ARTIST TEACHERS:
Enrico Elisi
Vladimir Feltsman
James Giles
Michael Lewin
Yong Hi Moon
Yoshikazu Nagai
John Perry
Paul Schenly
Boris Slutsky

ARTIST RECITALS:
John Perry
7 p.m. Sunday May 29
Enrico Elisi
7 p.m. Saturday, June 4
Vladimir Feltsman
2 p.m. Sunday, June 5
James Giles
7 p.m. Wednesday, June 8
Michael Lewin
7 p.m. Thursday, June 9
Yong Hi Moon
7 p.m. Saturday, June 11
PROGRAM

JOHN PERRY
May 29, 2016
Cohen Family Studio Theater
7 p.m.

Piano Sonata No. 18, Op. 31, No. 3 (1802)
I. Allegro
II. Scherzo - Allegretto vivace
III. Menuetto - Moderato e grazioso
IV. Presto con fuoco

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN
(1770-1827)

Piano Sonata No. 3, Op. 58 (1844)
I. Allegro maestoso
II. Scherzo - Molto vivace
III. Largo
IV. Finale: Presto non tanto - Agitato

FRÉDÉRIC CHOPIN
(1810-1849)

A distinguished artist and teacher, JOHN PERRY earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees at the Eastman School of Music under the tutelage of Cecile Genhart. He also studied with internationally acclaimed pianist Frank Mannheimer. Recipient of a Fulbright Scholarship, Perry continued studies in Europe where he worked with Polish pianist Władysław Kędra and Carlo Zecchi.

Perry has won numerous awards including the highest prizes in both the Ferruccio Busoni and Gian Battista Viotti International Piano competitions in Italy and special honors at the Marguerite Long International competition in Paris. Since then, he has performed extensively throughout Europe and North America to great critical acclaim.

He enjoys an international reputation as a master class teacher and is often a jury member at some of the most prestigious piano competitions. Perry’s students have been prizewinners in major competitions including the Rubinstein, Naumburg, Cleveland and Beethoven Foundation Competition.

Perry is professor at the Glenn Gould School of the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, professor of piano at California State University Northridge in Los Angeles, visiting artist faculty at Boston University, and Professor Emeritus at the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music. In addition, he recently founded a music school, the John Perry Academy of Music, where he serves as the Artistic Director.
ENRICO ELISI
June 4, 2016
Cohen Family Studio Theater
7 p.m.

Partita in E Minor, BWV 830 (1731)  
I. Toccata  
II. Allemanda  
III. Corrente  
IV. Air  
V. Sarabande  
VI. Tempo di Gavotta  
VII. Gigue  

From Préludes, Book I (1910)  
I. Danseuses de Delphes  
II. Voiles  

Children’s Corner (1908)  
I. Doctor Gradus ad Parnassum  
II. Jimbo’s Lullaby  
III. Serenade for the Doll  
IV. The Snow is Dancing  
V. The Little Shepherd  
VI. Golliwog’s Cakewalk  

Embryons desséchés (1913)  
I. d’Holothurie  
II. d’Edriophthalma  
III. de Podophthalma  

From Deux lunaires (1916)  
II. La Danse d’Olaf  

J. S. BACH  
(1685-1750)  

CLAUDE DEBUSSY  
(1862-1918)  

CLAUDE DEBUSSY  

ERIK SATIE  
(1866-1925)  

RICCARDO PICK-MANGIAGALLI  
(1882-1949)
Born and raised in Bologna, Italy, ENRICO ELISI is an internationally acclaimed pianist whose interpretations have been praised by the Baltimore Sun for revealing “remarkable sensitivity, imagination and polish.” He regularly performs throughout the Americas, Europe and Asia.

In Italy, he has appeared in prestigious venues such as La Fenice Theatre, Palazzo Vecchio town hall, Bibiena Theatre, Luciano Pavarotti Opera House, Teatro Comunale, Sala Bossi, Sant’Anna dei Lombardi Church and the Amalfi Cathedral. Recent performances include recitals at the Banff Centre for the Arts, Weill Hall at Carnegie Hall, Washington’s National Gallery of Art, as well as the Italian Embassies of Washington, D.C. and Lima, Peru, among others.

Elisi has appeared with the Florence Symphony, Orchestra Classica de Porto, Bay Atlantic Symphony, Greeley Philharmonic Orchestra, Williamsport Symphony Orchestra, Pennsylvania Centre Orchestra, Penn State Philharmonic and the Johns Hopkins Symphony Orchestras, among others. He debuted as soloist/conductor with the Green Valley Festival Chamber Orchestra in 2007.

Among Elisi’s awards are top prizes in the Venice Competition in Italy and the Oporto International Competition in Portugal. After winning nine first prizes in competitions in Italy and the US, Elisi received the La Gesse Foundation Fellowship and performed in Toulouse, France, and New York’s Weill Recital Hall.

He held a two-year guest professorship at the China Academy of Art in Hangzhou and has taught an annual workshop in Seoul since 2013.

Elisi appears and performs regularly in several music festivals including the Montecito International Music Festival, the Interlochen Music Festival, Amalfi Coast Festival in Italy and the Sichuan International Piano Festival in China, among others.

After studying at the Conservatory of Music in Florence and the world-renowned International Piano Academy Incontri col Maestro of Imola, Elisi worked with Leon Fleisher at the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University. A year after graduating, at Fleisher’s invitation, Elisi performed at the World Piano Pedagogy Conference in a joint recital with his mentor. Among his teachers were legendary pianist Lazar Berman as well as Boris Petrushansky, Alexander Lonquich, Franco Scala and Giuseppe Fricelli.
PROGRAM

VLADIMIR FELTSMAN

June 5, 2016
Cohen Family Studio Theater
2 p.m.

Kinderszenen, Op. 15 (1839)  ROBERT SCHUMANN  (1810–1856)
I. Von fremden Ländern und Menschen
II. Kuriose Geschichte
III. Hasche-Mann
IV. Bittendes Kind
V. Glückes genug
VI. Wichtige Begebenheit
VII. Träumerei
VIII. Am Kamin
IX. Ritter vom Steckenpferd
X. Fast zu Ernst
XI. Fürchtenmachen
XII. Kind im Einschlummern
XIII. Der Dichter spricht

Faschingsschwank en Wien,  ROBERT SCHUMANN
Op. 26 (1839)
I. Allegro
II. Romanze
III. Scherzino
IV. Intermezzo
V. Finale
Pianist and conductor **VLADIMIR FELTSMAN** is a versatile musician whose vast repertoire encompasses music from the Baroque Period to 21st-century composers. He has appeared with major American orchestras and on the most prestigious musical stages and festivals worldwide.

Feltsman has performed at the Ravinia Festival with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Aspen Music Festival and the Eastern Music Festival. He has also performed with the Orquesta Filarmónica of the Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires and was the featured soloist with the Orquesta de Sinfónica de Minas Gerais in Brazil. Other credits include performances with the Atlantic Classical Orchestra and Seattle Symphony, among others.

A native of Russia, Feltsman was discontent with the artistic restrictions under the Soviet regime and applied for an exit visa with the intent to emigrate in 1979. He was subsequently banned from performing in public and his recordings were suppressed. After eight years of artistic exile, Feltsman was granted permission to leave the Soviet Union. He performed his first North American recital at the White House upon his arrival to the US in 1987.

Feltsman has since toured extensively throughout the former Soviet Union, Europe, Japan and the US. Feltsman expressed his lifelong devotion to the music of J.S. Bach in a cycle of concerts, which spanned four consecutive seasons (1992-96) at the 92nd Street Y in New York. He served as Artistic Director for the Masterpieces of the Russian Underground festival, which was an unprecedented survey of piano and chamber works by 14 different Russian composers and was presented by the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center in January 2003 with great success.

He has also performed all of the Mozart Piano Sonatas in New York at the Mannes School of Music and New York University’s Tisch Center, presented by New School on a specially built replica of the Walter fortepiano.

In 2012, Feltsman returned to Russia to work as a conductor with the Moscow Virtuosi Chamber Orchestra. Additionally, he conducted and performed with the St. Petersburg Philharmonic, and performed with Russian concert pianist Mikhail Pletnev.

A dedicated educator of young musicians, Feltsman holds the Distinguished Chair of Professor of Piano at the State University of New York at New Paltz and is a member of the piano faculty at the Mannes College of Music in New York. He is the founder and Artistic Director of PianoSummer, an international summer institute and festival at the SUNY-New Paltz.

Feltsman’s extensive discography has been released on multiple record labels and includes eight albums dedicated to the works of J.S. Bach, recordings of Beethoven’s last five piano sonatas and solo piano works of Schubert, Schumann, Chopin, Liszt, Brahms, Tchaikovsky, Mussorgsky, Messiaen and Silvestrov, as well as concerti by Bach, Brahms, Chopin, Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff and Prokofiev. His most recent recording is a release of Rachmaninoff’s Concerto No. 3 with the Russian National Symphony Orchestra, alongside a recording of Rachmaninoff’s *Elegy* and *Six Preludes*.
LOWELL LIEBERMANN  
(b. 1961)

Canciones y danzas  
No. 6 (1943)  
No. 9 (1948)  
FEDERICO MOMPOU  
(1893–1987)

Songs  
In the Silent Night, Op. 4, No. 3 (1890)  
Floods of Spring, Op. 14, No. 11 (1896)  
SERGEI RACHMANINOFF  
(1873–1943)  
Transcribed by Earl Wild

Sonata in B Minor, S. 178 (1854)  
FRANZ LISZT  
(1811–1886)

A Native of North Carolina, JAMES GILES regularly performs in prestigious musical centers in America, Europe and Asia.

Highlights of recent seasons include the Nancy Music Festival in France, the Accademia Bartolomeo Cristofori in Florence and the Beijing International Music Festival. Last season featured a recording with the St. Petersburg Chamber Philharmonic and master classes in Hong Kong, Shanghai, Seoul, Yale University and CCM.

Giles has commissioned and premiered multiple works by William Bolcom, C. Curtis-Smith, Stephen Hough, Lowell Liebermann, Ned Rorem, Augusta Read Thomas, Earl Wild and James Wintle. Most of these works are featured on his Albany Records release American Virtuoso. His recording of works by Robert Schumann and Sergei Prokofiev is available on England’s Master Musicians label and a new Schubert CD is due for imminent release.
He has performed with New York’s Jupiter Symphony, the London Soloists Chamber Orchestra in Queen Elizabeth Hall, the Kharkiv Philharmonic in Ukraine and with the Opera Orchestra of New York in Alice Tully Hall. After his Tully Hall solo recital debut, critic Harris Goldsmith wrote, “Giles has a truly distinctive interpretive persona. This was beautiful pianism – direct and unmannered.”

Previous tours have included concerts in the Shanghai International Piano Festival, Warsaw’s Chopin Academy of Music, Chicago’s Dame Myra Hess Series, Salt Lake City’s Assembly Hall Concert Series, Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, the Musikhalle in Hamburg and the Purcell Room at London’s South Bank Centre.

As a student, Giles studied with Byron Janis at the Manhattan School of Music, Jerome Lowenthal at the Juilliard School, Nelita True at the Eastman School of Music and Robert Shannon at Oberlin College. He received early career assistance from the Clarisse B. Kampel Foundation and was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to study in Italy with the legendary pianist Lazar Berman.

He was the recipient of a fellowship grant and the Christel Award from the American Pianists Association and won first prizes at the New Orleans International Piano Competition, the Joanna Hodges International Piano Competition and the Music Teachers National Association Competition.

As an educator and performer, Giles has presented lecture-recitals at the national conventions of the Music Teachers National Association, the College Music Society and Pi Kappa Lambda. He regularly serves on competition jury panels and has been conference artist for several state music teachers associations.

Currently, Giles is coordinator of the piano program and director of graduate studies at Northwestern University’s Bienen School of Music and during the summers is director of the piano program at the Amalfi Coast Music Festival. He gives master classes and lectures at universities nationwide and has taught during the summers at the Gijon International Piano Festival, the Eastern Music Festival, Bowdoin College, Brevard Music Festival, Colburn School of Performing Arts, Pianofest in the Hamptons and the Schlern Festival in Italy, among others. He has been a guest professor at the Sibelius Academy and the Shanghai Conservatory of Music. He has also taught classes at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester and the Royal College of Music in London.
MICHAEL LEWIN

June 9, 2016
Cohen Family Studio Theater
7 p.m.

Fantasy in C Major, D. 760
“Wanderer” (1844)
I. Allegro con fuoco, ma non troppo
II. Adagio
III. Presto
IV. Allegro

FRANZ SCHUBERT
(1797-1828)

A lenda do caboclo (1920)

HEITOR VILLA-LOBOS
(1887-1959)

Beau Soir (1891)

CLAUDE DEBUSSY
(1862-1918)

Transcribed by Koji Attwood

From Préludes, Book 2 (1913)
XII. Feux d’artifice

CLAUDE DEBUSSY

Ballade No. 3 in A-flat Major,
Op. 47 (1841)

FRÉDÉRIC CHOPIN
(1810-1849)

Mazurka in A-flat Major,
Op. 59, No. 2 (1845)

FRÉDÉRIC CHOPIN

Berceuse in D-flat Major,
Op. 57 (1844)

FRÉDÉRIC CHOPIN

Ballade No. 1 in G Minor,
Op. 23 (1836)

FRÉDÉRIC CHOPIN
MICHAEL LEWIN is internationally applauded as one of America’s most gifted concert pianists, performing to acclaim in more than 30 countries. His many recordings, enormous repertoire and charismatic stage presence have established him as an audience favorite.

Commanding a repertoire of 40 piano concertos, his orchestral engagements include the Netherlands Philharmonic Orchestra, Moscow Chamber Orchestra, Cairo Symphony, George Enescu Philharmonic Orchestra, China National Radio and Film Orchestra, Filarmónica de Guadalajara, State Symphony of Greece, Youth Orchestra of the Americas, Orquesta Sinfónica de Puerto Rico, Boston Pops Orchestra, the Sinfonia de Camera and the symphonies of Phoenix, Indianapolis, Miami, Colorado, Nevada, West Virginia, Illinois and North Carolina.

Lewin has premiered two piano concertos by David Kocsis and performed Gershwin’s Rhapsody in Blue over 50 times. He has collaborated with conductors including Carlos Miguel Prieto, Keith Lockhart, Constantine Orbelian, Ian Hobson, Sergei Babayan, Maximiano Valdés, Hugh Wolff, Anton Kersjes and Seymour Lipkin.

Lewin’s career was launched with top prizes in the Liszt International Piano Competition in the Netherlands, the William Kapell International Competition and the American Pianists Association Award. His tours have since taken him to Moscow’s Great Hall, Hong Kong’s City Hall Theater, Taipei’s National Concert Hall, China’s Poly Theatres, the Opera House of Cairo, the Athens Megaron, Holland’s Muziekcentrum Vredenburg and London’s Wigmore Hall. His popular PBS Television recital hosted by Victor Borge featuring the Schubert “Wanderer Fantasy” and Chopin Études was widely rebroadcast.

A devoted chamber musician, he was Artistic Director of the Boston Conservatory Chamber Players and played in the Lewin-Chang-Díaz Trio and the Lewin-Muresanu Duo. He has premiered music by Joel Hoffman, David Kocsis, Sylvia Rabinof, Robert Chumbley, Andy Vores and John Harbison. Composers with whom Lewin is particularly associated include Beethoven, Schubert, Debussy, Chopin, Liszt and Griffes.

Lewin recently released two Debussy recordings for Sono Luminus Studios, Starry Night and Beau Soir. The discs include both Books of Préludes, Estampes and a wide variety of other solo works. Lewin’s recordings have garnered extraordinary critical praise. Lewin’s album If I Were a Bird received a Grammy nomination for Producer of the Year. For Naxos Records, he made a best-selling collection of 20 Scarlatti Sonatas and a landmark two-CD set of the complete piano music of American composer Charles Tomlinson Griffes. His Centaur Records releases include Michael Lewin plays Liszt, A Russian Piano Recital, Bamboulal!, piano music of Louis Moreau Gottschalk, and the Violin Sonatas of William Bolcom with violinist Irina Muresanu. Lewin’s featured performance of Chopin on the Billboard No. 1 New Age Album Winds of Samsara won a 2014 Grammy Award.

One of America’s most sought-after teachers, Lewin has taught many prize-winning pianists, gives master classes worldwide and is a frequent international competition judge. He is a member of the Piano Faculty at the Boston Conservatory and Boston University, and is Artistic Director of the Boston Conservatory Piano Masters Series. Born in New York, he studied at the Juilliard School and his teachers include Leon Fleisher, Yvonne Lefébure, Adele Marcus and Irwin Freundlich.
Diabelli Variations, Op. 120 (1824)

I. Tema: Vivace
II. Alla Marcia maestoso
III. Poco Allegro
IV. L'istesso tempo
V. Un poco più vivace
VI. Allegro vivace
VII. Allegro ma non troppo e serioso
VIII. Un poco più allegro
IX. Poco vivace
X. Allegro pesante e risoluto
XI. Presto
XII. Allegretto
XIII. Un poco più moto
XIV. Vivace
XV. Grave e maestoso
XVI. Presto Scherzando
XVII. Allegro
XVIII. Allegro
XIX. Poco moderato
XX. Presto

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN
(1770–1827)

XXI. Andante
XXII. Allegro con brio –
Meno allegro – Tempo primo
XXIII. Allegro molto, alla ‘Notte e giorno faticar’
di Mozart
XXIV. Allegro assai
XXV. Fughetta
XXVI. Allegro
XXVII. Piacevole
XXVIII. Vivace
XXIX. Allegro
XXX. Adagio ma non troppo
XXXI. Andante, sempre cantabile
XXXII. Largo, molto espressivo
XXXIII. Fuga: Allegro
XXXIV. Tempo di Menuetto moderato
Accomplished pianist and teacher **YONG HI MOON** made her solo debut with the Seoul Philharmonic at age 10 as winner of the National Korean Broadcasting Competition. Moon has won top prizes in the Elena-Rombro Stepanow Competition in Vienna, the Viotti International Competition in Italy, the Vienna da Motta Competition in Portugal and she has received the Chopin Prize from the Geneva International Competition in Switzerland.

Moon performs extensively throughout Asia, Europe and the US as recitalist and soloist, having appeared with the Osaka Philharmonic, Seoul Philharmonic and Tokyo Philharmonic orchestras, as well as the Korean National Symphony Orchestra.

In 1975, the South Korean government invited Moon to participate in a festival for the 30th anniversary of the Korean liberation, and she continues to maintain a strong performing and teaching presence in her native country. In 1991, she was invited to participate in a cycle of the complete Mozart piano concerti with the Bucheon Philharmonic Orchestra, commemorating the composer’s bicentennial year. Moon has also performed the complete solo piano works of Schubert in six recitals in both Korea and the US. She made her first extensive concert tour of Korea in 2000, which included solo recitals in five cities as well as performances with the Kwangju and Daejeon orchestras.

She collaborates regularly with her husband—pianist/conductor Dai Uk Lee—in duo piano concerts and has performed under his baton with the Korean Symphony Orchestra, Korea Chamber Orchestra, Peabody Alumni Orchestra of Korea and the Michigan State University Symphony Orchestra, among others. Their CD recording on the Music and Art label of Czech four-hand piano music has received outstanding critical acclaim.

Moon is in high demand as a guest master class teacher and adjudicator. She has been a regular faculty member at Shandelee Music Festival, Prague International Music Festival and the Bowdoin International Music Festival, among others. She has also participated in the Valencia Piano Academy and the Art of Piano Festival at CCM. In addition, she has been invited to perform and conduct master classes at Chautauqua Summer Festival in New York and the International School for Musical Arts in Canada. Recently she gave master classes at the Shanghai Conservatory of Music and the Korean National University of Arts.

As an adjudicator, she judged in Senigallia International Piano Competition in Italy, Gilmore International Piano Competition and Seoul International Piano Competition, as well as multiple competitions related to the Music Teachers National Association throughout the U.S. and Korea. After teaching at Michigan State University School of Music for 15 years, Moon joined the faculty of the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University in 2002 where she currently maintains a full-time position. Moon studied at the Vienna Academy, graduating with the highest honors. She continued her studies in London before pursuing an Artist Diploma at Indiana University in Bloomington. Her teachers include Dieter Weber, Maria Curcio, György Sebok, Leon Fleisher, Wilhelm Kempff and Fou Ts’ong, who have always been inspirations in her work.
FACULTY BIOS

PAUL SCHENLY, winner of the prestigious Avery Fisher Career Grant, has been a soloist with major United States orchestras including the Atlanta Symphony, Cleveland Orchestra, Chicago Symphony, Los Angeles Philharmonic, San Francisco Symphony and New York Philharmonic. He made two US tours with the Rotterdam Philharmonic and toured with the same orchestra in Europe. He has appeared in many summer festivals, including repeated performances at the Hollywood Bowl, the Ravinia Festival, Blossom Music Center and the Mostly Mozart Festival.

Schenly has appeared in the Great Performers Series at Lincoln Center and in acclaimed recitals at Carnegie Hall. He has performed with many of the world’s leading conductors including James Levine, Erich Leinsdorf, Christoph von Dohnányi, Zubin Mehta, Lorin Maazel, Edo de Waart, Mstislav Rostropovich, Robert Shaw, Aaron Copland, Michael Tilson Thomas and Kirill Kondrashin.

Born in Munich, Schenly lived in South America before coming to the US at age five. He has been artist-in-residence at Chicago’s Ravinia Festival and the Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara. For more than 25 years, he was the chairman of the piano department at the Cleveland Institute of Music (CIM), where he is currently artist-in-residence. He earned a Master of Music degree from CIM, where he studied with Victor Babin.

Schenly has served on the juries of several national and international competitions and his students have won many national and international prizes. He is on the advisory board of the American Pianists Foundation and on the nominating committee for the Gilmore Piano Foundation. He has recorded for Sine Qua Non and the Radio Corporation of America. Schenly is artistic director of the Cleveland International Piano Competition and is the founder/director of Pianofest in the Hamptons.
BORIS SLUTSKY is an acclaimed pianist praised for his exquisite tonal beauty and superb artistry. He emerged on the international music scene when he captured the First Prize—along with every major prize, including the Audience Prize and Wilhelm Backhaus Award— at the 1981 William Kapell International Piano Competition at the University of Maryland. His other accomplishments include first prizes at the Kosciuszko Chopin Competition and San Antonio International Keyboard Competition, in addition to major prizes at the International Bach Competition in Memory of Glenn Gould and the Gina Bachauer, Busoni, Rina Sala Gallo and Ettore Pozzoli International Piano Competitions.

Since his orchestral debut at Carnegie Hall with the New York Youth Symphony in 1980, Slutsky has appeared on nearly every continent as a soloist and recitalist, collaborating with such eminent conductors as Dimitri Kitaenko and Valery Gergiev. He has performed with the London Philharmonic, Stuttgart State Orchestra, and Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Neuss am Rhein in Germany, Bem Symphony Orchestra in Switzerland, Bergen Philharmonic in Norway, the RAI Orchestra in Milan, KBS Symphony Orchestra in Korea, and major orchestras in Spain, Russia, Columbia and Brazil. In South Africa, he has been a soloist with the orchestras of Cape Town, Durban and Johannesburg. His North American engagements have included concerts with the Baltimore, Florida, Utah and Toronto Symphonies. Slutsky has been heard on recital series throughout the US, Canada, Europe, Israel, Latin America, and the Far East. He has made appearances at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the Kaufmann Concert Hall, Bunka Kaikan in Tokyo, National Concert Hall in Taipei, Performing Arts Center in Seoul and the Teatro Colon in Bogota, among many others.

An avid chamber musician, Slutsky’s more than two decades of chamber music collaborations include the critically acclaimed recording of Schumann’s Sonatas for Violin and Piano with Ilya Kaler on the Naxos label as well as performances with many renowned artists.

Slutsky presented master classes throughout North America, Europe and Asia, and served as a jury member of many international piano competitions.

Born in Moscow into a family of musicians, Slutsky received his early training at Moscow’s Gnessin School for Gifted Children as a student of Anna Kantor. He completed his formal studies at the Juilliard School and Manhattan School of Music, studying with Nadia Reisenberg, Nina Svetlanova, John Browning and Joseph Seiger. In addition, he has worked for many years with his mentor Alexander Eydelman.

Slutsky joined the faculty of the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University in 1993, where he currently serves as the Piano Department Chair.

YOSHIKAZU NAGAI has been praised by audiences and critics alike for his fresh interpretations and dramatic presentation style. He has performed as soloist and chamber musician throughout Asia, Europe and America in such venues as Shanghai Concert Hall in China, National Recital Hall in Taiwan, Carnegie Recital Hall and Merkin Concert Hall in New York, Kennedy Center’s Terrace Theatre, The National Gallery and Phillips Collection in Washington D.C., and Seattle’s Benaroya Hall.

His schedule in recent seasons include recitals in Naples, Seoul, Guangzhou, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Singapore, Beijing, Cincinnati, Chicago and San Francisco, as well as collaborations with the Ives Quartet and appearances at many international music festivals.

Winner of numerous international piano competitions—including first prize at the 2002 Washington International Piano Competition—Nagai is also a major prizewinner of the
San Antonio, Missouri Southern, New Orleans, IBLA Grand Prize International Piano Competitions and the Concert Artists Guild International Music Competition.

Born in Germany and raised in the US, Nagai studied with John Perry at Rice University and received his master of music degree from the Cleveland Institute of Music where he was awarded the Malvina Podis Prize in piano upon graduation. Other teachers include Paul Schenly, Sergei Babayan and Duane Hulbert.

Students of Nagai are top prizewinners of national and international competitions including the Lev Vlassenko, Kosciuszko Foundation Chopin Piano Competition, Music Teacher’s National Association Piano Competition, Nina Wideman, King Award Young Artists Competition, Missouri Southern, Heida Hermanns and Corpus Christi Young Artists International Piano Competitions.

Nagai frequently gives master classes at universities and conservatories throughout the US and Asia including recent classes at Shanghai Conservatory, Beijing’s Central Conservatory, Xinghai Conservatory, Shenzhen Arts School in China, Seoul National University, Seoul Arts School, in Korea, Hong Kong Academy for the Performing Arts, Oberlin Conservatory, Eastman School of Music and Northwestern University.

An adjudicator of international piano competitions, Nagai has served on the juries of the Gina Bachauer International Piano Competitions, Cincinnati World Piano Competition, Alaska International Piano E-Competition and San Jose International Piano Competition, amongst others.

Currently Professor of Piano at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, Nagai teaches during the summers at the Amalfi Coast Music Festival in Italy, and Art of Piano at CCM. He has also been summer faculty at the Shanghai and Beijing International Piano Festivals in China, Eastern Music Festival in North Carolina, Chautauqua, Summit Festivals in New York, South Eastern Piano Festival in South Carolina and Colburn Academy and Montecito International Music Festival in California.

STUDENT BIOS

HYUNJEONG AHN is an active soloist and chamber musician who is currently a Master of Music student of Yong-Hi Moon at the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University. A Korean pianist, she has won numerous national competitions in South Korea including the Eumag Choonchoo Competition (2003), Korea Music Society Competition (2006), Music Education Competition, Hanse University and Kookmin Newspaper Competition and Seoul Ensemble Competition, among others.

Ahn completed her bachelor’s degree at Seoul National University, where she studied with Hie-Yon Choi, performed several concerts and premiered several compositions by student composers. While there, she was accepted into the prestigious Concours International de Piano d’Epinal and received a grant to travel to France and participate in the competition. She has also given a number of solo recitals at events in Seoul including Ewon Talented Artist Series, Youngsan Young Artist Series and Young Artist Series at Ceramic Palace Hall.

Ahn has been featured in international music festivals including the Alpine Music Festival, CCM Prague International Piano Institute and Bowdoin International Music Festival. She has also performed in master classes with world-renowned pianists including Arie Vardi, Jeno Jando, Sontraud Speidel, Ian Hobson, Pascal Amoyel, Daniel Shapiro, Kaya Han and Mi-Joo Lee.
ROLANDO ANTONIO ALEJANDRO was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico in January 1999. He formally began his musical education in January 2007 when he was eight. Today he is pursuing a Bachelor of Music degree as a student of Professor Teresa Acevedo Lucio at the Conservatory of Music of Puerto Rico. He was invited to participate in the Traditional Three Kings Day Concert with the Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra in January 2013 and 2014, interpreting the Piano Concertos Nos. 1 and 2 by Felix Mendelssohn. In December 2014, he performed Beethoven’s Concerto No. 1 with the Puerto Rico’s Symphony Orchestra. His first solo recital took place in the Conservatory of Music of Puerto Rico in February 2015. Since 2013, he has participated in the piano program at Interlochen Arts Camp in Michigan, where he was a finalist in the 2013, 2014 and 2015 concerto competitions. In October 2015 he won first prize in the Conservatory of Music of Puerto Rico 18th Concerto Competition and performed Camille Saint-Saëns’ Piano Concerto Op. 22 with the conservatory’s symphony orchestra. Rolando Antonio has been named a 2016 National Young Arts Foundation Merit Winner.

BRYAN OJEDA CHEVRES started playing piano at the age of 5. For two consecutive years he participated in the Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra education program Experiencia Sinfonica where he joined the symphony on stage interpreting symphonic works by Alberto Ginastera and Manuel de Falla. In January 2015 he made his debut with the Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra, performing the first movement of Beethoven’s Piano Concerto No. 3. In April he won first place in the First Piano Competition celebrated in the Conservatory of Music in Puerto Rico. He has attended master classes with renowned pianists Jose Ramos Santana, Ian Hobson, Boaz Sharon and Mykola Suk. In October 2016 he will perform the Mendelssohn Piano Concerto No. 2 with the Puerto Rico Philharmonic Orchestra. His teachers include Maria Teresa Acevedo and Maria del Carmen Gil. He is currently studying in the Conservatory of Music in Puerto Rico.

HANA CHU has appeared throughout North America, South America, Middle East and Korea in chamber music concerts and with many artists. Widely recognized and sought after for numerous new-music collaborations, Chu has premiered and released a piano solo Blue Pacific (Ecstatic Records) by a leading contemporary composer, Michael Torke. Her performance highlights include solo recitals at Juilliard and Eastman as well as Prokofiev Piano Concerto No. 1 with the Juilliard Pre-College Symphony and Mendelssohn Piano Concerto No. 1 with the Eastman Philharmonic Orchestra, and performances at Oberlin Conservatory and the Miami-Dade County Auditorium. Winning her first competition at the age of five, Chu has been a prizewinner of many distinguished competitions. Recently, she was one of the semi-finalists in the Ninth Chopin National Competition held in Miami in February 2015. In addition to having an active solo career, she participated in organizing Juilliard’s North Korea Benefit Concert, “For My Other Half,” in collaboration with New York and New Jersey university students and churches, and recently, she has given solo and chamber music concerts in Jordan to cultivate the first generation of classical music.

A native of South Korea, Chu began studies in Maryland with Leslie Goldstein and entered the Pre-College Division of the Juilliard School as a student of Ernest Barretta on a full scholarship. Chu received her Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees at the Juilliard School under the instruction of Matti Raekallio and Jerome Lowenthal, and she is currently a recipient of a Wollenberg Saphar Memorial Scholarship at Eastman School of Music, pursuing Doctor of Musical Arts degree with Nelita True and Jean Barr.
MICHAEL DELFIN has soloed at the Kennedy Center Millennium Stage and numerous festivals across the country. Praised for “beautiful performances of great warmth” by Classical Voice of North Carolina, Delfin made his solo debut with the Eastern Music Festival Young Artists Orchestra performing Liszt’s Piano Concerto No. 2. Delfin has captured prizes in over a dozen international, national and state competitions including the International Crescendo Music Awards, Baltimore Music Club Competition, Chautauqua Piano Competition and EMF Piano Competition.

An avid chamber musician, Delfin has appeared in recital with violinist Mark O’Connor and co-founded the award-winning ensemble Trio INUENDI. His interest in new music led to performances with the Peabody Camerata and recordings of world premieres for the Naxos label with the Peabody Wind Ensemble.

Delfín recently completed graduate studies at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, where he studied with Yoshikazu Nagai. This fall, he will begin doctoral studies at CCM with Awadagin Pratt. He also previously studied with Boris Slutsky at the Peabody Institute while pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in History from the Johns Hopkins University as a Bloomberg Scholar.

YI CHEN FENG began his piano studies at age seven in Taiwan and is currently a first year student at the Peabody Institute where he studies with Boris Slutsky. While in Taiwan, Yi Chen performed frequently and won first prizes in piano in both elementary and junior high school. As first prizewinner in the 2011 Taiwan Asia Pacific Music Competition, he qualified to perform in the finals held in Hong Kong. In 2014, he won first place in the Taiwan Steinway Youth Piano Competition and represented Taiwan in the finals in Singapore. In 2015, he won first prize and the John Payless Performance prize in the Virginia Waring International Piano Competition in the intermediate solo division.

YUNHAN GU was born in Shanghai in 1996 and began to play the piano when he was six years old. He is currently a student at the Peabody Institute, where he studies with Boris Slutsky. Gu previously studied at Shanghai Conservatory of Music Affiliated High School from 2009-2015 with Jia Xie. In 2006, he won the bronze prize of group C of the Third Steinway National Youth Piano Competition as well as the 71st Steinway International Youth Competition. In 2010, he won the first prize in the Piano Concerto Competition at Shanghai Conservatory. Gu won the second prize of the Russell C. Wonderlic Piano Competition in Maryland in 2016. He has participated in many piano recitals in Shanghai, Hong Kong, Shenzhen, and Ningbo and has performed with many Chinese orchestras, including Shenzhen Symphony Orchestra, Qingdao Symphony Orchestra and Shanxi Symphony Orchestra.

RIXIANG HUANG began his musical studies on the piano at age seven and made his solo debut at age 12. A native of Beijing, China, Huang is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Music at Cleveland Institute of Music under the tutelage of world-renowned pianists Antonio Pompa-Baldi and Paul Schenly. His performance highlights include solo performances in various venues throughout Asia, Europe and the US, including Carnegie Hall, the Hampton Avram Theater, Japan Hamamatsu ACT Concert Hall, Aula Simfonia Jakarta, Spain’s Teatro Bulevar, the National Center for the Performing Arts, the Beijing Concert Hall and the Forbidden City Concert Hall. Additionally, he has appeared as guest soloist with China National Symphony Orchestra, Indonesia National Symphony Orchestra and Eastern Music Festival Orchestra.

He has participated in many festivals, and also in master classes with Solomon.
Mikowsky, Jerome Lowenthal, Kirill Gerstein, John Perry, Andrea Bonatta, Jean Efflam Bavouzet, Stephen Hough and more.

Huang is a worldwide prizewinner in numerous competitions including third place in the 56th Grotrian-Steinweg International Piano Competition for Young Pianists, first place in Asian Classical Music Competition in Japan, second place in the Fifth ASEAN International Concerto Competition (AAF), second place in the US Virtuoso International Piano Competition, silver medalist in the 2015 New York International Artists Piano Competition and first place in the 2015 Eastern Music Festival’s Young Artist Piano Competition and Piano Concerto Competition.

COLLIN JINKS is a 17-year-old junior at Stillwater Senior High in Stillwater, Minn. He currently studies piano with Dr. Jo Anne Link at the nationally recognized Crocus Hill Studios in St. Paul as a member of the studio’s Premier Class. Jinks recently traveled to Salt Lake City to audition for the 2016 Gina Bachauer International Young Artists Competition. In addition, Jinks was the 2015 winner of the Music Association of Minnetonka annual scholarship competition, and was one of the Minnesota Public Radio’s Varsity Competition 2015 Showcase Artists that awarded him a radio performance from the Fitzgerald Theater in St Paul. Jinks was also the 2015 winner of the La Crosse Symphony Rising Stars Concerto Competition and an alternate for the MTNA Young Artist Competition Senior Level State Division. In July, Jinks was one of only 30 students selected worldwide to attend the Colburn Music Academy Piano Festival in Los Angeles CA. While in attendance at the festival, he placed third in the academy’s Steinway Concerto Competition. He was also a finalist in the Minnesota Orchestra’s Young Peoples Symphony Concert Association (YPSCA) Concerto Competition in both 2015 and 2016. In 2014, he was the winner of the St. Paul Piano Teachers Concerto Competition. In his free time, Jinks enjoys photography, listening to classical music and walking his two dogs along the St. Croix River.

LIAM KAPLAN is an award-winning pianist and composer who has performed at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, Tenri Cultural Institute, Steinway Hall, Klavierhaus, Merkin Hall and many other venues in New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts and Texas. He has enjoyed the performance of his compositions by ETHEL, the Talea Ensemble, the Lociam Chamber Players, the Da Capo Chamber Players and the JACK Quartet, among others. Liam has developed a deep affinity for the music of J.S. Bach during his multi-year Bach Project, in which he performed the complete 48 Preludes and Fugues of The Well-Tempered Clavier from memory. Liam enjoys incorporating his own compositions in his performances. He has performed his own solo piano pieces including Fantasy on a 12-Tone Row, Sketches, and his newly completed Piano Sonata No. 1. In 2015, Liam received honorable mention in the Preludes and Fugues category of the Rosalyn Tureck International Bach Competition, and in 2013 he won first prize in the Inventions category. He studies piano with Marcia Eckert and composition with Eleanor Cory in the Honors Program at Mannes Prep. He has studied double bass with Judith Sugarman. Liam was the recipient of the Richard Shirk Memorial Scholarship in 2014. Piano teachers also include his mentor Seymour Bernstein, who is the subject of Ethan Hawke’s acclaimed documentary, Seymour: An Introduction, in which Liam is a featured performer. Liam will double major in piano and composition at Oberlin Conservatory beginning this fall.

SOYOUNG KIM received her bachelor’s degree in piano performance from Seoul National University under the tutelage of Ick Choo Moon. She is currently studying with Victor Rosenbaum at the New England Conservatory, pursuing her Master’s
degree in piano performance. When she moved to the US, she was invited to the Scriabin and Prokofiev Festivals, performing in Jordan Hall each year. A past finalist of the New England Conservatory’s Concerto Competition, she has also won prizes at competitions held by the Jefferson Symphony Orchestra and Connecticut Alliance for Music Competitions.

Kim has given numerous solo recitals in famous venues including Yamaha Hall, Youngsan University, Mozart Hall and Ewon Arts Center. She has been awarded top prizes in many competitions including Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra, Seoul Baroque Chamber Orchestra and the Beethoven Competition in South Korea. She also has played a Saint-Saëns Piano Concerto with the Bulgaria Pazarzique in Goyoung Aram Nuri Center and Beethoven’s Piano Concerto No. 5 with Romania Banatole Timissuelar Orchestra in Seoul Arts Center in Korea. She studied in many master classes including those with Arie Vardi, Shalev Ed-Al, Jacques Rouvier, Steve Drury, Christopher Harding, Eduardo Monteiro, Enrico Elisi and Max Levinson.

MI-EUN KIM has performed on stages across the country, as well as in Europe and Asia. Kim is a prizewinner of the 2015 Liszt-Garrison Competition’s Liszt Award, the 2010 Corpus Christi Solo Prize, the International Institute for Young Musicians Competition, the Missouri Southern International Competition and the National Foundation for Advancement of the Arts’ YoungArts program. Recent festival appearances include the Innsbrook Music Festival, Kneisel Hall Chamber Music Festival and PianoTexas. Kim completed her master’s degree in piano performance at University of Michigan and will pursue her doctoral studies with Logan Skelton in the fall. Previous teachers include Christopher Harding, Seymour Lipkin, Stanislav Loudenitch, Richard Cass and Yong-Hi Moon. She also holds a BA in History through the Columbia-Juilliard Exchange program.

YEON-KYOUNG KO was born in South Korea in 1992 and began studying the piano as well as the violin at the age of five. Subsequently, she entered Yewon Arts School to studying piano. She made her debut with Suwon National Philharmonic Orchestra in Korea in 2009 while studying at Seoul Arts High School, where she graduated cum laude with a Bachelor’s degree in 2015. Ko is currently continuing her studies at University of Michigan with Christopher Harding, majoring in both piano performance and chamber music with a merit scholarship. She has won top prizes at several competitions held in the US, Portugal, Japan, and Korea. She won Merit Prize at the 17th

YEON-KYOUNG KO was born in South Korea in 1992 and began studying the piano as well as the violin at the age of five. Subsequently, she entered Yewon Arts School to studying piano. She made her debut with Suwon National Philharmonic Orchestra in Korea in 2009 while studying at Seoul Arts High School, where she graduated cum laude with a Bachelor’s degree in 2015. Ko is currently continuing her studies at University of Michigan with Christopher Harding, majoring in both piano performance and chamber music with a merit scholarship. She has won top prizes at several competitions held in the US, Portugal, Japan, and Korea. She won Merit Prize at the 17th
Chopin International Piano Competition in Asia, and first prize at the Korean National Piano Society Competition. Most recently, she has been invited to perform with her piano trio at Millennium Hall of Kennedy Center in Washington D.C in February. She has participated in several master classes, the 50th Bowdoin International Music Festival with a merit scholarship, and the New York International Keyboard Institute and Festival. She has studied with Martin Canin, Manheim Pressler, Victor Rosenbaum, Alexander Braginsky, Dae-Jin Kim, and Soo-Jung Shin.

PATRICK LECHNER is a pianist from Austria and has studied in Salzburg, Munich and Vienna. Among his teachers were Karl-Heinz Kämmerling, Thomas Böckheler and Noel Flores. He took part in master classes with Zoltan Kocsis, Mikhail Voskressensky, Emanuel Ax, Michel Béroff, Philippe Entremont and Richard Goode. Additionally, he participated in master classes in the selective International Piano Academy of Sergei Babayan in Cleveland and the Beethoven master class at the Wilhelm Kempff Academy in Positano with John O’Conor.

Lechner is a prizewinner in several international competitions including the Joseph-Dichler Competition, the Chopin International Piano Competition and the Münchner Klavierpodium. In addition, he was awarded the Bösendorfer Scholarship at the Universtiy of Music and Performing Arts in Austria and the Großer Steinway Förderpreis in Munich.

He frequently holds concerts throughout Europe, the US, Korea and China. He collaborated with prominent musicians, such as Martin Wettges, Maxim Heller, Aik Khai Pung, Kai Gleusteen, Ekatherina Frolova and Korbinian Altenberger, among others. Worldwide performance venues include Alte Kongresshalle in Munich, Laeisz Hall in Hamburg, Passionskirche in Berlin, Steinway-Haus in Munich, Great City Hall in Innsbruck, St. Martin-in-the-Fields in London, Austrian National Library in Vienna and others. He also appeared at major festivals including the Gilmore International Keyboard Festival, Münchner Klavier-Festival and others. Lechner was appointed professor at the Tyrolean State Conservatory, the Yeungnam University in South Korea and Hunan First Normal University in China. His students won several top awards at the competitions Jugend Musiziert and Prima la Musica in Austria and Germany. He regularly holds master classes in Europe and Asia, among them at the music festival Allegro Vivo and the International piano festival Young Pianists Worldwide in Vienna. Currently, he is completing his doctoral degree on a full scholarship at CCM under Awadagin Pratt.

NARAE LEE, a Korean-born pianist, began to play the piano at the age of seven and made her official debut at the Rising Young Stars Concert a year later. She has won numerous top prizes and participated in competitions both nationally and internationally, including the Delta Symphony Orchestra Young Artist Concerto Competition, Coeur d’Alene Symphony Young Artists Competition, World Piano Competition, Jacob Flier Piano Competition, Hilton Head International Piano Competition, Samick-Seiler Piano Competition and the Seoul Philharmonic Competition.

As a winner of the Seoul Philharmonic Concerto Competition, Lee made her orchestral debut with Seoul Philharmonic the 18th Annual Concert at the National Theater of Korea in 2009. She has performed in Carnival of the Animals with the CCM Philharmonia Orchestra and performed Ravel’s Concerito for the Left Hand with the CCM Concert Orchestra as a winner of the CCM Piano Concerto Competition. She also has been awarded second prize in the CCM Concerto Competition performing Rachmaninoff’s Piano Concerto No. 3. As a soloist, she has appeared at the New Artists
Series Recital, the Samick-Seiler New Artists Concert at Youngsan Art Hall and the Music Education Newspaper Competition Winners Concert, and she has performed at international master classes given by Alexander Toradze, Kevin Kenner, Maxim Mogilevsky, Blanca Uribe, Jerome Rose, Marc Silverman, Victor Rosenbaum, Daniel Röhm and Barry Snyder.

Lee studied at Sunhwa Arts High School with Jeeyoung Shin and at Yonsei University with Misha Kim in South Korea. Currently, as a recipient of an Honors Scholarship and the William D. Black Memorial Prize in Piano, she studies at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music under the guidance of Awadagin Pratt.

YUNJIN LEE was born in Provo, Utah and started playing the piano at the age of seven. She studied at Seoul Arts High School and Yonsei University, where she was offered a scholarship for academic excellence while studying under the tutelage of Professor Bong-As Shin. She is the recipient of a Graduate Award for studio accompanist at the Eastman School of Music, where she is presently enrolled in the Master of Music in Piano Performance and Literature Programs as a student of Enrico Elisi. Lee will attend University of Texas at Austin to pursue a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in the fall of 2016. Lee also received scholarships from the Globe Tech Engineering graduate program in 2014. She won numerous prizes in competitions including East Coast International Competition, American Protégé International Piano and Strings competition, Seoul Youth Chamber Music competition, Buam competition, Seoul Music competition and Chopin International competition in Asia. She has performed in Texas, New York City, Rochester and took part in the Texas State International Piano Festival. Lee also performed in master classes taught by Martin Canin, Klaus Hellwig, Jura Margulis, Yong Hi Moon and Mi-Joo Lee.

DONALD LEE III, a recent graduate of James Madison University, will be pursuing a Master of Music degree from CCM under the guidance of Awadagin Pratt this fall. He has also studied with Steinway Artist Eric Ruple and the internationally renowned Luiz de Moura Castro. He has won numerous prizes and awards, including the JMU School of Music Scholarship and the 2015-2016 Presser Foundation Music Scholarship, top prizes in the Virginia MTNA Piano Competition, JMU Concerto/Aria Competition, Virginia Music Teachers Association Concerto Competition, HFPC Young Artist competition and the Harold Protsman Classical Period Competition (Norfolk, Va.), where he also received the Helen and Warren Aleck Award for Most Promising Performance. He has attended the Art of Piano, Chautauqua and Virtuosi Institute summer festivals where he has been able to play in master classes with artists such as Ursula Oppens, Boris Slutsky and Evelyne Brancart, to name a few.

JUNWEN LIANG is a native of Nanning, China, and currently a junior piano performance Major in the studio of Dr. Charis Dimaras at the Ithaca College School of Music. Liang has recently participated in Art of the Piano and the Atlantic Music Festival in Maine in 2015. Liang has garnered numerous scholarships and awards, including top prizes at the KAWAI Asia Piano Competition, the Gulangyu National Competition, the Hong Kong International Piano Competition and the Collegiate Division of the 2014 Empire State Competition in Rochester, N.Y. In January 2015 he won the Ithaca College 2015 Concerto Competition, which resulted in his debut with the Ithaca College Symphony Orchestra in March 2015.

YILIN LIU was born in Qingdao, China where she began her piano studies at the age of five. In 2013, she received her high school diploma at Music Middle School Affiliated
to Shanghai Conservatory of Music under the tutelage of Zhe Tang and Xiao Luo, and moved to the states to pursue her Bachelor Degree at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music where she studies with Yoshikazu Nagai. With her exciting performances in numerous piano competitions, Liu has been the third prizewinner of the sixth China Shanghai International Piano Competition, the seventh New York International Piano Competition, the 2016 MTNA Young Artist Performance Competition (Southwest Division), as well as winner of the 2016 San Francisco Conservatory of Music Piano Concerto Competition. In 2012, she premiered with the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra, performing Bartók’s Piano Concerto No. 3. She has performed extensively in international music festivals and master classes, hosted by renowned artists such as Nelita True, Enrico Elisi, Awadagin Pratt and Fou Tsong. As an avid chamber musician, she has had the pleasure of performing in chamber concert with San Francisco Conservatory faculty member Jennifer Culp.

LAYLO RIKHSIEVA was born in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, in 1999. She started her musical education at the Academic Music Lyceum. She has been a top prize winner at several International Piano competitions in Europe. Music opened the door to the world for Rikhsieva. Rikhsieva has attended numerous summer festivals and international piano academies on full scholarship, including New Names in Russia; Chethams Summer School for Pianists in Manchester, England; IPAF in Freiburg, Germany; EMF in N.C., US and John Perry Academy, Calif., USA. Rikhsieva performed numerous piano concertos with the Uzbek National Symphony Orchestra. Rikhsieva currently studies with Dr. TJ Lymenstull at the Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan.

DANIEL SZEFER is a first-generation American born to Polish parents. He had his first piano lesson at the age of seven and was introduced to the public in Miami by the Chopin Foundation of the United States when he was ten. He gave three piano performances in Millennium Park in Chicago in 2010. In 2011, the cable television POLSAT made a documentary about his life as a young musician. Szefer was one of eight international students invited to study at the Sergei Babayan Academy at the Cleveland Institute of Music in 2012. The same year, he gave a solo concert at the Chicago Symphony Center. He had his orchestral debut with the Oistrach Symphony Orchestra (Chicago) conducted by Mina Zikri at the age of 13 and he performed with the orchestra for the next three years. Szefer gave three concerts in Poland in July 2013. He was the youngest Fellow at the Gilmore International Keyboard Festival (Kalamazoo, Mich.) in 2014 and one of two Americans who participated in the eighth International Tchaikovsky Competition for Young Musicians in Moscow, Russia in 2014. Szefer had his Chicago Symphony Center orchestral debut in November 2015.

MINYI ZHANG is a junior at the Interlochen Arts Academy where she studies with Dr. Thomas Lymenstull. She started learning piano at the age of six, and studied with Professor Mei Xiao and Professor Zhaoyi Dan before coming to the Arts Academy in 2014. Minyi won the Gold prize and the Grand prize in The Third Changjiang Cup National Children Piano Tournament in 2012. She was also a finalist in the Concerto Competition at the Arts Academy, and was an alternate in the Michigan MTNA Senior Piano Competition in 2015.

XINYI ZHAO has won second prize in the Hong Kong Tchaikovsky Piano Competition (2002), second prize in the “XingHai” National Piano Competition (2004), and second prize in the Cadenza National Youth Piano Competition. Her accolades also include first prize in the TOYAMA Hong Kong Asia Youth Piano Competition (2003), first prize
in the QinXing Piano Competition (2004), the 20th Italy Barletta International Youth Musician Competition for both solo and four hands piano, as well as the Interlochen Arts Academy Concerto Competition (2011) and MTNA honorable mention (2014).

AILUN ZHENG studied at the Shanghai Conservatory from 2008 to 2014 and is currently a student of Thomas Lymenstull at the Interlochen Arts Academy. In Shanghai, Zheng won many awards including first prize at the fourth Chinese Music International Competition in Japan and first prize in the 71st Steinway International Youth Piano Competition East China Division. At Interlochen, she won the IAA Concerto Competition in the fall of 2015, and in 2014 she was the MTNA Senior Piano Competition winner for Michigan. Ailun studied with Boris Slutsky and Yong Hi Moon at the Bowdoin Music Festival (Brunswick, Maine). In 2013 Zheng participated in the Perugia Music Festival (Italy) and performed with the Ashdod Symphony Orchestra (Israel). She has performed in master classes for Dang Thaisong, Fu Ts'ong, Douglas Humphreys, Robert McDonald, Boris Slutsky and others.

HANQIANG ZHU began studying piano at the Primary School of Shanghai Conservatory of Music. After graduating from the conservatory's Middle School, she studied with Professor Yoshikazu Nagai at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music from 2008 to 2015 on scholarship. She is currently a Doctor of Musical Arts candidate at the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana with a fellowship award, studying under Dr. Timothy Ehlen. She has presented many recitals and performed in festivals in both China and the United States, including the Sherman Clay Solo Recital Series in the Bay Area (San Francisco) in 2011, PianoTexas 2011, Shanghai-San Francisco Celebration Concerts in both Shanghai and San Francisco in 2010, and she performed Ravel’s Piano Concerto for the Left Hand with the San Francisco Conservatory Orchestra in 2010. Zhu has won many prizes including First Prize at the Strum Page Piano Competition in 2012, Fifth Prize in the Julia Crane International Piano Competition in 2006 and First Prize in the San Francisco Conservatory’s 2009 Concerto Competition. She was a finalist at the 2011 Kosciuszko Chopin Competition in New York. From 2013-2015 she was a member of the San Francisco Conservatory’s New Music Ensemble, directed by Nicole Paiement, and joined in seasonal performances including playing the orchestral reduction of three rarely performed modern operas.
ABOUT

THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Born in Pittsburgh, **AWADAGIN PRATT** began studying piano at the age of six. Three years later, he began studying violin after he moved to Normal, Ill. with his family. At the age of 16 he entered the University of Illinois where he studied piano, violin, and conducting. He subsequently enrolled at the Peabody Conservatory of Music where he became the first student in the school’s history to receive diplomas in three performance areas—piano, violin and conducting. In recognition of this achievement and for his work in the field of classical music, Pratt recently received the Distinguished Alumni Award from Johns Hopkins as well as an honorary doctorate from Illinois Wesleyan University after he delivered the commencement address in 2012.

In 1992, Pratt won the Naumburg International Piano Competition and two years later was awarded an Avery Fisher Career Grant. Since then, he has played numerous recitals throughout the US including performances at Lincoln Center, Kennedy Center, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion in Los Angeles, Chicago’s Orchestra Hall and the New Jersey Performing Arts Center.

His many orchestral performances include appearances with the New York Philharmonic, Minnesota Orchestra and the Pittsburgh, Atlanta, Baltimore, St. Louis, National, Detroit and New Jersey symphonies among many others. He played a recital in Carnegie Hall for the Naumburg Foundation in November 2010. Internationally, Pratt has had two concert tours of South Africa in addition to performances in Japan, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Poland, Israel, Columbia, Brazil and Korea. Pratt has conducted the Toledo, New Mexico, Winston-Salem, Santa Fe, Prince George County, and Vancouver, Wash. symphonies, the Northwest Sinfonietta, the Eastern Music Festival Orchestra and several orchestras in Japan.

Pratt has been featured on Performance Today, St. Paul Sunday Morning, the Today Show, Good Morning America, Sesame Street and CBS Sunday Morning. In November 2009, Pratt was one of four artists selected to perform at the White House by US President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama. He has performed two other times at the White House, both at the invitation of former US President Bill Clinton and former First Lady Hillary Clinton.

His recordings for Angel/EMI include *A Long Way From Normal*, an all Beethoven Sonata CD, *Live From South Africa*, *Transformations* and an all Bach disc with the St. Lawrence String Quartet.

Pratt is currently a Professor of Piano at the College-Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati. He is also the Artistic Director of the World Piano Competition in Cincinnati as well as the Artistic Director of the Art of the Piano Festival at CCM. Pratt is a Yamaha artist and wears watches by RGM.
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Special Thanks to the Art of the Piano Foundation for the scholarships for our students.

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Nationally ranked and internationally renowned, the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM) is a preeminent institution for the performing and media arts. Declared “one of the nation’s leading conservatories” by the New York Times, CCM provides life-changing experiences within a highly creative and multidisciplinary artistic environment.

CCM’s educational roots date back to 1867, and a solid, visionary instruction has been at its core since that time. The synergy created by housing CCM within a comprehensive public university gives the college its unique character and defines its objective: to educate and inspire the whole artist and scholar for positions on the world’s stage.

CCM’s faculty and staff and its state-of-the-art facilities make possible the professional training and exceptional education on which CCM believes the future of the arts relies. The school’s roster of eminent faculty regularly receives distinguished honors for creative and scholarly work, and its alumni have achieved notable success in the performing and media arts.

More than 150 internationally recognized faculty members work with students from around the world, specializing in the areas of Composition, Musicology and Theory; Electronic Media; Ensembles and Conducting; Keyboard Studies; Music Education; Performance Studies and Theatre Arts, Production and Arts Administration.

The largest single source of performing arts events in the state of Ohio, CCM presents nearly 1,000 major public performances each year, ranging from faculty and guest artist concerts to fully supported opera, musical theatre, acting and dance productions. Its ample performance facilities include the 730-seat Corbett Auditorium, the 380-seat Patricia Corbett Theater, the flexible Cohen Family Studio Theater, the 250-seat Robert J. Werner Recital Hall, and the 140-seat Watson Recital Hall.

CCM’s facilities also include the Gorno Memorial Music Library, which houses more than 150,000 volumes, including books, music scores, periodicals, microforms and recordings that support the full range of programs offered. The library is supplemented by the Music Listening Center, which offers an advanced audio system with 48 listening stations and 24 computer stations.

For more information about the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, please visit us online at ccm.uc.edu.
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