

University of Rochester Symphony Orchestra

presents

MIDNIGHT SUN

featuring

Concerto Competition Winner April Wang

with music from

Shostakovich • Prieto • Sibelius



Friday, Feb. 28 • 8PM • Strong Auditorium

Free Admission • All Are Welcome!



Welcome Back!

To Strong Auditorium, the concert home of the University of Rochester Orchestras. Our program this evening explores a Finnish National tone poem, a small scale Spanish symphony via Mexico, and some explosive talent from right here on campus, first written for a father and son concert team.

Jean Sibelius wrote Finlandia originally as part of a political protest. Composed in honor of the Finnish Press Pension Gala in 1899, it supported what has been called by author Betsy Schwarm a “thinly veiled rally in support of freedom of the Finnish press, then largely controlled by tsarist Russia.” The work’s worldwide popularity since its premiere, in kind with current conditions, makes our presentation of the work particularly significant this evening.

Like many active composers whose lives spanned the bulk of the 20th century, oftentimes their popularity inexplicably dies with them. This is particularly the case in the music of María Teresa Prieto, a Spanish composer who spent a great deal of time in Mexico. The lyricism of the work is present throughout, as is a puckish sense of humour, and a willingness to exploit ensemble minutia for some exquisite details and effects. We are pleased to make the New York premiere of this work tonight.

We conclude our concert with UR Concerto Winner, April Wang, and her performance of the second piano concerto by Dmitri Shostakovich. The work premiered almost exactly sixty-eight years ago with the elder Shostakovich conducting the orchestra of the Moscow Conservatory with his son Maxim, as the featured soloist. The music remains as fresh, vital, sentimentally beautiful, and playful as any of Shostakovich’s works and we are delighted to be able to feature April’s performance tonight along with the exceptional student, faculty, staff, and UR community members that make up this extraordinary ensemble.

Once again, Welcome!



Mark Powell, DMA
Senior Lecturer in Music
Director of Orchestral Activities

Special Thanks

**Arthur Satz Musiikkiosaston
Tuotantopäällikkö**

James Warlick

Strong Auditorion Päällikkö

Mathew Reese

Satz Musiikkiosasto Hallintopäällikkö

Sara Rembert

URCO Music Technicians

Logan Cuda

Jacob Rose

Michael George

Angel Paz

Dominic Collins

Shea Thorpe

Millicent Hawkins

Head Orchestra Librarian

Ellis Siepel

URCO Music Librarians

Joshua Daniels

Joey Stempien

Joshua Chou

UR Orchestra Committee Chairs

Ashlynnne Xavier

Grace Widjaja

PROGRAM

Finlandia, Op. 26

Jean Sibelius (1865-1957)

Sinfonia Breve, Op. 3a

María Teresa Prieto (1896-1982)

I Allegro Moderato

II Andante espressivo

III Allegro

Piano Concerto No. 2, Op. 102

Dmtri Shostakovich (1906-1975)

I Allegro

II Andante

III Allegro

April Wang

2024 Concerto Competition Winner

April Wang, class of 2026, studies optics at the University of Rochester. In addition to piano, she plays French horn in the River Campus Wind Symphony, keyboard and drums in No Jackets Required, and keyboard in the Off Broadway On Campus Pit Orchestra. She started learning Shostakovich's second piano concerto because as a small child, she watched Fantasia 2000 and wanted to play that music. It is a dream come true to finally perform 12 years after making that wish!



URSO Personnel

Principal positions for the ensemble rotate throughout the season

Flute
Laura Smoller (and picc)
Emily Kay
Ahani Murthy
Jessie Talasco
Qike Jiang (and picc)

Oboe
Amy Marron
Kathleen Holt
Danica Kim
MJ Keller

English Horn
Kathleen Holt

Clarinet
Steve Lurie
Joshua Daniels
Hanyue Deria Deng
Prital Prabhu
Joey Stempien
Aaron Do

Bass Clarinet
Joey Stempien

Bassoon
Pilar Boucher
Michele Di Franco

Horn
Noah Stefancik
Eleanor Harrison
Steve Landgren
Lori Osgood
Ethan Hess
Naomi Ruetz
Miho Sunada

Trumpet
Millie Hawkins
Jackson Gerew
Justin Lloyd
Jonathan Pulido

Trombone
Louis Osgood
Sicheng Qian
Tyler Liao
Angel Paz (B)

Tuba
Travis Brown

Timpany
Adam Joslyn
Percussion
Katie Ormsbee
Li Zhou

Keyboards
Aminya Suwannatat

Violin I
Killian Simonson
Joshua Chou
Natalie Opdahl
Cordelia March
Yechan Cho
Reuben Epstein
Antonia Hrynio
Suzanna Rainbolt
Abigail Wilson
Vivian Chen

Violin II
Logan Reid
Leah Noack
John Hui
Miranda Stewart
Yuki Inagaki
Emma Hilger
Alli Love
Hilarie Ring Lawlor
Leon Zong
Vanessa Perez Capcha
Ryan Garber
Victoria Wang
Ellen Konar
Cloud Xiao

Viola
Kaitlyn McIntosh
Keiko Vann
Grace Widjaja
Taylor Speas
Ellis Siepel
Isaac Chen
Ashlynnne Xavier
Julia Sun
Alaina Towne
Amy Grove
Louisa Van Rompay
Isabel Humphreys

Cello
Sarah Smith
Jayvyn Zachariah
Connor Hewson
Chloe Epstein

Bass
Tom Seketa
Sabina Hege
Nikash Gajate