

RUTGERS

Mason Gross School
of the Arts

WOMEN IN MUSIC: A CELEBRATION



Organized by the Research Group on
Women in Art Music (WAM!)
wam.rutgers.edu

Sunday, April 8, 2018 | 5 p.m.

Richard H. Shindell Choral Hall
Robert E. Mortensen Hall
Douglass Campus

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

PROGRAM

September, At the River

Fanny Mendelssohn
(1805–1847)

Abraham Alinea, Piano

Liebst du um Schönheit

Clara Schumann
(1819–1896)

Rebekah Daly, Mezzo-Soprano
Abraham Alinea, Piano

Nocturne for violin and piano

Lili Boulanger
(1893–1918)

Nathan Bishop, Violin
Joseph Ferguson, Piano

Femmes en Fables

Isabelle Aboulker
(b. 1938)

- I. La jeune veuve
- II. La femme noyée
- III. La cigale et la fourmi

Rachael Lansang, Mezzo-Soprano
Nina Phillips, Piano

Video Interlude
WAM Research Group

Nocturne Op. 6, No. 2

Clara Schumann

Siyi Chen, Piano

Cello Prelude No. 3
Con Sordino—Senza Sordino

Sofia Gubaidulina
(b. 1931)

Katherine Van Varick, Cello

Incantation (1995)

Augusta Read Thomas
(b. 1964)

Alec Tonno, Violin

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685–1750)
Arr. Myra Hess
(1890–1965)

Leslie Theseira, Piano

String Quartet in E-flat Major (1834)
I. Allegro molto vivace

Fanny Mendelssohn

Alec Tonno, Violin 1
Samuel Weinglass, Violin 2
Glynnis Gourhan, Viola
Katherine Van Varick, Cello

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Women in Art Music (WAM!) is a research project based in the Department of Music at the Mason Gross School of the Arts. Women's participation in music—as, for example, composers, performers, patrons, instrument builders, copyists, and directors—is very little discussed in the public sphere, yet there are scholars who are actively researching these topics and writing about them for a specialized readership. The WAM research team seeks to promote this research and provide a platform to make it accessible to a wide public audience, thus enriching the understanding of women in art music among performers, teachers, students, ensemble directors—anyone who enjoys music!

The WAM research group is pleased to launch its website, wam.rutgers.edu, which will host original content and serve as a venue for scholars to present their own work in a friendly, accessible way. We recently created documentary video interviews with Dr. Nancy Yunhwa Rao on Ruth Crawford Seeger and with Dr. Angela Mace Christian on Fanny Mendelssohn. We hope to expand the website in the coming months and years. Please visit and let us know what you think.

Special thanks to the Aresty Research Center and to Francesca Giannetti, the Digital Humanities Librarian, for their assistance and support.

—The WAM Research Group
Nathan Bishop, Rebecca Cypess, and Tracey Crystal Miller

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Abraham Alinea is a third-year undergraduate pianist studying with Vladimir Valjarević. He has been featured as a pianist in an ADDO Chamber Choir production of Brahms's *Ein Deutsches Requiem*. Additionally, he has participated in a national heritage concert at Carnegie Hall, featuring a number of Rutgers pianists. A winner of the 2017 Rutgers Sinfonia Concerto Competition, he will be performing Rachmaninoff's Third Concerto with the Rutgers Sinfonia. In addition to piano, Alinea has experience as an organist and composer and co-directs the Rutgers undergraduate new music ensemble.

Nathan Bishop began serious study with Nancy Roth and is a third-year undergraduate studying music education and violin under Elena Chernova-Davis. He is the founder of the Rutgers University String Ensemble; the concertmaster of Rutgers Sinfonia; and a member of the Rutgers Symphony Orchestra, Kirkpatrick Choir, and the Rutgers Baroque Players. An avid fiddler, he is planning to pursue a graduate degree in ethnomusicology, with a concentration in American folk music. When not in New Brunswick, New Jersey, performing or studying, he can be found in Flemington conducting the Hunterdon Music for Youth orchestras, teaching various folk styles, or on his farm outside of Clinton tending to his sheep.

Born in Xiamen, China, **Siyi Chen** started learning piano in 2002. In 2012 Chen participated in the International Piano Academy Freiburg, in Germany, where she studied with Jura Margulis and performed in two concerts. In the summers of 2012 and 2013, she gave piano solo recitals in Gulangyu Concert Hall. In 2015 Chen was the youngest pianist to perform in *The Unknown Diabelli Variations* concert in Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall. In the summer of 2016, Chen went to Brevard Music Festival, in North Carolina, as a scholarship recipient. Chen has studied with Paul Hoffmann, Barbara González-Palmer, and Matti Hirvonen, and is now studying with Vladimir Valjarević.

Rebekah Daly is a fourth-year bachelor of music candidate in voice performance, studying with Susan Quittmeyer. Daly has studied and performed as a vocalist at Songfest, the Castleton Music Festival, and the Chautauqua Institute. This summer she will be participating in Houston Grand Opera's Young Artist Vocal Academy.

Joseph Ferguson is a student-pianist from Little Silver, New Jersey. He began his musical studies at a young age with local piano teacher Elvira Major, remaining under her tutelage throughout his pre-college years. During this time, he participated in a number of choral and instrumental ensembles and was exposed to a wide variety of music. Ferguson is a second-year undergraduate piano performance major at the Mason Gross School of the Arts, where he studies with pianist and pedagogue Daniel Epstein. He recently won the Rutgers Sinfonia Concerto Competition with his interpretation of Dohnányi's Variations on a Nursery Theme, Op. 25.

Glynnis Gourhan is a first-year student at Mason Gross. Having started on violin at the age of 9, she began studying viola in high school with Aundrey Mitchell. She has participated in multiple youth orchestras, including with the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra Academy, and performed at venues such as the New Jersey Performing Arts Center and Carnegie Hall. She also attended Kinhaven Music School's Senior Session for two summers as a scholarship student, where she studied viola and participated in orchestra, chamber music, multiple choirs, composition, and conducting workshops. At Mason Gross, Gourhan has participated in ensembles such as the Kirkpatrick Choir, Rutgers Sinfonia, Rutgers Symphony Orchestra, Rutgers Baroque Players, and Rutgers University String Ensemble. She is double-majoring in music education and viola performance and is also pursuing a minor in Spanish. She studies with Craig Mumm, a violist with Metropolitan Opera Orchestra.

Rachael Lansang, mezzo-soprano, is a candidate for a doctor of philosophy degree in musicology at Rutgers University. She received her bachelor's and master's degrees in vocal performance at the University of Connecticut. Her dissertation project is titled "Women's Bodies in Song: Text, Performance, and Embodiment" and focuses on new methodological approaches to contemporary art song by women composers. An active performer specializing in operatic and contemporary repertoire, she is a member of C4: The Choral Composer/Conductor Collective in New York City and has performed with numerous opera companies throughout the United States and Europe.

South African pianist **Nina Phillips** made her debut with the Johannesburg Symphony Orchestra at age 9 and has since performed regularly with orchestras, in various competitions, and across Africa, Europe, and America as both a soloist and chamber musician. For two years, Phillips played in the University of Pretoria (UP) Piano Trio and subsequently formed the UP Piano Quintet. She is regularly invited to participate in music festivals in both South Africa and the United States. Phillips is based in New York City, where she recently completed her master's degree at Mannes School of Music under the tutelage of Thomas Sauer.

Leslie Theseira began serious study of the piano under Tedd Joselson at the age of 13. He has also had training in musical analysis with Robert Casteels. In 2008 Theseira gave his debut recital at the Victoria Concert Hall with works by Mozart, Chopin, and Rachmaninoff. He has since gone on to give numerous performances, including concertos of Mozart, Beethoven, and Tchaikovsky at the Piano Concerto Festival in Singapore, as well as Rachmaninoff's "Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini" with the Rutgers Sinfonia.

Theseira is pursuing both business and music at Rutgers University. Studying under Daniel Epstein, he won first place in both the American Fine Arts Festival and Rutgers concerto competitions. Theseira is also an organist and has served in that capacity in churches for more than 10 years. He is the founder of Great Performances, a company that promotes arts events in Singapore.

Alec Tonno began his violin studies in 2010 with Milan Milinkovic and Brennan Sweet. In 2014 he was awarded third prize and the Heifetz Award in the Wharton Music Center Young Artists Competition. As a chamber musician, he has received coaching from members of the Emerson and Calidore string quartets and has performed in venues such as Weill Recital Hall and Steinway Hall. He has been a member of the New Jersey and New York Youth Symphonies, the Rutgers Symphony Orchestra, Rutgers Baroque Players, and the Rutgers University String Ensemble. Additionally, he has participated in summer festivals such as Chautauqua Institution, Kinhaven Young Artists Seminar, and Center Stage Strings. He is pursuing a bachelor of music degree at Mason Gross School of the Arts, studying with Francesca dePasquale.

Katherine Van Varick began music instruction at the age of 5 and has been studying cello for more than 14 years, most recently with Jonathan Spitz. A first-year cello performance student at Mason Gross School of the Arts, she is a member of the Rutgers Symphony Orchestra and the Rutgers University String Ensemble.

Samuel Weinglass has been playing violin since the age of 3 and studies with Carmit Zori. At the age of 6, he joined Stretto Youth Chamber Orchestra in Princeton, New Jersey, and has since been an active chamber musician, touring Europe and China with Stretto and attending Blue Mountain Festival, a summer program that offers extensive scholarships for underprivileged children, every year since 2011. Weinglass is member of Rutgers Symphony Orchestra, Rutgers University String Ensemble, and Rutgers Sinfonia. He is a first-year student pursuing a bachelor of music degree from Mason Gross and a bachelor's degree in cell biology and neuroscience from the School of Arts and Sciences.