



College of Music
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

MSU Federal Credit Union
SHOWCASE SERIES

Piano Monster

May the Fourth Be With You

Young Hyun Cho
Stanislav Khristenko
Tamar Mikeladze
Deborah Moriarty
Derek Kealii Polischuk
Zhi-hua Tang
Eric Zuber

*Generously sponsored by
Alena Fabian, M.D. and
Andrea L. Wulf*

Sunday, May 4, 2025
Fairchild Theatre, 3:00 p.m.

PROGRAM

Also sprach Zarathustra, Op. 30

Richard Strauss
(1864–1949)

The Blue Danube, Op. 314

Johann Strauss II
(1825–1899)

The Piano Monsters

The Garden of Eden

William Bolcom
(b. 1938)

Old Adam

The Eternal Feminine

The Serpent's Kiss

Through Eden's Gates

Stanislav Khristenko, Deborah Moriarty,
Zhi-hua Tang, Eric Zuber,

from *The Planets*, Op. 32
Jupiter

Gustav Holst
(1874–1934)

Young Hyun Cho, Tamar Mikeladze,
Derek Polischuk, Eric Zuber

Star Wars

John Williams
(b. 1932)
arr. Phillip Keveren

Young Hyun Cho, Tamar Mikeladze,
Derek Polischuk, Eric Zuber,

The Stars and Stripes Forever

John Philip Sousa
(1854–1932)

The Piano Monsters

ARTIST-FACULTY BIOS

Young Hyun Cho's concert activities have taken her around the globe. She has performed as a soloist at venues such as the Great Hall (Golden Hall) of the Vienna Musikverein, Berlin Philharmonic Concert Hall, Smetana Hall in Prague, and Solti Hall of the Liszt Academy in Budapest. As a featured soloist, she has performed with the Berlin Symphony Orchestra, Euro Sinfonietta Wien, Filarmonica della Calabria of Italy, North Czech Philharmonic Orchestra Teplice, Korean Broadcasting System Symphony Orchestra, Korean Symphony Orchestra, and numerous other orchestras. She has also performed chamber concerts and solo recitals throughout North America, Asia, and Europe. She released her CD, "Beethoven's Last Three Piano Sonatas", under the Sony label. She received her Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the Eastman School of Music, Master degree and Graduate Performance Diploma from Peabody Conservatory, and Bachelor degree from Seoul National University. Her primary teachers include Nelita True, Boris Slutsky, and Mikyung Kim. Young Hyun Cho is currently an associate professor of piano at the Michigan State University College of Music and previously was a faculty member at the University of Texas at Arlington.

Stanislav Khristenko has been praised for "emotional intensity", "charismatic expression", "palette of touches", "solid" and "precise technique" by *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Miami Herald*, *Gramophone*, *BBC Music Magazine*, and *El País*. Khristenko has appeared as a piano soloist with many orchestras including the Cleveland Orchestra, National Orchestra of Belgium, and Madrid Symphony Orchestra. His performance highlights include solo recitals at Carnegie Hall, Vienna Konzerthaus, and Palais de Beaux-Arts in Brussels. His recordings have been released on Steinway & Sons, Oehms, and Toccata Classics labels. Khristenko is a prizewinner of numerous piano competitions including Cleveland Piano Competition and Queen Elisabeth Music Competition. In his hometown in Ukraine, Khristenko co-founded KharkivMusicFest, one of the country's leading classical music festivals. As a Music Director, he founded Nova Sinfonietta Chamber Orchestra of Ukraine that performed works of over 40 composers in its first three seasons. Khristenko graduated from Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory and Cleveland Institute of Music. He also completed Orchestral Conducting training at Chopin University in Poland and Royal Northern College of Music in England. In 2024, Khristenko was appointed Assistant Professor of Piano in the MSU College of Music. Stanislav Khristenko is a Steinway Artist.

ARTIST-FACULTY BIOS (cont.)

Tamar Mikeladze joined the piano faculty of the Michigan State University College of Music in 2015 where she serves as instructor of piano. A native of Tbilisi, Georgia, Mikeladze made her orchestral solo debut at age eleven. She started her study at the Special Music School for gifted children that same year. She holds graduate and post-graduate degrees from Tbilisi State Conservatory. While in Georgia, she actively performed with national orchestras and appeared numerous times on national television and radio shows. Upon completion of her degrees, Mikeladze was appointed to the piano faculty of the Special Music School, where she taught for five years. In 2003, she began studies at Indiana University, South Bend, where she travelled with her studio to perform at music venues in Europe, and where she also received Artist and Performer Diplomas and a Master degree in piano performance. In the fall of 2006, Mikeladze joined the piano faculty at the University of Notre Dame. Her performances include appearances at Auditorium Parco della Musica in Rome, Carnegie Weill Recital Hall, and Steinway Hall. A recipient of the Rosamond P. Haeberle Memorial Piano award, Mikeladze served as adjudicator at the Michigan Music Association and Michigan Music Teachers Association competitions. Her recent recording is available as a part of a CD of George Oakley's works released by Naxos in October 2018.

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.

ARTIST-FACULTY BIOS (cont.)

Derek Kealii Polischuk is professor of piano and director of piano pedagogy at the Michigan State University College of Music. An enthusiastic supporter of the education of musicians at every age, ability and background, Polischuk has been a clinician at conferences around the world, including the Music Teachers National Association, the National Group Piano and Pedagogy Conference, the Multidisciplinary Research in Music Pedagogy Conference, the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy, the DOCTRID Conference in Ireland, the ABLE Assembly at Berklee College, and at universities and conservatories across China. Polischuk serves on the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy's Committee for Teaching Students with Special Needs, the Advisory Board of the Orange County School of the Arts Pianist Program, the Board of Directors of the San Diego Musical Merit Foundation, and is Vice President of the Michigan Music Teachers Association. Polischuk is a founder and director of the "Celebrating the Spectrum" Piano Festival for advanced pianists on the Autism Spectrum. Polischuk's book "Transformational Piano Teaching", described by Dr. Alice M. Hammel of James Madison University as "a world of piano pedagogy where anyone and everyone is welcome and included in the art and joy of playing the piano" and Stewart Gordon of the University of Southern California as "a landmark in the field of piano pedagogy", is available from Oxford University Press.

Zhi-hua Tang serves as Director of Collaborative Piano at the Michigan State University College of Music. A native of Shanghai, China, she attended Shanghai Conservatory, Indiana University, and later completed a DMA degree from 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.

ARTIST-FACULTY BIOS (cont.)

Hailed as “irresistibly fluid” and “illuminating” by the New York Times and Cleveland Plain Dealer, **Dr. Eric Zuber** has been established as one of the leading American pianists of his generation. He has been a recipient of prizes from major international piano competitions including Arthur Rubinstein, Cleveland, Seoul, Sydney, and Dublin. He was also awarded Gold Medals in both the Hilton Head and USASU Bösendorfer International Piano Competitions and is a Laureate of the American Pianists Association Classical Fellowship Awards. After making his orchestral debut at the age of twelve with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, he has performed with many of the major orchestras in the United States and abroad including Cleveland, Israel, Indianapolis, Minnesota, and the Royal Philharmonic. Dr. Zuber has also made solo appearances at the Kennedy Center, Carnegie’s Weill Recital Hall, Merkin Hall, the Sydney Opera House, Seoul Arts Center, Severance Hall, and for the International Keyboard Institute and Festival in New York City. Born in Baltimore, Dr. Zuber received degrees from the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University (B.M., A.D., D.M.A.), the Juilliard School (M.M.) and the Curtis Institute (Diploma) where he studied with Boris Slutsky, Leon Fleisher, Claude Frank, and Robert McDonald. He is currently serving as Assistant Professor of Piano at Michigan State University.

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- **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)
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- **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)
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- **Leonard and Sharon Tabaka** (Jazz Spectacular Finale Concert)
- **TechSmith** (Celebrating the Spectrum)
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