# The Juilliard School presents

# ChamberFest 2024

Thursday, January 18, 2024, 4:30pm Morse Hall

# BARTÓK Sonata for Two Pianos and Percussion, Sz. 110

#### Boldizsár Kovács

Boldizsár Kovács, a percussionist from Hungary, is studying with Markus Rhoten and Greg Zuber as a third-year undergraduate at Juilliard. As an orchestral musician, he has performed at concert halls including Carnegie Hall, the Concertgebouw, and the Kölner Philharmonie while working with conductors including Manfred Honeck, Daniel Harding, and John Adams. With a special interest in contemporary chamber music, Kovács has been involved in numerous projects ranging from premiering new pieces to performing important works of the 20th and 21st centuries. He has also had the chance to perform with the Amadinda Percussion Group on several concerts at the Liszt Academy and the Palace of Arts in Budapest.

Jerome L. Greene Fellowship

# Ning Tie

Ning Tie, a first-year undergraduate at Juilliard, has been studying percussion and piano since he was 8. In 2014, he was invited to perform at the 31st Shanghai Spring International Music Festival and held his first recital. The following year, he performed with the Hangzhou Philharmonic Orchestra, and won the first Tokyo International Percussion Competition. From 2013 to 2017, Tie won multiple first places at the China National Youth Percussion Competition. In 2016, he received a merit scholarship in the 11th China National Youth Percussion Competition. In 2018, he won prizes in all three percussion categories (marimba, snare drum, and timpani) in the NYU International Percussion Competition and won the Bamberg International Marimba Competition. Tie also won Juilliard's Pre-College concerto competition.

Alice Madge Middleton Scholarship; Edith A. Sagul Scholarship

## Matthew Schultheis

Born in the Washington, D.C. area and based in New York City, Matthew Schultheis (MM '22, composition) has studied at Juilliard with Matthias Pintscher since 2020. He earned his bachelor's in composition, additionally studying piano full-time, at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. An accomplished pianist dedicated to performing new music, Schultheis has frequently premiered his own works in addition to giving recitals of music in the standard repertoire. He was a member

and frequent featured soloist of the Indiana University New Music Ensemble from 2016 to 2019. His performances as a soloist with that ensemble include Ligeti's Piano Concerto (in 2018) and the American premiere of Bernd Richard Deutsch's *Mad Dog* (in 2017). Schultheis is also active as a conductor, having directed many of his own works as well as those of his colleagues. *Celia Ascher Doctoral Fellows Fund* 

# Ruogu Wen

Ruogu Wen, who began his piano studies at age 4, is pursuing his bachelor's at Juilliard under the tutelage of Yoheved Kaplinsky. Wen has made solo and chamber music appearances in the U.S., Italy, Germany, and China. During his studies at Juilliard, he has performed with AXIOM, the Juilliard Orchestra, and the Dance Division in interdivisional collaborative projects, while also accompanying Juilliard preparatory and college students. Wen has also composed more than 30 works for solo piano and has given world premieres of his own compositions in the U.S. and China over the last six years. Wen is one of two pianists for the 60th season of Taos School of Music. *John Seregi Piano Scholarship* 

# BEETHOVEN String Quartet No. 4 in C Minor, Op.18, No. 4

# Eujene Cho

Eujene Cho, a cellist from Seoul, is pursuing her master's at Juilliard studying with Clara Minhye Kim. Cho studied at Stony Brook University and earned her bachelor's from Ewha Womans University. She has performed many concerts including her debut at the John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts as first prize and Grand Prix winner of the INPASS International Youth Competition; recitals at Staller Arts Center and Kukje Art Hall; and as orchestral soloist with Seoul Academy Ensemble and NEC Cello Ensemble at Seoul Arts Center. Cho won the Eumyoun Music and International Artist competitions. She has performed with the Stony Brook Symphony Orchestra and Deutsche Oper Berlin at Berliner Philharmonie Kammermusiksaal and performed at the Tongyeong International Music Festival. As a chamber musician, Cho participated in the Ewha Chamber Music Competition Winners Concert and Seoul Spring Chamber Music Festival.

## Jikun Qin

Jikun Qin (Pre-College '19; BM '23, viola), who made his solo recital debut at age 12, has performed in recitals around Europe, Asia, and the U.S. An active chamber musician, Qin has attended several music festivals including Curtis Summerfest, Lasalle, and NYO-China. Born in Shanxi, China, he enrolled at the Middle School Affiliated With China Conservatory at 12, then made his orchestral debut at 13. He has studied with Toby Appel and Roger Tapping at Juilliard and is now a master's student of Paul Neubauer and Molly Carr.

# Dominique Valenzuela

Violinist Dominique Valenzuela (MM '22, TJS orchestral studies) studied at The Tianjin Juilliard School with Weigang Li and Angelo Yu of the Shanghai String Quartet and Guillaume Sutre of the Ysaÿe Quartet. Valenzuela has performed in venues worldwide including Beijing's National Centre for Performing Arts, Shanghai Symphony's Jaguar Concert Hall, and Alice Tully Hall. At Juilliard, Valenzuela is under the tutelage of Joel Smirnoff.

Jerome L. Greene Fellowship

## Juchao Zhao

Juchao Zao attended the Music Middle School Affiliated With Shanghai Conservatory studying with Lei Fang, Qinglin Zhu, and Jiamin Yuan. Zao is a bachelor's student of Joel Smirnoff and Hyo Kang. In 2017, Zao was a finalist in the first Shlomo Mintz International Violin Competition. In 2018, at the eighth Washington Johnson International Youth String Competition, he earned fourth place. In the same year, he won the Yincai Program scholarship of the Shanghai Conservatory of Music. He also played at the Morningside Music Festival in r 2016, Heifetz camp in 2018, and Verbier Festival Junior Orchestra in 2019.

Nancy A. Marks Chamber Music Scholarship

## BRAHMS Clarinet Quintet in B Minor, Op. 115

### John Lee

Violinist John Lee is a first-year bachelor's candidate at Juilliard. Raised in the Chicago area and attending Vernon Hills High School, he has dedicated 13 years to studying the violin, receiving guidance from instructors Almita Vamos and Injoo Choi. At Juilliard, he studies with Masao Kawasaki. Lee's musical journey has been greatly influenced by his involvement with the Midwest Young Artists Conservatory, where he has been an integral member of the symphony orchestra and has also pursued chamber music studies, including string quartets, piano trios, and piano quintets. Lee exhibits his passion in music through his supportive family and colleagues.

Anne Akiko Meyers Scholarship

### Chris Dechant

Clarinetist Chris Dechant is a first-year undergraduate at Juilliard studying with Jon Manasse. Born and raised in Texas, Dechant began studying clarinet at age 12. Quickly developing a passion for music, he began receiving instruction from Sam Boutris and at 15 started his orchestral career in the Greater Dallas Youth Orchestra, later performing as principal clarinetist and soloist in Mozart's Clarinet Concerto. As an avid orchestral musician, Dechant is a member of the Juilliard Orchestra

and New York Youth Symphony and he has also performed with the National Youth Orchestra (NYO-USA), Greater Dallas Youth Orchestra, and Texas Music Educators Association's All-State Orchestras. He also competes in competitions, winning first prize in the International Clarinet Association's High School Solo Competition, grand prize in Silverstein Clarinet Competition, and grand prize in Greater Dallas Youth Orchestra's Concerto Competiton. Dechant has also been a finalist in the Marine Band Concerto Competiton and on NPR's From the Top as well as being a YoungArts winner.

## **Dexter Doris**

Born and raised in New York, Dexter Doris (Pre-College '23, violin) has enjoyed performing and exploring the art of music ever since he was 4. At 13, Doris began studying at Juilliard Pre-College with Ann Setzer. He has been a soloist with the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra as well as Long Island's Sound Symphony and Massapequa Philharmonic in concertos by Vieuxtemps, Saint-Saëns, and Mozart. Doris was a 2022 YoungArts winner and a 2023 guest artist on NPR's From the Top. He has also been a concertmaster and assistant principal of the Pre-College Orchestra. He is now studying for his bachelor's with Laurie Smukler, playing on a violin made by Enrico Ceruti, c. 1831.

## William Sotiriou

William Sotiriou is a third-year undergraduate violist at Juilliard studying with Carol Rodland. As a soloist, Sotirou has appeared with the Manchester Symphony Orchestra and Lincoln-Sudbury Civic Orchestra. Originally from Maynard, Massachusetts, Sotiriou was a student of Gillian Rogell at the New England Conservatory Preparatory School where he was a member of the Youth Philharmonic Orchestra and Chamber Music Intensive Performance Seminar. He is an active volunteer in his community, giving online lessons to young violists and serving as principal violist of Orchestra Without Borders to raise money for the Women's Lunch Place in Boston. In addition to his intensive academic studies, Sotiriou has spent his most recent summers at the Bowdoin International Music Festival studying with Carol Rodland and Dimitri Murrath and the Aspen Music Festival as a fellow studying with Jeffery Irvine.

Constance Goulandris Scholarship

### Mia Kim Bernard

Mia Kim Bernard is a versatile cellist pursuing her bachelor's at Juilliard under the tutelage of Astrid Schween. She is comfortable performing various styles of music as a soloist, chamber musician, and orchestra member. As a soloist, she has performed at Weill Recital Hall as the winner of national and international competitions. She has been a featured artist with numerous orchestras, including the Vermont Philharmonic, New York Chamber Players Orchestra, New Jersey City University Orchestra, Thurnauer Symphony Orchestra, and Manhattan School of Music Precollege Symphony Orchestra. This year, she will be a featured soloist with the New Amsterdam Symphony Orchestra. Soohee Kim Oh Memorial Scholarship