

Melanie Riordan, violin

Professional Performance Certificate Recital Thursday, December 12, 2019

2019-2020 Season

Melanie Riordan, violin Sheng-Yuan Kuan, piano

Thursday, December 12, 7:30 p.m. Snyder Sanctuary

Program

Tango Etude No. 3

Astor Piazzolla (1921 – 1992)

Sonata No. 2 in A Major Allegro amabile Andante tranquillo – Vivace Allegretto grazioso Johannes Brahms (1833 – 1897)

INTERMISSION

Partita No. 2 in d minor Sarabande Gique Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 – 1750)

Fratres

Arvo Pärt (b. 1935)

Rêve d'Enfant

Eugéne Ysaÿe (1858 – 1931)

Please silence or turn off all electronic devices, including cell phones, beepers, and watch alarms.

Unauthorized recording or photography is strictly prohibited.

Violinist Melanie Riordan is a unique performer and passionate educator based in South Florida. A champion of contemporary classical music, Ms. Riordan has premiered dozens of works throughout the United States, Canada and Europe. In 2018, she made her New York City debut as a winner of the Lyric Chamber Music Society's chamber music competition, performing Olivier Messiaen's iconic masterpiece "La Quatour Pour la Fin du Temps" at the Kosciusko Foundation. This past season included performances of Alban Berg's haunting violin concerto with the Lynn Conservatory Philharmonia as the winner of its annual concerto competition. Melanie recently completed a three-week residency at Mass MOCA as a fellow at the Bang on a Can festival where she worked with composers David Lang and Annie Gosfield, and pianist Michael Riesman. Some particularly inspiring projects include performing in the American premiers of operas by Kaija Saariaho, Philip Glass, and Marty Regan at the Spoleto Festival USA and Houston Grand Opera. She has collaborated closely with Véronique Lacroix, Artistic Director of L'Ensemble Contemporain de Montréal, as well as members of contemporary ensembles Eighth Blackbird and the Bang on a Can All-Stars. As a member of the Lucerne Festival Academy and Alumni Ensemble in Switzerland she has performed with artists Matthias Pintscher, Peter Eötvös, Sir George Benjamin, Sir Simon Rattle and Riccardo Chailly. A versatile musician, Melanie has regularly performed with the Houston Baroque ensembles Mercury and Ars Lyrica. She has also enjoyed opportunities to perform pop music with artists such as Andrea Bocelli, Ledisi, and Michael Bublé and folk music at the Austin City Limits music festival in Austin, Texas. As an educator, Melanie is passionate about using music as a way to uplift children in underserved communities. She believes that music has the power to change a child's life for the better and that all children should be given the opportunity to experience joy through learning music. She was one of the first educators to launch the Houston Youth Symphony Coda Music program and has been a quest instructor for Sistemang Pilipino in Cebu City, Philippines. Both programs are inspired by the famed Venezuelan music program "El Sistema", providing free music education to underprivileged children. In Florida she has taught for the Miami Music Project and the Nat King Cole "Generation Hope" music camp. She has received her pedagogical training from Mimi Zweig and Brenda Brenner at Indiana University and her Suzuki Violin Method registration under the guidance of Charles Krigbaum at the Dallas-Fort Worth Suzuki institute. She currently teaches private violin lessons to students throughout Broward and Palm Beach Counties. Ms. Riordan began playing the violin at the age of ten in her hometown of New Rochelle, NY. She received her BFA from Carnegie Mellon University and her Masters in Music from McGill University. Her teachers include Cyrus Forough, Jonathan Crow and Kirsten Yon. Melanie is currently pursuing a Professional Performers Certificate at the Lynn Conservatory of Music under the guidance of Professor Carol Cole.

Praised for her "admirable technical finesse and expressive flair" (*Baltimore Sun*), pianist **Sheng-Yuan Kuan** has garnered enthusiastic receptions for her solo and chamber music performances at the Kennedy Center, Weill Recital Hall, Taiwan National Concert Hall, Musikverein in Vienna, and various music festivals and concert series throughout the US. Sheng-Yuan's collaborations with renowned musicians such as Nobuko Imai, Stefan Jackiw, Stephen Taylor, Espen Lilleslatten, Richard Stolzman, Keng-Yuen Tseng, Chad Hoopes, members of the Parker Quartet and Apollo Trio, Sir Angel Romero, Time for Three, and Latin Grammy Award winning flautist Nestor Torres, reflect her passion in making chamber music of eclectic styles. Born in Taipei, Taiwan, Sheng-Yuan relocated to America to further her music education. She holds a D.M.A. degree from the Peabody Conservatory, M.M. degree from Yale School of Music, and B.M. degree from the Manhattan School of Music, studying with famous pedagogues like Boris Slutsky, Peter Frankl, Scott McCarrey and Constance Keene. She serves as piano faculty at the Heifetz International Music Institute as well as staff collaborative pianist and adjunct keyboard instructor at Lynn University Conservatory of Music in Boca Raton, FL.



Welcome to the 2019-2020 season which marks the 20th Anniversary of the Lynn Conservatory of Music. As we celebrate our twenty years of making music we also celebrate the generosity of Elaine J. Wold who has challenged us to raise \$500,000 in new endowment donations this year. She will match all your gifts up to \$500,000. This gift ensures our place among the premier conservatories of the world and a staple of our community. We look forward to seeing you at many of the anniversary concerts and events planned for this year as the talent students, successful alumni and extraordinary faculty of the Lynn Conservatory share with you the beautiful world of music. - Jon Robertson, dean

There are a number of ways by which you can help us fulfill our mission:

Friends of the Conservatory of Music

Lynn University's Friends of the Conservatory of Music is a volunteer organization that supports high-quality music education through fundraising and community outreach. Raising more than \$4 million since 2003, the Friends support Lynn's effort to provide free tuition scholarships and room and board to all Conservatory of Music students. The group also raises money for the Dean's Discretionary Fund, which supports the immediate needs of the university's music performance students. This is accomplished through annual gifts and special events, such as outreach concerts and the annual Gingerbread Holiday Concert.

To learn more about joining the Friends and its many benefits, such as complimentary concert admission, visit Give.lynn.edu/support-music.

The Leadership Society of Lynn University

The Leadership Society is the premier annual giving society for donors who are committed to ensuring a standard of excellence at Lynn for all students. Leadership Society donors make an annual gift of \$2,500 or more and have the option of directing their gift to support the Conservatory of Music. Leadership Society donors receive invitations to exclusive events throughout the year that offer opportunities to engage with other Leadership Society donors and university administrators.

Planned Giving

Planned gifts provide important support for the future of Lynn University, its colleges and programs. Your legacy lives on at Lynn University in perpetuity - various options include, but are not limited to, bequests by will, charitable gift annuities and life insurance.

Your contribution to the Conservatory is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. For additional information, please contact Lisa Miller at 561-237-7745.

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