



CCM

GUEST ARTIST SERIES
PRESENTS

LEE-SUNG-DJOKIC TRIO

Soyeon Kate Lee, piano

Janet Sung, violin

Denise Djokic, cello

Tuesday, January 17, 2023
Robert J. Werner Recital Hall
7:30 p.m.

PROGRAM

Piano Trio No. 2 in C Minor, Op. 66

Felix Mendelssohn
(1809-1847)

Allegro energico e con fuoco
Andante espressivo
Scherzo
Finale: Allegro appassionato

Shostakovich Piano Trio No. 2 in E Minor, Op. 67

Dmitri Shostakovich
(1906-1975)

Andante — Moderato
Allegro con brio
Largo
Allegretto — Adagio

BIOGRAPHIES

Soyeon Kate Lee, piano

First prize winner of the Naumburg International Piano Competition and the Concert Artist Guild International Competition, Korean-American pianist Soyeon Kate Lee has been lauded by The New York Times as a pianist with “a huge, richly varied sound, a lively imagination and a firm sense of style,” and by the Washington Post for her “stunning command of the keyboard.” Highlights of recent seasons include appearances at the National Gallery, Library of Congress, Gina Bachauer Concerts, Purdue Convocations, San Francisco Performances, and the Cleveland Art Museum. She was a member of Lincoln Center Chamber Music Society’s Bowers program, and is a regular participant in numerous chamber music festivals including the Great Lakes, Santa Fe and Music Mountain Chamber Music Festivals. Ms. Lee has collaborated with conductors Carlos Miguel Prieto, Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos, Jahja Ling, and Jorge Mester with the London, San Diego, Hawaii, Louisiana, Naples symphony orchestras among others.

Ms. Lee’s discography as a Naxos artist spans the works of Scarlatti, Liszt, Scriabin, and Clementi, and her eco-awareness album on E1, Re!nvented, garnered her the Classical Recording Foundation’s Young Artist of the Year Award.

BIOGRAPHIES (cont.)

A laureate of the Santander and the Cleveland International Piano Competitions, Ms. Lee is a graduate of The Juilliard School, where she earned her Bachelors and Masters degrees and the Artist Diploma and was awarded every honor given to a pianist. She earned her Doctorate at the Graduate Center, CUNY. She has worked extensively with Richard Goode, Jerome Lowenthal, Robert McDonald, and Ursula Oppens.

She joined the piano faculty of The Juilliard School in 2022.

Janet Sung, violin

Hailed by *The Strad* for her “compelling” performances and “ravishing tone”, violinist Janet Sung has performed worldwide with orchestras including the Pittsburgh Symphony, Busan Philharmonic, Göttinger Symphonie Orchester, Omsk Philharmonic, Britten Sinfonia, Cairo Symphony Orchestra and Buffalo Philharmonic, as well as orchestras of Delaware, Boise, Dubuque, Hartford, Las Cruces, Tacoma, Wyoming, and many others across the U.S. Ms. Sung has made multiple concerto and recital appearances at Switzerland’s Lucerne Festival, the Aspen Music Festival, Britt Festival, Peninsula Music Festival, Bellingham Festival, and the *Conciertos de La Villa Festival de Santo Domingo*.

Celebrated for her riveting performances from Bach to works of the 21st century, her solo performances are frequently aired on radio and television, nationally and internationally, including multiple broadcasts on NPR’s “Performance Today,” and regular featured performances on Chicago’s Classical WFMT. She has recorded Vivaldi’s *The Four Seasons* and Bach’s *Brandenburg Concerto No.1*, the latter with members of the *Gewandhaus Orchestra*, as well as music by Britten, Enescu, Ravel, and living composers Augusta Read Thomas, Kenneth Hesketh, Missy Mazzoli, Dan Visconti, and Gabriel Prokofiev. Her most recent recordings, *Edge of Youth*, released on *Sono Luminus*, and *The deeper the blue...*, released on *SOMM Recordings (UK)* and recorded with the *Britten Sinfonia* and conductor *Jac van Steen*, were both critically acclaimed in major publications such as *The Strad*, *Strings Magazine*, and *BBC Music Magazine*.

She is Founder and Artistic Director of *Chamber Music Chicago* and has been a regular performing and faculty artist at the *Bowdoin International Music Festival*, *Kreeger Festival*, *Newport Music Festival* and *Green Mountain Chamber Music Festival*. She was also recently appointed Artistic Director of the renowned *Meadowmount School of Music* in New York.

Ms. Sung studied with legendary pedagogues *Josef Gingold*, *Dorothy DeLay*, and *Masao Kawasaki*, as well as *Eugene Phillips* and the *Juilliard Quartet*. She graduated from *Harvard University* with degrees in anthropology and music, and *The Juilliard School*. In 2004, she was the *Clifton Visiting Artist* at Harvard and is currently Professor of Violin and Strings Chair at the *DePaul University School of Music* in Chicago. She plays a c.1600 *Maggini violin* crafted in *Brescia, Italy*.

BIOGRAPHIES (cont.)

Denise Djokic, cello

Instantly recognized by her “arrestingly beautiful tone colour” (The Strad), cellist Denise Djokic captivates audiences with her powerful, intuitive interpretations and remarkable command of her instrument. Denise burst onto the international music scene when millions of television viewers watched her performance of Bach at the 2002 Grammy Awards following the lauded release of her self-titled debut recording on SONY Classical. Since then, she has accrued numerous distinctions and accolades, including being named by Maclean’s Magazine as one of “25 Canadians Who Are Changing Our World”.

Denise’s recent concerto highlights include performances of Saint-Saens’ Cello Concerto with the Quebec Symphony Orchestra, Martinu’s 1st Cello Concerto with the Peninsula Music Festival Orchestra, as well as performances with the Charlottesville Symphony Orchestra, Victoria Symphony (Texas), Thunder Bay Symphony, Regina Symphony Orchestra, and Symphony Nova Scotia. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Denise recorded a video performance of the first movement of composer Robert Rival’s Sonata for Cello and Piano with pianist David Jalbert, which was funded by the Canada Council through a “Digital Originals” grant awarded to Rival.

Denise enjoys cross-disciplinary work, and reunited last season with choreographer Donald Byrd for a collaborative performance of his work, “LOVE”, set to Benjamin Britten’s Cello Suites, at the Krannert Center in Urbana, Illinois. Denise gave the premiere performance of “LOVE” in Seattle with Spectrum Dance, for which the Seattle Times reviewed “Djokic’s performance alone is reason enough to go”. Denise has collaborated with Ballet Victoria and the Atlantic Ballet Theatre, and she also appears frequently with Ensembl’arts, a group dedicated to the production of multidisciplinary concerts, educational events, and virtual concerts.

Denise received her training at the Cleveland Institute of Music and the New England Conservatory of Music working with Richard Aaron, Laurence Lesser, and Paul Katz. Denise serves on the cello faculty at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. A native of Halifax, Nova Scotia, Denise now resides in Urbana, Illinois with her family