



MASTERWORKS FESTIVAL

Inspiring Excellence. Increasing Faith.

Festival Orchestra Concert

Delta David Gier, conductor

Sandra Shen, piano

Saturday, July 3, 2021

7:30 pm

Twichell Auditorium

Zimmerli Performance Center

MasterWorks Festival 2021

Converse University

masterworksfestival.org/events

Overture to *The Abduction from the Seraglio*

Amadeus Wolfgang Mozart (1756-1791)

Piano Concerto No. 5 in E-flat Major, Op. 73, "Emperor"

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

I. Allegro

II. Adagio un poco mosso

III. Rondo: Allegro

Sandra Shen, piano

Offertory

Embraceable You

George Gershwin (1898-1937)

Arr. Earl Wild (1915-2010)

Arielle Turullols, piano

Intermission

Symphony No. 9 in E Minor, Op. 95, "New World"

Antonín Dvořák (1841-1904)

I. Adagio – Allegro molto

II. Largo

III. Molto vivace

IV. Allegro con fuoco

Delta David Gier, Conductor

Delta David Gier has been called a dynamic voice on the American music scene, recognized widely for his penetrating interpretations of the standard symphonic repertoire, passionate commitment to new music, and significant community engagement.

Orchestras Mr. Gier has conducted include the New York Philharmonic, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Cleveland Orchestra, the Chicago Symphony, the St. Louis Symphony, and the Minnesota Orchestra. Last season he conducted the American Composers Orchestra in the inaugural concert of the China-U.S. Composers Project; this season will include engagements with several Chinese orchestras and master classes at the Shanghai Conservatory.

In Europe, his engagements include the Bergen Philharmonic (Norway), the Polish National Radio Symphony (with which he has several recordings), and the Bucharest Philharmonic, along with many other orchestras in Italy, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Turkey. In the Americas, he has had a long relationship with the National Symphony Orchestra of Costa Rica and has conducted several orchestras in Mexico, including the Orquesta de Camera de Bellas Artes. In Asia, Mr. Gier's engagements have included the Singapore Symphony and the Thailand Philharmonic, where he will return three times this season.

Since 2004, Mr. Gier has been music director of the South Dakota Symphony Orchestra. During that period the orchestra has been lauded for its programming (including seven ASCAP awards). His series based on the Pulitzer Prize was called "an unprecedented programming innovation" by the Wall Street Journal and has included residencies with composers Jennifer Higdon, Steven Stucky, Zhou Long, and Paul Moravec. Under his direction, the SDSO has expanded its offerings with a cycle of Mahler symphonies and an annual semi-staged opera.

The Lakota Music Project was developed under Gier's direction to address racial tensions between Native Americans and whites in the region the SDSO serves. Now in its sixth year, the LMP is a side-by-side program with the SDSO and Lakota musicians which explores the role music plays in their respective cultures, seeking to engender understanding and healing between estranged peoples. Other engagement projects with the SDSO have included Arab (with Simon Shaheen), Chinese (with composers Chen Yi and Zhou Long) and Sudanese/Somali refugees (with the Bernard Woma Ensemble).

For 15 seasons, Delta David Gier served as an assistant conductor of the New York Philharmonic. He studied at the University of Michigan under the renowned conducting teacher Gustav Meier, along with studies at the Tanglewood Music Center and Aspen Music Festival. He was a Fulbright scholar in eastern Europe from 1988-90. Also in demand as an educator, Mr. Gier has served as guest faculty at the Curtis Institute, Yale School of Music, San Francisco Conservatory, and SUNY Stony Brook. He has chaired the music jury of the Pulitzer Prize and is a frequent panelist for the League of American Orchestras.

Sandra Wright Shen, Pianist

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.

Orchestra Personnel

Violin

Jackie Tso, *concertmaster*
Abby Atwood
MaryKatherine Brown
Alana Carithers*
Emilia Carter
Robin Els**
Lori Everson**
Annabelle Gardiner*
Micah Hyink
Brandon Ironside**
Mary Irwin*
Allison Key**
Mandy Lam
Benjamin Larrieu
Christina Leach
Sarah Page*
Noelani Perry
Tina Pulley**
Kathleen Robinson**
Hannah Romanko
Adriana Stamile
Katherine Taylor
Helen Tipton**
Carissa Ward
Hope Welsh
Song Xie*

Viola

Peijun Xu, *principal*
Rebekah Edwards*
Katelyne Graham**
Rachel Hall**
Zoe Harbison**
Hope Hyink
Christopher Pacleb
Emily Poole**
Tyler Sieh*
Jessica Ward

Cello

Sungmin Kim, *principal*
Elizabeth Ames
Jadyn Cook
Ronald Gardiner*
Yeajin Go
Jay Gregg
Leah Jennings
John-Mark Ligon
Helena Norman
Caitlin Ott
Keats Rivas

Double Bass

Janae Gaddy, *principal*
Bob Borden**
Jose Carrión**
Brian Gencarelli**
Rich Harbison**
Karl Olsen*
Aaron Yackley**

Flute

Paula Kasica*
Briana Scardace
Julie VanderLugt

Oboe

Dane Bennett
Bryn Carrier
Erica Lovato
Marissa Lucadano
Abigail Michaels
Bridget Nance
Amanda Withrow

Clarinet

Joseph Burgos
Andrew Coleman
Daniel Garcia
Chip Hill*

Bassoon

Terry Ewell*
Joshua Nordland
Ethan Surles
Rebecca Watson*

Horn

Hannah Bedard
Scott Fearing*
Emma Potter
Timothy Smith
Jonas Thoms*

Trumpet

Sonya Carrillo
Terry Everson*
Evan Golden
Christopher Keach
Francis LaPorte
Ethan Moulden
Rich Stoelzel*

Trombone

Eric Henson**
Landon Hildebrand
Giancarlo Iannini
Don Lucas*
Ben Osborne*
Joseph Raby

Tuba

John Choi
David Porter*

Percussion

John Kasica*
Caden Potter
Gabriel Stoelzel

Librarian

Bob Borden

Orchestra Program Director

Marvin C. Perry, II

* **faculty**

** **contributing musician**

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Join Us for These Upcoming Events!

Piano Masterclass with Melinda Lee Masur (The Lee Trio)

Tuesday, July 6, 2021 - 2:00 PM

Daniel Recital Hall

Brass Masterclass with Terry Everson (Boston University)

Tuesday, July 6, 2021 - 2:00 PM

Mayfarth Rehearsal Hall

Virtual Violin/String Masterclass with Stephen Tavani (Cleveland Orchestra)

Wednesday, July 7, 2021 - 2:00 PM

Lawson Academy Recital Hall

Piano Faculty Recital - Melinda Lee Masur, Lori Rhoden, and Sandra Shen

Wednesday, July 7, 2021 - 3:30 PM

Daniel Recital Hall

Student Piano Recital

Thursday, July 8, 2021 - 3:30 Pm

Daniel Recital Hall

Solo Honors Recital

Thursday, July 8, 2021 - 8:15 PM

Twichell Auditorium

Faculty Recital & Worship Service

Friday, July 9, 2021 - 7:30 PM

Twichell Auditorium

Potpourri Recital

Saturday, July 10, 2021 - 2:00 PM

Twichell Auditorium

Festival Orchestra Concert - Ken-David Masur, Conductor

Saturday, July 10, 2021 - 7:30 PM

Twichell Auditorium

Piano Faculty Recital - Heidi Louise Williams (Florida State University)

Wednesday, July 14, 2021 - 3:30 PM

Daniel Recital Hall

Student Piano Recital

Thursday, July 15, 2021 - 3:30 PM
Daniel Recital Hall

Honors Chamber Recital

Thursday, July 15, 2021 - 7:30 PM
Twichell Auditorium

Potpourri Recital

Friday, July 16, 2021 - 2:00 PM
Twichell Auditorium

Faculty Recital & Worship Service

Friday, July 16, 2021 - 7:30 PM
Twichell Auditorium

SISP Recital

Saturday, July 17, 2021 - 2:00 PM
Daniel Recital Hall

Festival Orchestra Concert - Miriam Burns, Conductor

Saturday, July 17, 2021 - 7:30 PM
Twichell Auditorium