

Charlotte White's Salon de Virtuosi New York

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Charlotte White's Salon de Virtuosi announces its 2019-2020 Season: Opening Gala Awards Concert September 25, 2019 Kosciuszko Foundation

hosted by **Robert Sherman**, host of **WQXR's Young Artists Showcase**,
with performances by 2019 Salon de Virtuosi Career Grant Winners:
Yesong Sophie Lee, Violin / **Minami Yoshida**, Violin / **Yi-Nuo Wang**,
Piano / **Anna Han**, Piano / **Madeline Olson**, Harp

Robert Sherman, award winning American radio broadcaster, music critic and best-selling author, will host the **Salon de Virtuosi's Gala Awards Concert** on Wednesday, September 25, 2019 at 7:00 PM at **Kosciuszko Foundation**, 15 East 65th Street. The concert will feature performances by five of the Salon de Virtuosi's 2019 Career Grant winners: Yesong Sophie Lee, Violin, Minami Yoshida, Violin, Yi-Nuo Wang, Piano, Anna Han, Piano, and Madeline Olson, Harp. The Salon's sixth Career Grant Recipient, cellist Zlatomir Fung, will perform and receive his award later in the season.

Praised by such great musicians as *Gary Graffman* and *Yehudi Menuhin*, the Salon was founded in 1989 by the concert pianist **Charlotte White**, a former student of the legendary *Josef Lhevinne*. The mission of the Salon is to provide support and encouragement to the most talented emerging young musicians who are destined to become the great classical artists of tomorrow. The very first young artist presented by the Salon was an 18 year old violinist named Gil Shaham. Now entering its 31st season, the Salon has become one of New York's most generous supporters of young musical talent. Since the inauguration of its Fellowship Program in 1995, the Salon has awarded more than \$580,000 in career grants to outstanding young musicians from around the world, many of whom have gone on to international acclaim. **Mrs. White**, who led the organization for 28 years, **passed away in April, 2017**, just a few months short of her **103th Birthday**. Charlotte remained in close touch with many of the Salon's alumni, forming an extended family with close musical connections from whom there has been an outpouring of love in tribute to Charlotte.

The new Artistic Director of the Salon, pianist **Lora Tchekoratova**, holds a Doctorate from **Juilliard**. She is committed to continue Charlotte's work and to honor and preserve her legacy.

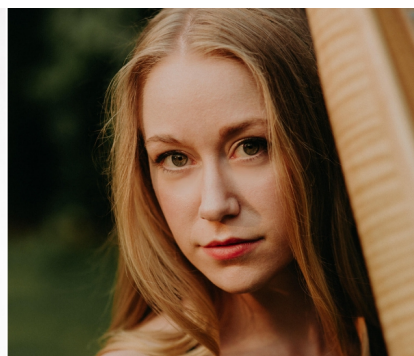
Says **Erika White**, Charlotte White's daughter and President of the Salon, "My mother's message at her 100th birthday celebration was that the secret to a long life is not a special vitamin or exercise, but to have a reason to wake up in the morning and to have a passion. The Salon was her passion, and her mind never ceased thinking up new ideas for concerts she wanted to present, exciting young musicians she wanted to introduce, and ways to impart her vivid personal experience of how music truly unites us. She shared her abundant energy and passion with her family, friends and members of the Salon, and I know her light will continue to shine on."

Program: P. I. Tchaikovsky – Melody Op.42-No.3 and Waltz Scherzo (**Minami Yoshida, Violin and Eri Kang, Piano**); Marcel Grandjany – Rhapsodie, Op.10 (**Madeline Olson, Harp**); Sergey Rachmaninoff – Piece in d minor, Daisies (F major) Op.38 No.3, Prelude in G-flat major, Op.23, No.10, Etude in d minor, Op.39, No.8, Etude in D major, Op.39, No.9 (**Yi-Nuo Wang, Piano**); Camille Saint-Saëns – Rondo Capriccioso and Fritz Kreisler – Recitativo and Scherzo (**Yesong Sophie Lee, Violin and Hiro David, Piano**); Robert Schumann – Arabeske, Op. 18 and Camille Saint-Saëns/Franz Liszt/Vladimir Horowitz – Danse Macabre (**Anna Han, Piano**)

Location: Kosciuszko Foundation, 15 East 65th Street

Tickets: From \$100 (including post-concert dinner reception). Free for members

Website: www.sdev.org **Phone number:** (646) 226-2659



Robert Sherman, Master of Ceremonies

Broadcaster, writer, teacher, and radio personality, Robert Sherman recently celebrated his 61st anniversary with Radio Station WQXR, where he is the host and producer of "The Young Artists Showcase." He also hosts the popular folk series "Woody's Children," heard weekly on New York's public radio WFUV. For more than forty years, Robert Sherman was a music critic and columnist for The New York Times, and for nearly twenty years served on the faculty of The Juilliard School. He has given seminars at Yale, the Eastman School, NYU and the Oberlin Conservatory, been a concert narrator with such esteemed ensembles as Canadian Brass, the United States Military Academy (West Point) Band and the Greenwich Symphony, and sits on the advisory boards of many major cultural organizations, serving them variously as concert host, pre-concert lecturer, competition judge, panel moderator and fund-raising emcee. Co-author of "The Smart Guide to Classical Music" and two best-selling books with Victor Borge, he also joined with his brother, Alexander Sherman, to compile a pictorial history of their celebrated mother, pianist Nadia Reisenberg. He is also president of a foundation dedicated to the preservation of Ms. Reisenberg's legacy, as well as that of her equally celebrated sister, the preeminent theremin virtuoso Clara Rockmore.

ARTISTS BIOGRAPHIES

Yesong Sophie Lee, Violin

Since winning the First Prize at the 2016 Menuhin International Junior Violin Competition in London at the age of 12, violinist Yesong Sophie Lee has performed to rave reviews and enthusiastic audiences throughout the United States and Europe. As one of the rising stars in classical music today, she has appeared as soloist with numerous top orchestras around the world, including the London Philharmonia Orchestra, Berlin's Konzerthaus Orchestra, the Orchestra of Suisse Romande, and the Seattle and Detroit symphonies.

In 2017 she was invited to replace the injured Lang Lang at the Opening Night Gala of the Richmond Symphony orchestra where she performed Bach's Double Concerto alongside the superstar violinist Joshua Bell. In addition, she has had the honor of performing for Prince Charles as part of her United Kingdom tour and in a number of prestigious festivals throughout Europe: Gstaad, Geneva, Kronberg, Warsaw as well as in all the major cities from coast to coast in the United States.

Sophie's early achievements include winning First Prize at age 11 at the 2015 Music Teachers National Association Competition and making her solo debut with the Seattle Symphony at age 8. She began studying the violin at age 4 with Jan Coleman, founder of the Coleman Violin Studio in Seattle. Since 2012 she has been studying with Simon James, the second assistant concertmaster of Seattle Symphony and renowned violin pedagogue. She feels fortunate to have worked in master classes with music luminaries, such as Mr. Shmuel Ashkenasi, Augustin Hadelich, Igor Ozim, and Ana Chumashenko.

Sophie attends Jackson High School in Mill Creek, where she enjoys her German and Science classes. Her other interests include playing chamber music, reading, and playing with her brother, Benjamin.

Minami Yoshida, Violin

Hailed for her “warm, delicate sound and sophisticated sense of phrasing” (La Scala Musicale), violinist **Minami Yoshida** is establishing herself as one of the new rising stars of the international concert stage. Minami was born in Japan and began playing the violin when she was five years old. Among the major awards she has received are 1st prize in The Music Competition of Japan in 2014, Finalist in the 11th International Jean Sibelius Violin Competition in 2015 (where she was the youngest finalist) and 3rd prize in the Concours Musical International de Montréal in 2016 (again as the youngest artist). She is also a recipient of the Masuzawa Award, the Iwatani Award, the Sumi Award, the Leucadia Award and the E.Nakamichi Award in 2014 and the Iwatani Tokiko Foundation for Youth Award and the Arion Award in 2016.

As a soloist she has performed with numerous orchestras, including Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal (garnering acclaim for her combination of a “natural performance style with a sense of scale that no other 17 year old can match”), Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra, Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra, Tokyo Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra, Tokyo Symphony Orchestra, Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra, Tokyo City Philharmonic Orchestra, Kanagawa Philharmonic Orchestra, Gunma Symphony Orchestra, Osaka Philharmonic Orchestra and the Kansai Philharmonic Orchestra. She has also been featured on TV and radio broadcasts.

She is also an avid chamber musician and a member of the Nico Quartet, which was formed at the New England Conservatory of Music in September 2018 and nominated as a 2018-2019 Honors Ensemble. Currently Minami is studying at the New England Conservatory with Miriam Fried and as a chamber music student of Nicholas Cords. She is also a full scholarship student of Koichiro Harada of the Toho School of Music (Soloist Diploma Course). Previously she studied with Yuko Washio-Iwatani, Kazuhide Isomura (chamber music) and Nobuko Yamazaki (chamber music). Minami is the recipient of scholarships from the New England Conservatory, the Toho School of Music, the Tan Family Education Foundation and the Ezo Memorial Foundation.

Yi-Nuo Wang, Piano

Chinese pianist **Yi-Nuo Wang** was selected as First Prize winner of the 2018 Concert Artists Guild International Competition, which is just the latest in a series of impressive first prize performances, along with the 2017 Wideman International Piano Competition in Louisiana. Among the many performance prizes awarded to her with these victories, she will make her New York recital debut at Carnegie Hall’s Weill Recital Hall during the 2019-20 season on the CAG Winners series.

An active performer in China, Europe and the United States, Yi-Nuo recently earned her Performer’s Diploma under the tutelage of the eminent pianist Alessio Bax at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. While at SMU, she appeared in multiple concerto performances as well as numerous recitals and chamber music concerts, including collaborations with cellist Andres Diaz and with the Escher String Quartet. Her upcoming itinerary features recitals in New York and Florida, and concerto engagements in California and Texas.

Her recent North American performances include the Northwest Florida Symphony Orchestra and the Meadows Symphony Orchestra of SMU in Dallas, and such major festivals as PianoTexas, Morningside Music Bridge in Calgary, Canada, the International Keyboard Institute & Festival in New York City, and the Chautauqua Institution.

Internationally, Yi-Nuo has been a featured soloist with the Academic Symphony Orchestra of the National Philharmonic Society of Ukraine, and the Romanian Mihail Jora Philharmonic Orchestra in Italy. She has also given numerous solo piano recitals in China—including cities such as Beijing, Qingdao, Hangzhou, Wuhan, Shenzhen, Kunming, Ningbo, and Dalian—as well as in Spain (Madrid) and Indonesia (Jakarta).

Born in Beijing, Yi-Nuo Wang began playing piano at age 4, and went on to study at both the Music Elementary and Secondary schools at the prestigious Central Conservatory of Music (CCOM) in Beijing. In the fall of 2016, she was awarded a full scholarship for her Performer's Diploma at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, and she now lives in New York while pursuing her undergraduate degree at The Juilliard School as a student of Dr. Robert McDonald.

Anna Han, Piano

Hailed by the Washington Post as “prodigiously gifted... a display of imagination, taste and pianistic firepower far beyond her years,” **Anna Han** strives to deliver heartfelt performances through a variety of classical piano repertoire. She has given solo, concerto, and chamber performances at venues such as the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Alice Tully Hall, the Phillips Collection, SubCulture, the Lied Center of Kansas, Scottsdale Center for the Arts, New World Center in Miami, and the Warsaw Philharmonic Chamber Hall in Poland. She has soloed with the Phoenix Symphony Orchestra, the Music Academy of the West Festival Orchestra, the West Valley Symphony, the Kansas Sinfonietta, the MusicaNova Symphony Orchestra, the Downtown Sinfonietta (in White Plains, New York), the Verde Valley Sinfonietta, and the Chandler Symphony Orchestra. She has given world premieres for several works, among them Michael Brown's *Suite for Piano* (2013), which she recorded for the Steinway and Sons label.

A native Arizonan, Anna began her musical journey at the East Valley Yamaha Music School at age four and started taking private piano lessons with Mr. Fei Xu at age five. She garnered a streak of international awards throughout her teenage years, including first prizes at the 2012 New York International Piano Competition, the 2011 New Orleans International Piano Competition, and 2011 and 2008 International Institute for Young Musicians Piano Competitions. In 2014, she was named a United States Presidential Scholar in the Arts. She spent her undergraduate years at the Juilliard School, where she developed a special interest in chamber music, spending four winters at Juilliard ChamberFest, two summers at the Kneisel Hall Chamber Music Festival, and one winter at the Four Season Chamber Music Festival Winter Workshop. She is a founding member of the Munin Trio, along with violinist Rebecca Benjamin and cellist Frankie Carr. Winner of the 2016 Juilliard Gina Bachauer Piano Competition, Anna is a proud recipient of a Kovner Fellowship at The Juilliard School, where she is currently pursuing her Masters' Degree under the tutelage of Dr. Robert McDonald.

Madeline Olson, Harp

Praised for her “wonderful musical sensibility”, New York-based harpist Madeline Olson is an award-winning soloist with a diverse performance history.

First prize winner at the 2017 Nippon International Harp Competition in Soka, Japan, Madeline is a laureate of numerous competitions. Winner of the 2016 Aspen Music Festival Harp Competition, the following year she was awarded the prestigious New Horizons fellowship.

Awarded first prize at the Young Artist's Harp Competition, she was a 2013 National Young Arts winner, and was featured as a Focus on Youth soloist at the 11th World Harp Congress in Vancouver. She has taken prizes at the American Harp Society National Competition and the Yvonne LaMothe Schwager Regional Competition, and has been heard as a soloist with the Modesto Symphony Orchestra, Merced Symphony, Young People's Symphony Orchestra, and Modesto Symphony Youth Orchestra.

An experienced orchestral musician, Madeline has performed with many ensembles including the Juilliard Orchestra, New World Symphony, Modesto Symphony Orchestra, and the Riverside Symphony. She has had the privilege of playing under the batons of esteemed conductors such as Michael Tilson Thomas, Thomas Adés, and Peter Oundjian. Recently, she was part of a tour with the combined Juilliard Orchestra and Sibelius Academy Orchestra directed by Esa-Pekka Salonen, giving concerts in Finland, Sweden, and the US in celebration of Finland's centenary.

Born in Tracy, California, Madeline began her musical studies on the piano at age five. After seeing her first harp performance at age eight, she fell in love with the instrument, studying under Donelle Page, Laura Porter, and Linda Wood Rollo. In 2017 she received a Bachelor of Music degree from The Juilliard School, and is currently finishing her studies there at the graduate level under Nancy Allen.

ADDITIONAL 2019-2020 SEASON CONCERTS

AUTUMN IN NEW YORK **Wednesday, November 6, 2019 at Liederkrantz Foundation**

HOLIDAY CONCERT **Thursday, December 12, 2019 at Des Artistes Apartments**

MUSICAL SOUL OF HUNGARY **Thursday, February 27, 2020 at the Hungarian Consulate**

SALUTE TO FRANCE **Monday, May 18, 2020 at the French Consulate**

EAST MEETS WEST **Wednesday, June 10, 2020 at the Consulate of India**

SPECIAL BONUS CONCERTS **Spring Song from Japan and New Year's Concert, dates TBA**

More information is available on our website

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