Orlando Cela, flute

Chi-Chen Wu, piano

Friday, February 24

7:30 pm

BCPA Recital Hall

**Program**

Cantabile et Presto (1904) Georges Enescu

Bozzetti di Guzzo (2010) Anne Guzzo

Sonata in b minor, BWV 1030 (c. 1735) Johann Sebastian Bach

 Andante

 Largo e dolce

 Presto

 Giga

*Intermission*

Misterioso (1963) Krzysztof Penderecki

Sonata in D major Op. 94 (1943) Sergei Prokofiev

 1. Moderato

 2. Scherzo: Presto

 3. Andante

 4. Allegro con brio

**Orlando Cela, flute**

“In **Orlando Cela’s** able hands and imagination, a flute becomes a world orchestra,” says the Oregon ArtsWatch about Orlando’s lively performances that open new worlds of experience. Known for his compelling renditions, using imaginative programming, Orlando has premiered over 200 works, both as a flutist and as a conductor, to rave reviews from the media from the Boston Globe to the Oregon ArtsWatch. In concert, Mr. Cela regularly offers short lively introductions to selected works, providing audiences with entry points into unfamiliar works, so that listeners can easily connect the music with other life experience. As a flutist, Mr. Cela has performed at the National Portrait Gallery of the Smithsonian (Washington DC), the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum (Boston), and at the Center for New Music and Technologies at UC Berkeley. His credits abroad include concerts at the Zentrum Danziger (Berlin), the Espace des Femmes (Paris), and at the Musikverein (Vienna). As a collaborative artist, Mr. Cela has concertized with flutist Paula Robison, tabla player Samir Chatterjee, harpsichordist John Gibbons, and with shen (mouth organ) virtuoso Hu Jianbing. He recently became a finalist in the American Prize in the professional instrumentalist division. He recently released his third solo CD, “Shadow Etchings” with rave reviews from Grammophone, Naxos Music, and Avant Music News.

As a conductor, he serves as the Music Director of the Arlington Philharmonic Orchestra, and the Lowell Chamber Orchestra. He has also guest conducted the Manchester Symphony Orchestra and Choral, the London Classical Soloists, Marquette Symphony Orchestra, and others. He created the Ningbo Symphony Orchestra during his year as visiting professor at Ningbo University, in China. Orlando has received the American Prize for conducting youth and community orchestras, the Vytautas Marijosius Prize for orchestral programming, and the Ernst Bacon Memorial Award for excellence in the performance of American music. His interpretation of Beethoven’s Symphonies 7 and 8 with the London Classical Soloists earned him a second prize with their competition.

A dedicated music educator, Orlando is known for his dynamic workshops and lecture demonstrations. Popular and effective as a guest lecturer and clinician, he has presented sessions at Tulane University, UC Berkeley, and Brandeis University, as well as at the Central Conservatory of Music in China, the Staatliche Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst Stuttgart (Germany), and the Charlotte New Music Festival (NC). Mr. Cela has also lectured on general performance practice issues at flute festivals in Ithaca and Syracuse, and at in China at Dulwich College (Beijing) and Shanghai Normal University. He currently is assistant professor at Berklee College of Music, where he teaches conducting, and at Middlesex Community College, where he teaches a variety of music courses and is the coordinator of the MCC Music Outreach Program. Orlando has two master’s degrees from the New England Conservatory of Music, where he studied flute performance and conducting with Paula Robison and Tamara Brooks, respectively.

**Chi-Chen Wu, piano**

As a musician active in performing, recording, teaching and research, Dr. Chi-Chen Wu is equally at home in the worlds of contemporary and classical music as well as historical performance practice.

Recently making her Carnegie Hall debut with the Helios trio, Wu has appeared as recitalist, chamber musician, and concerto soloist in the United States, Canada, France, Italy, Spain, Germany, Luxembourg, Japan, Taiwan, China, Thailand, among others. She has performed at numerous festivals including Aspen, Monadnock, and the Boston Early Music Festival Fringe Concert Series. Her live performances have been broadcast on NPR’s live performance programs Simply Grand Concert Series, From The Top, and many others.

Chi-Chen’s musical collaborations include performances with Augustin Hadelich, Karl-Heinz Steffens, Jonathan McPhee, Zuill Bailey, members of the Juilliard String Quartet, Takács String Quartet, and musicians from the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center.

A native of Taiwan and prize winner of several Taiwanese national piano competitions, Wu came to the United States for graduate study at New England Conservatory of Music where she received two master’s degrees, (piano performance and collaborative piano) as well as a doctorate. Upon her graduation, with Distinction in Performance and Academic Honors, she was appointed Assistant Professor at National Taiwan Normal University.

In 2007, Dr. Wu accepted a position of visiting scholar at Cornell University, where she taught piano, studied fortepiano with Malcolm Bilson, and conducted research on historical performance practice with Neal Zaslaw.

As part of her research activities, in the summer of 2011 she presented a paper on Schumann’s metronome markings at the World Piano Conference in Serbia. This paper received “Diploma of Excellence” from the World Piano Teachers Association, the highest accolade of this organization. Her paper “Pianist as Portrayer of Imagery in ‘En Sourdine’ by Fauré and Debussy” was published as the featured article in the Journal of Singing.

As an interpreter of contemporary music, Chi-Chen Wu was the pianist of Aggregate, a Boston-based composer group. She premiered the piano version of John Harbison’s The Great Gatsby at Jordan Hall, The Poet and the War by Norber Palej, and Ralf Gawlick’s Herzliche Grüße Bruno, a one-hour electro-acoustic composition. Recent notable contemporary music performances include Piano Concertino by George Perle and Malcolm Williamson’s Concerto No. 2 as soloist with Pacifica Chamber Orchestra in Seattle.

Chi-Chen’s album of Schumann Fantasie and Carnaval on a Graf fortepiano won an award for Best Classical Album in the Global Music Awards. Her recording of Schumann’s complete sonatas for piano and violin also on a Graf fortepiano received two gold medals from the same competition. American Record Guide selected it as one of the top recordings of this repertoire and recommends its readers to “Stick with Kremer and Argerich or DiEugenio and Wu.” It was also named in the Top 10 "Best Classical Recordings of 2015" by The Big City, New York. Her recital and discussion with Malcolm Bilson on piano collaboration are featured on his DVD “Performing the Score'' released in 2011.

Some highlights of her recent professional activities include a recital with Augustin Hadelich, performances as soloist in Wölfl’s Piano Concerto No. 1 as well as Beethoven’s Triple Concerto, and a concert at the Nuremberg Symphony Hall in Germany. In Fall 2021, Chi-Chen was invited by the composition department of the University of Florida to conduct a residency, where she worked with their composers and recorded 6 pieces written for her duo with cellist Sam Ou. Recently, she started a 5-year project of commissioning and recording new works by BIPOC woman composers. She is also recording a piece by Chris Shelton for piano and interactive software. In addition to working on contemporary compositions, she and violinist John Fadial are preparing a recording of the complete duo works by Gabriel Fauré on period instruments in collaboration with Cornell Center for Historical Keyboards.

Dr. Wu is Associate Professor of Piano at the University of Wyoming. Her students have been prizewinners in international competitions and have been accepted for graduate study to the Juilliard School, New England Conservatory, McGill University, Conservatoire de Paris and other such institutions. As a teacher of top winners, she has received Excellence in Teaching Awards from Great Masters International Piano Competition and Taiwan International Classical and Traditional Music Awards, among others.