

PROGRAM

Jacques Ibert (1890 - 1962)

Concertino da Camera

Allegro con moto

Larghetto - Animato molto

Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873 - 1943); arr. Ashu

Andante from Sonata, Op. 19

Heitor Villa-Lobos (1887 - 1959)

Fantasia for soprano saxophone and piano

Animé

Lent-

Trés animé

Paul Creston (1906 - 1985)

Sonata, Op.19 for alto saxophone and piano

With tranquility

With gaiety

Intermission

Astor Piazzolla (1921 - 1992); arr. Ashu

Three tangos, arranged for soprano saxophone and piano

To be announced from the stage

Ennio Morricone (1928 -); arr. Ashu

Italian Film Suite

Jules Demersseman (1833 - 1866)

Fantaisie sur un Thème Orginial for alto saxophone and piano

FEATURING

Ashu, saxophone

Ashu continually defies conventions by winning major international awards and competitions traditionally won by pianists and violinists. He made his recital debut at Carnegie Hall and, at age 16, made his concerto debut at DAR Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C. Since then, Ashu's performances have taken him throughout the world.

His recent recital engagements include the Ravinia Festival, Kravis Center, Strathmore, Zurich Tonhalle, La Jolla Music Society, Dumbarton Oaks and more. With a growing demand as soloist with major orchestras, Ashu's recent concerto engagements have taken place at Carnegie Hall, NY Central Park, Vienna Konzerthaus, Cape Town City Hall, and St. Petersburg's Hermitage, and with such orchestras as the Vienna Chamber Orchestra, Edmonton Symphony, St. Petersburg Chamber Philharmonic, Montreal Chamber Orchestra, Cape Town Philharmonic, Metropolitan Orchestra of Lisbon, Lapland Chamber Orchestra, and Tallinn Philharmonic Society.

Ashu was recently selected as the winner of the prestigious "Audience Prize" at the renowned International Musical Olympus Festival in St. Petersburg, Russia. Ashu has previously won First Prizes at competitions including the International Heida Hermanns Competition, Houston Symphony Concerto Competition, International Salon De Virtuosi Career Grant, International Kingsville Wind Instrumentalist, American Opera Society, National Midland-Odessa, National Lennox/RSO, National Federation of Music Clubs, National George S. Howard, National Alliance for Excellence, Northwestern University Concerto, and Houston Symphony Flores-Smith competitions. He has also been featured in interview and solo performance on NBC, CBS, NPR, and numerous other live TV and radio broadcasts worldwide.

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Pianist Kuang-Hao Huang has performed as soloist and chamber musician throughout the United States, Europe and Asia. He is most often heard as a collaborator performing with Chicago's top musicians, from instrumentalists of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra to singers with the Lyric Opera. He has also performed with the Avalon, Chicago, Spektral, and Vermeer String Quartets, as well as the Chicago Chamber Musicians. An advocate of new music, Huang gave the world premiere performances of two solo works at Weill Hall as part of Carnegie Hall's Millennium Piano Book Project. He is also a member of Fulcrum Point New Music Project, has been involved with the Chicago Chamber Musicians Composer Perspectives series, and has played with MusicNOW and CUBE Ensemble. Huang serves on the faculties of the Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University and Concordia University-Chicago. Prior, he coordinated the piano program at Northwestern University's National High School Music Institute.

Program and personnel subject to change.

As a courtesy to the artists, please remain seated until they have left the hall.