jackson Symphony Orchestra. He has given performances with the Chicago Symphony, the English Chamber Orchestra, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, and the Toronto Symphony. His work as a soloist includes the Columbus Symphony, Rochester Philharmonic, Youngstown Symphony, Lansing Symphony Orchestra, and Chautauqua Symphony, among many others. Sherman was the recipient of an ITT International Fellowship for study at the Royal College of Music in London and received the Henri Cohn Memorial Prize at Tanglewood for most outstanding fellowship student. As an educator, he oversees a vibrant flute studio at Michigan State University while also giving master classes throughout the country, including the Eastman School of Music, Northwestern University, Louisiana State University, Ohio State University, Arizona State University, Brigham Young University, and University of Michigan, among others. In 2020, he was presented with the William J. Beal Outstanding Faculty Award, honored for a comprehensive and sustained record of excellence in creative activities, instruction and outreach.

**Zhihua Tang** serves as Director of Collaborative Piano at the Michigan State University College of Music. A native of Shanghai, China, she attended the Shanghai Conservatory, Indiana University, and later completed a DMA degree from the Michigan State University College of Music. Her major teachers include Deborah Moriarty, Menahem Pressler, and Dady Mehta.

Prof. Tang has enjoyed an active performing career around the world and has collaborated with some of today's leading concert soloists, chamber musicians and numerous principal players from major orchestras all over the world. As a recitalist, she has performed extensively across Europe, the U.S., and Asia in major music venues such as Bösendorfer Hall in Vienna, Rackham Hall in Ann Arbor, Detroit Orchestra Hall, Beijing Zhongshan Music Hall, and the Shanghai Centre Theatre.

**PRIVATE GIFTS** play a vital role in our ability to maintain and enhance the quality of the programs we offer. Donations support student scholarships, fellowships, student travel and performance opportunities, instrument acquisitions, guest artists, outreach activities, operations, and other crucial areas that make the College of Music an exemplary place of learning.

## **THANK YOU TO OUR 2024-2025 SPONSORS**

- **Anonymous Donor Family** (Holiday Glory)
- **Sam and Mary Austin** (Musique 21 concerts)
- **Sam and Mary Austin Fund for New Music** (Wind Symphony, Oct. 25; Symphony Orchestra, Oct. 27; Musique 21, Oct. 28; Tambuco Mexican Percussion Ensemble, Nov. 21)
- **Ken and Sandy Beall** (Cello Plus Chamber Music Festival Series; Jazz Spectacular)
- **James and Susan Bonfiglio** (Symphony Orchestra, Apr. 26; Fall Opera)
- **Jenny Chung and Family for Human Rights Fund** (Jazz Nonets concerts)
- **Joanne and Bill Church** (West Circle Series)
- **April Clobes and Glen Brough** (Celebrating the Spectrum; Whirlwinds)
- **Trustee Emerita Dee Cook in memory of her husband Byron Cook** (Baroque Fest)
- **Susan Davis** (Fall Opera)
- **Dean Transportation** (Celebrating the Spectrum)
- **Alena Fabian, M.D.** (Votapek, Sept. 25; Piano Monster)
- **John and Gretchen Forsyth** (Sinder, Feb. 16; Oboe, Trumpet and Organ, Feb. 11)
- **Stanley and Selma Hollander Endowment for Chamber Music** (Happy Birthday Mozart!)
- **Thea Glicksman** (From Vienna with Love, Jan. 17)
- **Howard and Pam Gourwitz** (Lulloff, Nov. 25)
- **Anne Hiller** (Celebrating the Spectrum)
- **Lauren Harris** (Celebrating the Spectrum)
- **Taylor Johnston Early Music Series Endowment established by Taylor Johnston** (Taylor Johnston Early Music Series)
- **Hari Kern and the late Ralph R. Edminster, M.D.** (Votapek, Mar. 27)
- **Michael and Paula Koppisch** (Zuber, Feb. 17)
- **Robert Last and Jill Canny** (MSU Federal Credit Union Jazz Artist in Residence, J. Clayton, Dec. 8; Jazz: Spirituals, Prayer and Protest Concert)
- **Eleanor H. and Harold E. Leichenko Opera Endowment established by Lauren Julius Harris** (Fall and Spring Opera)
- **Ann, John and Abby Lindley** (Holiday Glory; Wind Symphony, Nov. 24)
- **Merritt Lutz** (Celebrating the Spectrum; Wind Symphony, Apr. 24)
- **Clare Mackey** (Pass a Good Time, Oct. 6; Oboe, Trumpet and Organ, Feb. 11)
- **Joseph and Jeanne Maguire** (A Jazzy Little Christmas)

- **Patrick and Victoria McPharlin Guest Artist Endowment for Jazz Studies in the College of Music** (Jazz: Spirituals, Prayer and Protest Concert)
- **Pat & Mary McPharlin** (Tambuco Mexican Percussion Ensemble, Nov. 21)
- **Dr. Roy and Christine Meland** (Vive La France)
- **Gordon E. Miracle** (Votapek, Sept. 25; Helton, Oct. 31)
- **MSU Federal Credit Union** (Showcase Series; Spartan Spectacular; Celebrating the Spectrum)
- **MSU Federal Credit Union Entrepreneurial Musical Artist-in-Residence Endowed Fund** (Tambuco Mexican Percussion Ensemble, Nov. 21)
- **George Orban and Rae Ramsdell** (Red Cedar Organ, Sept. 15)
- **Milton Powell, in memory of Sue Powell, accomplished pianist and organist** (Red Cedar Organ, Sept. 15)
- **Liz and Tony Raduazo in honor of Andrew Raduazo** (Sensory Friendly Spartan Concert, Nov. 9 and April 8)
- **Nancy and Charlie Seebeck** (MSU-Stanford Piano Quartet)
- **Michael and Elaine Serling** (A Celebration of the Beautiful Voice)
- **Leonard and Sharon Tabaka** (Jazz Spectacular Finale Concert)
- **TechSmith** (Celebrating the Spectrum)
- **Dr. Robert W. Uphaus and Dr. Lois M. Rosen** (Symphony Orchestra, Sept. 27; Woodward String Quartet, Mar. 13; Bagratuni, Mar. 31)
- **Linn Van Dyne and Mike Knox** (Symphony Orchestra, Feb. 7)
- **Barbara E. Wagner** (Wagner Chamber Music Competition)
- **Dr. Charles and Philippa Webb** (Beacon Hill Music Series)
- **Richard Witter** (A Celebration of the Beautiful Voice)
- **WKAR** (Artist-Faculty and Guest Recital Series)
- **Teresa K. Woodruff, Ph.D. and Thomas V. O'Halloran, Ph.D.** (Holiday Glory)
- **Worthington Family Foundation** (Opera Season)
- **Andrea L. Wulf** (Piano Monster)

## **SPONSORSHIPS AND RECOGNITION**

Sponsorships are available at \$1,000, \$2,500, and \$5,000. Sponsors will receive recognition in the form of event publicity, promotions, programs, and through online recognition. For information about event sponsorships and giving to the college, please call (517) 353-9872 or e-mail [music.giving@msu.edu](mailto:music.giving@msu.edu).

## **MAKE A GIFT**



# UPCOMING EVENTS

12/3 Tuesday

**Mosaic and Singing Spartans**

Fairchild Theatre, 7:30 p.m. \$

12/4 Wednesday

**Concert Band and Campus Band**

Cobb Great Hall, 7:30 p.m. \$

12/5 Thursday

**Concert Orchestra**

Cobb Great Hall, 7:30 p.m. \$

12/7 Saturday

**Chamber Music Showcase**

Cook Recital Hall, 3:00 p.m. \$

12/7 Saturday

MSUFCU Showcase Series

**Holiday Concert**

Cobb Great Hall, 8:00 p.m. \$\$\$

12/8 Sunday

MSUFCU Jazz Artist in Residence

**Jazz Orchestras**

Fairchild Theatre, 3:00 p.m. \$\$

12/8 Sunday

**Chamber Music Showcase**

Cook Recital Hall, 7:00 p.m. \$

12/14 Saturday

MSUFCU Showcase Series

**A Jazzy Lil' Christmas**

Fairchild Theatre, 8:00 p.m. \$\$\$

## TICKET PRICES

**\$** \$12 Adults, \$10 Seniors (age 60 and older), Students with ID and anyone under age 18 are free but require a ticket for admission.

**\$\$** \$17 Adults, \$15 Seniors, \$7 Students with ID and anyone under age 18.

**\$\$\$** \$22 Adults, \$20 Seniors, \$12 Students and those under age 18.

Please note: *All events scheduled in Murray Hall are general admission seating.*