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Mr. Avers performance was made possible with funding from the "FOND FOR UTØVENDE KUNSTNERE" in Norway.

Thursday, March 11, 2010
6:30 p.m.

"Les Frères Méduses"

Randall Avers and Benoît Albert, guitars

"A Light, Dry Table Wine" from
12 Silly Songs for 12 Silly Strings

Avers/Vamos

"L'ego Land"

Albert/Laborde

"Anniversary Song" from
12 Silly Songs for 12 Silly Strings

Avers/Vamos

Tango Suite

Astor Piazzolla

I. Deciso

II. Andante

III. Allegro

"Noise"

Avers/Albert

Micro Piezas

Leo Brouwer

I. Tranquilo

II. Allegro Vivace

III. Vivacissimo muy Ritmico

IV. Sonoro

"No Feathers on This Frog"

Dusan Bogdanovic



Randall Avers, Guitar

Sergio Assad calls Avers “one of the most impressive artists I have come across in recent years”, and the prominent Egyptian playwright Mohammed Salmawy wrote “he pours his heart into his performance without ever losing control...I have never heard such a perfect balance between technical perfection and artistic expression.”

Randall Avers began studying guitar at age six and gave his first solo recital at the Gazzetta Recital Hall in Akron, Ohio at age 13. During his high school years at Walnut Hill School for the Arts, he was selected to compete in the GFA International Competition placing second and becoming the youngest finalist to date.

Since then, Avers has performed in festivals and music series throughout the US, Canada, Mexico, France, Norway, and Sweden. By invitation of the United States Information Service he toured North Africa and Egypt as an Artistic Ambassador.

He has received awards from numerous international competitions that include the Yamaha Music France Competition and the Concours Internationale de Guitare Rene Bartoli. Over the past several year, he adjudicated for the GFA, Aaron Brock Competition (Canada), Culiacan Competition (Mexico), and a number of regional/national competitions. He is a frequent performing artist/educator at the Classical Minds Festival in Houston.

Currently, Avers resides in Norway and teaches guitar at the Røyken Videregående Stienerskole. He performs regularly as a soloist and in the duo “les Frères Méduses” with French guitarist Benoît Albert. “Les Frères” released their first recording this year entitled “Ten Years After...” Avers has released two solo guitar recordings: Vistas (North and South American music) and Puerto Viejo (Music of Spain).

Randal AVERS a réalisé deux album solo, Vista (musique des Amériques) et Puerto Viejo (musique Espagnole).



Benoît Albert, Guitar

Benoît Albert has performed regularly as a soloist and chamber musician on the international stage, from Venezuela to Malaysia. Over the years, he has collaborated with a broad spectrum of artists: Classical guitarist Randall Avers, Fingerstyle guitarist Christian Laborde, luthiste René Vayssières, danseurs Laurène Albert and Pierre-Michaël Faure, painter

Paul Storey and “graveur” Pierre Cambon.

He acts as the artistic director of the music/dance/graphic arts ensemble “La Compagnie des Arts” that has released two recordings: “l’histoire du tango” (2004) and “Detour” (2009), a recording comprised entirely of Albert’s compositions for the Ensemble.

He has commissioned and premiered works by Atanas Ourkouzounov, Thierry Avers/Vamos Rougier and J. Ballue and has works published by Delatour-France.

Albert is a graduate from the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse de Paris in 1999 earning a 1st prize in both Solo and Chamber music. He teaches at l’Ecole Nationale de Musique et de Danse de la ville d’Agen.



Gloria Chien, Piano

Pianist Gloria Chien has been picked by the *Boston Globe* as one of the Superior Pianists of the year, “... who appears to excel in everything.” Richard Dyer praises her for “a wondrously rich palette of colors, which she mixes with dashing bravado and with an uncanny precision of calibration...Chien’s performance had it all, and it was fabulous.”

Gloria made her orchestral debut at the age of 16 with the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Since then, she has appeared as a soloist under the batons of Sergiu Comissiona, Keith Lockhart, Thomas Dausgaard, Irwin Hoffman, Benjamin Zander, Robert Bernhardt and Felix Chen. She is a prize winner of the World Piano Competition, Harvard Musical Association Award, as well as the San Antonio International Piano Competition, where she also received the prize for the Best Performance of the Commissioned Work. Gloria has presented solo recitals at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Harvard Musical Association, Sanibel Musical Festival, Caramoor Musical Festival, Salle Cortot in Paris, and the National Concert Hall in Taiwan.

An avid chamber musician, Gloria has been the resident pianist with the Chameleon Arts Ensemble of Boston since 2000, a group known for its versatility and commitment to new music. Boston Herald praises her for “[playing] phenomenally.” Her recent CD with violinist, Joanna Kurkiewicz, featuring music of Grazyna Bacewicz was released on Chandos Records. The *International Record Review* writes, “[the violinist] could ask for no more sensitive or supportive an accompanist than Gloria Chien.” *Harmonie Magazine* writes, “...but it would be unfair not to mention the pianist, who is accompanying the soloist in an absolutely responsive, impressive and confident way. She is more than an accompanist --- rather, she is an equivalent partner to the soloist.” The *Strad* praises her for “super performances...accompanied with great character.” She also received fantastic reviews in Gramophone, American Record Guide, and Muzzyka 21. Gloria has participated in such festivals as Music Academy of the West, Verbier Music Festival and Music@Menlo, where was recently appointed leader of the Chamber Music Institute by Artistic Directors David Finckel and Wu Han.

Her recent performances include collaborations with the Daedalus String Quartet, Jupiter String Quartet, Wu Han, Marc Johnson, Paul Neubauer, Andres Diaz, David Shifrin, Ani Kavian, Ida Kavian, Nai-Yuan Hu, Bion Tsang, Catherine Cho, Soovin Kim, Carolin Widmann, Erin Keefe, Arnaud Sussmann, Edward Arron and Anthony McGill. Her Beethoven Violin Sonatas Cycle with violinist, James Buswell has been featured live on Boston’s WGBH. In the fall of 2004, Gloria was named Assistant Professor of Music at the Lee University in Cleveland, TN.

In fall of 2009, Gloria will launch String Theory at the Hunter, a chamber music series at the Hunter Museum of American Art in downtown Chattanooga, as its founder and artistic director.

Gloria began playing the piano at the age of five in her native Taiwan. She has a doctor of musical arts, a master’s and an undergraduate degree from the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston. Her teachers have included Russell Sherman and Wha-Kyung Byun.

Gloria is a Steinway Artist.



UPCOMING CONCERT AND TICKET/SUPPORT INFORMATION

Thursday, April 8, 2010, 6:30 p.m.

Nai-Yuan Hu, violin; Erin Keefe, violin;
Scott Lee, viola; Edward Arron, cello; Gloria Chien, piano
Works by Fauré and Franck

Ticket/Reservation Information

By Phone: 423-267-0968

Online: www.huntermuseum.org/learn/string-theory

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To learn more about making your tax-deductible contribution, contact Dr. Jerome Hammond at 423.614.8310 or jhammond@leeuniversity.edu. Please make your gifts payable to Lee University, with *String Theory* written in the memo.

Lee University
Office of University Relations
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