



MASTERWORKS FESTIVAL

Inspiring Excellence. Increasing Faith.

Melinda Lee Masur
Lori Rhoden
Sandra Shen

Faculty Piano Recital

Wednesday, July 7, 2021
3:30 pm
Daniel Recital Hall
MasterWorks Festival 2021
Converse University

masterworksfestival.org/events

Badinerie

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Arr. by Jonathan Scott

Melinda Lee Masur and Lori Rhoden

Sonata in D Major, K. 448 (K. 375a)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

I. Allegro con spirito

II. Andante

III. Molto allegro

Sandra Shen and Melinda Lee Masur

Rondo in A Major, D. 951

Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

Melinda Lee Masur and Sandra Shen

Sonata in F Minor for Two Pianos, Op. 34b

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

I. Allegro non troppo

Lori Rhoden and Sandra Shen

Melinda Lee Masur

Lauded for her “impeccable technique and artistic interpretation” [The Columbian], pianist Melinda Lee Masur has performed on all three stages of Carnegie Hall, at London's Wigmore Hall and Purcell Room, the Berliner Philharmonie, at the Ravinia Festival, Festival Les Muséiques Basel and in Boston's Symphony Hall. An avid chamber musician, Masur has performed with such artists as Augustin Hadelich, Alban Gerhardt, Fanny Clamagirand, Adrian Brendel and Thomas Quasthoff. She is pianist and founding member of The Lee Trio, praised worldwide for its “gripping immediacy and freshness” and “rich palette of tone colours” [The Strad]. The Trio has given world, American and European premieres of piano trios by composers including Uljas Pulkkis, Nathaniel Stookey, Philip Lasser, Jane Antonia Cornish, Laurence Rosenthal & Sylvie Bodorova and garnered awards such as the Recording Prize at the Kuhmo International Chamber Music Competition in Finland and the Gotthard-Schierse-Stiftung grant in Berlin.

A graduate of Harvard University and the Hochschule für Musik und Theater Hannover, Germany, Melinda has served on the faculty of Boston University's School of Music and is the Director of Piano Chamber Music at the BU Tanglewood Institute. Together with her husband, Ken-David Masur, she is Artistic Director of the Chelsea Music Festival, an annual summer music festival in New York City praised by The New York Times as a “gem of a series” and frequently featured amongst its Best Classical picks of the season.

Melinda Lee Masur is a Steinway Artist.

www.theleetrío.com

www.chelseamusicfestival.org

Lori Rhoden

Lori Rhoden maintains an active schedule as a soloist, collaborative artist, clinician, and adjudicator. She has performed in China, Korea, Canada, and throughout the United States. In 2011 she completed the Southwest China Piano Pedagogy Project as a USA Fulbright Specialist grant recipient. She has been a piano faculty member at the MasterWorks Festival since 2002, and the Piano Program Director for MasterWorks since 2006. She has been a piano instructor twice for the Yamaha *Passport to Music* program onboard Crystal Cruises.

A passionate teacher, Rhoden is Professor of Music Performance and Coordinator of Piano Pedagogy and Group Piano at Ball State University, where she teaches piano, piano pedagogy, and group piano. She has presented conference sessions and/or research posters for the World Piano Pedagogy Conference, Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) national conferences, the National

masterworksfestival.org/events

Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy, and state and local music teacher associations. She has been a member of the Research Committee for the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy and been published in *American Music Teacher*, *Clavier* and *Keyboard Companion*.

Rhoden completed her DMA in Piano Pedagogy and Performance at the University of South Carolina, Master of Church Music degree and Performer's Certificate at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, and Bachelor of Music Education degree and Certificate in Piano Performance at Florida State University. An active member of MTNA, she has served in key leadership positions. She has received both the Indiana Music Teachers Association Teacher of the Year and Distinguished Service awards.

Sandra Shen

Steinway Artist Sandra Wright Shen has been described as a classical "pianist of the first order". With her passion, musicality, and inspiration, she aims to move hearts through music.

Sandra has performed as a soloist and chamber musician in 14 countries and throughout US, at prestigious venues such as the Kennedy Music Center in DC, the Chicago Cultural Center, Monte Carlo Opera House, Palau de la Música Catalana in Barcelona, Frankfurt Cultural Center in Germany, the Forbidden City Concert Hall in Beijing, Taiwan National Concert Hall, Korea Seoul Arts Center, Hong Kong City Hall, Granada Intl Music Festival, Recontres Musicale de Chaon in France, Brevard Music Festival and Masterworks Music Festival. As a guest artist, she has appeared with Charleston Symphony, Hilton Head Symphony, Redlands Symphony, Brevard Festival Sinfonia, New Millennium Orchestra, Greater San Diego Chamber Orchestra, Formosa Philharmonic Orchestra, Taiwan National Symphony, Taipei Symphony and others. Shen was the Artist-In-Residence of the Charleston Symphony for the 2017-18 season. She has played chamber concerts with Vesselin Paraschkevov, former concertmaster of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra, and with Amos Yang, Assistant Principal Cello of San Francisco Symphony. She has also performed on tour in Asia with cellist Nina Kotova.

Shen has received several first prizes in several major piano competitions, including the 2012 France International Piano Competition, 1997 Hilton Head International Piano Competition, the 1996 Mieczyslaw Munz Piano Competition, and the 1990 Taiwan National Piano Competition.

Shen's recordings include her debut CD featuring Rachmaninoff's Third Piano Concerto, recorded live, and the Saint-Saëns "Carnival of the Animals", both released on the Taiwan Rolling Stone Music label.

As an educator, Shen served on the piano faculty at the Brevard Music Festival, Steinway Society Summer Music camp and American Fine Arts Festival in Europe. She also served as piano faculty at Southern Illinois University and was three times invited to be Distinguished Guest Faculty at Furman University.

Sandra performed live for WCQS radio station in Asheville, filmed a 4-part series titled “The Movements of the Master composers” for Hong Kong TV, and “Inspiration From Above” for US Creation TV. She also hosted a classical music program on Taiwan IC broadcast radio station. Mixing music and philanthropy, Sandra has played benefit concerts for disaster victims, foster children, and music education for underprivileged children. She is the board member for Inspiring Foundation of Arts and Culture in Taiwan.

Sandra was born in Taiwan and received her Bachelor and Master of Music in 1996 with a piano performance major and organ minor from the Peabody Conservatory of Music, where she studied with legendary pianist, Ann Schein and organist Donald Sutherland. Her teachers included Dr. Michael Dellinger, Zalina and Oleg Barsov, Ruth Slencynska, Thomas Laratta, Erna Gulabyan, and Haggai Niv. She lives in the San Francisco Bay area.