Saturday Evening, May 16, 2015, at 8:00

YOUTH ORCHESTRA, CYCNY
ANNUAL CONCERT AT LINCOLN CENTER 2015

CHIJEN CHRISTOPHER CHUNG, Music Director & Conductor
LOVELL PARK CHANG, Trumpet Soloist

MIKHAIL GLINKA  Ruslan and Ludmila Overture

MAURICE RAVEL  Pavane pour une infante défunte

FU-TONG WONG  Symphony Condor Heroes (U.S. Premiere)

JOSEPH HAYDN  Trumpet Concerto in E-flat major
  I. Allegro
  II. Andante cantabile
  III. Allegro
  LOVELL PARK CHANG, Trumpet Solo

Interruption

AARON COPLAND  Hoe-Down from Rodeo

TYZEN HSIAO  The Angel from Formosa

KRISTEN ANDERSON-LOPEZ AND ROBERT LOPEZ  Music from Frozen
arr. by Bob Krogstad

GEORGES BIZET  Carmen Suite No. 2
  I. Habanera
  VI. Dance Bohême

This concert is supported in part, by the public funds from the New York City Department Of Cultural Affairs.

Alice Tully Hall

Please make certain your cellular phone, pager, or watch alarm is switched off.
Meet the Artists

The Youth Orchestra is a Queens-based Youth Orchestra since 1996, and has been a 501 (c) (3) organization since 2002. The mission is to provide orchestra training and performing opportunities for young musical students age 10–18, with a unique repertory that includes classical, popular, jazz, broadway, film, and Asian music. The Orchestra premieres and commissions works by American and Asian composers and believe in global culture experiences, which is why we have organized summer concert tours to Asia, Europe, and the East Coast.

New members are recruited through auditions in September and January, and weekly rehearsals take place at Middle School 158 in Bayside, New York from September to May. The orchestra presents two formal concerts annually. One free Holiday Concert for the community during the holiday season in Queens and an Annual Concert at Lincoln Center in the spring. The Orchestra also serves the Queens community by performing concerts at senior centers, community centers, and nursing homes.

During the 2014–15 season the Orchestra performed at Poppenhusen Institute in College Point on December 6, Silvercrest Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation in Briarwood on December 7, Cardozo High School in Bayside on December 14, the Taiwan Center in Flushing on April 18, and at tonight’s concert at Alice Tully Hall. This summer, the Orchestra will travel to Tokyo and Taipei for concerts and sightseeing.

Our program is sponsored, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. Other sponsors include Culture Center & Taipei Cultural Center of Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in New York, as well as foundations, corporations, and individuals. For more information, please visit www.YouthOrchestra.com, e-mail: YouthOrch8@aol.com, or call (917) 912-8288 or (347) 306-2511.

Chijen Christopher Chung, Music Director and Conductor

A native of Kaohsiung, Taiwan, Mr. Chung began his musical studies in piano, violin, and cello at the ages of five and nine. Following a successful musical career in high school, he attended the National Taiwan Normal University where he majored in cello, minored in piano, and was awarded the certificate of music education. Upon moving to the United States, Mr. Chung studied under the tutelage of cellist Peter Wiley (of Guarnieri String Quartet), at the Conservatory of Music at Purchase–SUNY, where he received both his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in music performance.

Mr. Chung’s wide professional experience encompasses symphony orchestra and chamber music performances, conducting, teaching, studio recording and administration. He served as associate principal cellist of the Taipei Symphony Orchestra, principal cellist of the Yin-Qi Symphony Orchestra & Chorus, and the Yin-Qi Chamber Orchestra in Taiwan. He performed with the Chinese Community Chamber Orchestra at Carnegie
Lincoln Center

Hall, New York Symphony Orchestra, and the Amadeus String Quartet and Piano Trio. Mr. Chung’s teaching positions were at the Guang-Ren High School, Xi-Men Elementary School, and Guan-Du Christian College in Taiwan.

He has been serving as the music director, cello and piano instructor at the Song of Songs Music School, Eastern School of Music, Amadeus Conservatory of Music, and Melody Time Music Center in the United States. In 2003 he was the music director and featured cellist for the world premiere of an original Chinese-language adaptation of A Streetcar Named Desire at the Hwa-Sun Culture Center in Taipei, Taiwan.

At Alice Tully Hall, with Youth Orchestra, CYCNY, Mr. Chung performed Elgar’s Cello Concerto as soloist in 2010, and conducted the world premiere of Yasuhioko Fukuoka’s Journey of a Thousand Miles in 2012; the world premiere of Steve Margoshes’ Symphony Dance from Fame-The Musical, as well as the U.S. premiere of Shui-Long Ma’s Searching Concerto for Gu-Zheng and Orchestra with Hao-Yin Huang as Gu-Zheng soloist in 2013; and the U.S. premiere of Fu-Tong Wong’s Symphony Condor Hero in 2014.

Mr. Chung has long believed that music has the power to transform lives, to transcend cultures and languages and to bring people together in important and lasting ways. It is for this reason that he dedicates his life toward inspiring a new generation of young musicians to pursue their dreams through the challenging and life-changing process of music education.

New York–raised trumpeter Lovell Park Chang holds a bachelor’s degree from the Manhattan School of Music and is currently pursuing a dual degree program in master’s of music and master of education from Manhattan School of Music. Some of his most recent accomplishments include getting accepted by Teachers College at Columbia University, organizing a spring recital, and winning the Fuchs Competition for Chamber Music. He was the recipient of the Carmine Caruso Scholarship in 2012.

Since 2002, Mr. Chang performs annually with Youth Orchestra CYCNY at a variety of performance spaces, including Cardozo High School, Silvercrest Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation, and Alice Tully Hall. One of his latest performances with the orchestra included traveling to Japan and Taiwan. His music studies began at age three, initially on the piano, and subsequently took private lessons on a number of other instruments including violin, clarinet, flute, cello, trombone, and oboe. Academically, he attended Stuyvesant High School while attending the pre-college division at Manhattan School of Music majoring in piano and eventually the trumpet. Mr. Chang is currently taking trumpet lessons with Thomas V. Smith of the New York Philharmonic and previously studied with Vincent Penzarella, a retired member of the New York Philharmonic.
Composers Fu-Tong Wong (b. 1948) was born in 1948 in Guangdong Province, China. He received professional musical training at an early age in Guangzhou and has had firsthand experience with China’s Cultural Revolution and Down to the Countryside Movement. In the early 1970s, Mr. Wong managed to arrive in New York City through Macau and then Hong Kong. With professor Ma Si-Hong’s recognition and assistance, he entered Kent State University, Ohio, and received his master’s in violin performance in 1978. In 1983 Mr. Wong was recruited from United States to Taiwan to become a faculty member at the National Taiwan University of Arts (now Taipei University of Arts). He continued devoting himself in the areas of teaching as a music professor until retiring in 2013 from Tainan University of Technology. Aside from teaching at school, Mr. Wong spent his time composing, writing, creating violin teaching materials, and recording his works with world-renown artists.

Notable students of Mr. Wong’s include the concertmaster of Taipei Symphony Orchestra, Wei-Zhong Chiang; music director of Philharmonic Moment, Jing-Po Chiang; music department chair of Taichung University of Education, Nicole Hsu; and PhD.s in music Yu-Yu Zhu, Yu-Chi Wong, and Lin-Ya Su, among others. Mr. Wong also spent 20 years creating a teaching system targeting amateur violin students and lovers. The 12 volumes he wrote have successfully trained numerous entry-level violin students and educators alike into capable players and teachers. In recent years, there have been several research and PhD. theses written about Mr. Wong’s violin teaching method. As a prolific writer he published many books on violin playing and teaching as well, such as Discussing Violin and Music, Teaching how to teach, learning how to teach, The study and practice of violin group-teaching, String orchestra training, Thesis and Essays on violin teaching, Violin scale system, Wong’s music theory, and Wong’s Essays, among others.

Over the years Mr. Wong has composed the four-acts opera Xi-Shi, Symphony Condor Heroes, Rhapsody of Taiwan, Variations on the Theme of Hoyahue, the symphonic chorus Heart Sutra, and many others. His works have been performed in several countries and warmed the hearts of many, in addition to receiving critical acclaim. The list of Mr. Wong’s CD includes the story of the Symphony Condor Heroes. Mr. Wong has said the following:

38 years ago, when I was in graduate school in America, a classmate from Taiwan lent me a 36 volume novel titled The Condor Heroes. This was my first time reading Jin Yong’s martial arts novel and I was immediately mesmerized. At that time I made a momentous vow, which was so much bigger than what I was actually capable of. I vowed that within my lifetime, I would write a symphony for this novel.

To make a vow is easy, but to realize it can be difficult. I did not major in composition, and I never learned any techniques required for composing.

However, the vow gave me tremendous motivation. Therefore, after receiving my master’s degree in violin performance, I started from scratch at age 30, and become the pupil of composition masters, and learned the lessons required for composing, especially counterpoint.
So just like that, after studying for 10 years, I felt confident enough that I started composing. After finishing the first draft, it was rehearsed, edited, premiered, edited again, performed, and edited even more. It might have broken the world record for longest time required to finish writing a musical piece.

Most recently, I picked up the conducting baton and performed several Symphony Condor Heroes concerts. Orchestras I had worked with include Shenzhen Symphony Orchestra, Guangzhou Symphony Orchestra, Hunan Symphony Orchestra, and State Youth Orchestra of Armenia (SYOA). My dream is to collaborate with orchestras all over the world and perform 100 concerts of Symphony Condor Heroes within my lifetime.

Tyzen Hsiao, Composer

Tyzen Hsiao (1938–2015), a Taiwanese-American composer of the neo-Romantic school, many of his vocal works set poems written in Taiwanese, the mother tongue of the majority of the island’s residents. His compositions stand as a musical manifestation of the Taiwanese literature movement that revitalized the island’s literary and performing arts in the 1970s and 1980s. Mr. Hsiao’s career in music included additional success as a pianist and conductor.

His rich tonal style earned him an international reputation as “Taiwan’s Rachmaninoff.” His compositions include works for solo instruments and chamber ensembles, many works for solo voice, and large-scale pieces for orchestras and choirs with soloists. Mr. Hsiao’s art songs have become standard repertory in Taiwan. “Taiwan the Formosa” or “Taiwan Evergreen” has achieved status as the Taiwan’s unofficial national anthem. The song appears as well in the 1947 Overture. Other well-known art songs include “The Fairest Flower”; “Eternal Hometown,” a Taiwanese-language setting of Psalm 23; and “I Love Taiwan.” He has also won acclaim for his folk-song settings, such as “Brother Andon Goes to Market” and “The Grasshopper and the Rooster.” Many of Mr. Hsiao’s songs also exist in orchestral song versions.

Mr. Hsiao’s chamber music includes works for piano four hands, string quartets, piano quintets. The art songs formed the basis of serenades for solo violin and piano as well as other chamber combinations. His music for solo piano was less well-known in Taiwan until performances by Lina Yeh and others began to bring this repertoire into prominence around the turn of the millennium. Works for solo piano include suites, multi-movement “poetic echoes,” études, toccatas, and instrumental settings of art songs and hymns. Mr. Hsiao remarked in his comments for the recording Memories of Home: “For me it is more than a musical instrument. Introduced to me by my Japanese-educated mother, it has become my guide, my companion for life, my most beloved instrument.”

He has credited Rachmaninoff, Bartók and Frédéric Chopin as important influences on his style, along with Presbyterian hymnody and, above all, Taiwanese folk music. Mr. Hsiao’s fusion of Taiwanese and international music traditions has influenced a number of Taiwanese composers. Enthusiasm for his music runs particularly strong at institutions where Mr. Hsiao has served in the past as a teacher, such as the
Lincoln Center

National Taiwan Normal University, the Tainan University of Technology and the National Kaohsiung Normal University. Hsiao’s compositions have been the subject of graduate research at the National Sun Yat-sen University in his hometown of Kaohsiung, the Florida State University in Tallahassee (USA), and other institutions.

Youth Orchestra

VIOLIN I
Katerina Jou***
Kimberly Huang***+
Melody Chen+
Gwendolyn Shaffer
Arthur Stewart
Tina Zhao
Sara Mui
Stephanie Tsai
Lily Jin

VIOLIN II
Julien Cheng*
Kayla Guo
James Tsai
Mia Hung
Toby Ou
Justin Lang
Rebecca Arellano
Chris Song
Richie Sun

VIOLA
Kenneth Tan*
Kevin Tan
Christina Tsai
Tony Huang

CELLO
Kevin Zhang*
Alexis Weng
Sean He
Joshua Chou
Anne Zhang
Dylan Guo

DOUBLE BASS
Katie Tan*+
Bonnie Chen

FLUTE I
Genji Noguchi*+
Carol Wang
Feng-Chen Chiu+

FLUTE II
Summer Jing*
Holly Chen+
Denise Peng

PICCOLO
Genji Noguchi

OBUE
Spencer Poon*++
Ana Isabel Ayala

CLARINET
Akari Yamamoto*
Sara Aratake

BASSOON
Susanne Chen*
Shotaro Mori

SAXOPHONE
Anderson Gu*
Austin Zhao

FRENCH HORN
Brandon Lin*
Ethan Lin
Mike Sayre

TRUMPET
David Pin-Yi Lin*
Adrian Louie
Alia Codelia-Anjum
Alexander Liu
Lovell Chang

TROMBONE
Daniel Xu*
Alfredo Marques
Ching-Min Chang

TUBA
Becca Patterson

PERCUSSION
Amber Chen*
Lillian Kwong
Ryan Kwong
Minhye Ju

TIMPANI
Chi-Ching Grace Lin

PIANO
Chiwei Chang

FACULTY
Chijen Christopher Chung, Conductor & Strings
Lovell P. Chang, Winds & Brass
Chi-Ching Grace Lin, Percussion
Chiwei Chang, Piano

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