



fine arts chamber players
PRESENTS

2020/2021
SEASON

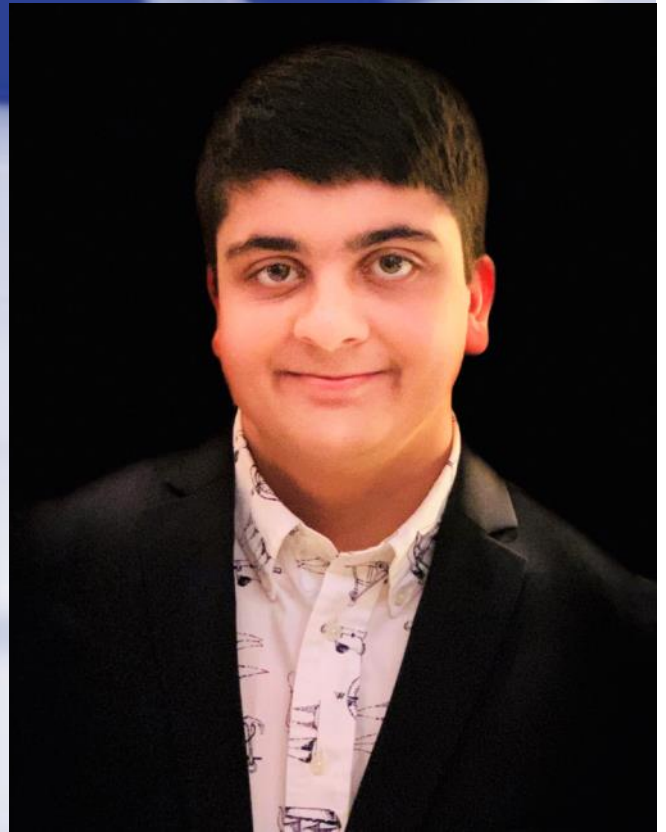
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CHARLES BARR MEMORIAL CONCERT

featuring Shiv Yajnik, *piano*



May 22, 2021 | 3 p.m. | Online



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ARTIST BIO & PROGRAM NOTES

Pianist **Shiv Yajnik** is a senior at St Mark's School of Texas in Dallas and will attend Columbia University in the fall. He studies piano with Dr. Alex McDonald and Marcy McDonald. Mr. Yajnik has studied and performed music by a diverse array of composers; he especially enjoys the music of Beethoven and Liszt. He has won top awards in competitions including the David Dubois Piano Competition, the Music Teachers National Association, and the Arthur Fraser International Piano Competition. He has performed with the Baylor Symphony and the Plano Symphony. He also composes music and studies locally with Dr. David Karp. Mr. Yajnik has composed neo-Romantic music and also enjoys experimenting with tonality. His compositions find their inspiration in nature and in his surrounding environment. He has received top awards in the National Federation of Music Clubs, and the Morton Gould Young Composers Awards sponsored by the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers. He has taken lessons with nationally and internationally renowned composers including Nicholas Landrum, Jie Wang, Daniel Ott, Jonathan Holland, Dimitri Tymoczko, Nina Young, and David Ludwig. The Fine Arts Chamber Players audience will remember he was featured as a Rising Star recitalist in the 2018 Basically Beethoven Music Festival at Moody Performance Hall where he performed his composition "Ondine" in addition to Liszt. At St. Mark's School, he is the founder of a club called Musicare, in which he and fellow musicians perform solo and chamber music around the Dallas area for senior residences and other facilities, and have fundraised for homeless shelters in North Texas during the pandemic. Music is one of young Mr. Yajnik's greatest passions; he hopes to continue to share the joy of music with others.

A Note on the Program

Welcome to the final concert of the 2021-2022 Hallam Family Concert series. In this unprecedented season, your enthusiasm and support of Fine Arts Chamber Players has made these virtual concerts possible. On behalf of all of us at FACP—thank you! Today we feature the talented pianist and composer Shiv Yajnik, a graduating senior who is off to Columbia University in the fall. I know you will enjoy his carefully curated program and his thoughtful interpretations. We are so happy to present one of Dallas's rising stars. Enjoy!

—Emily Levin, Artistic Director

About the Concert

Considered one of the most important works of Western classical music, *The Well-Tempered Clavier* by **Johann Sebastian Bach** is a set of 24 preludes and fugues that explore 12 keys in both major and minor. At the time of composition, keyboard instrument tuning was a subject of debate, as tuning each pitch to an exact frequency — called pure intonation — resulted in pitches that clashed horribly with one another. Bach supposedly tuned his harpsichords himself in a way that allowed him to travel musically to distantly related keys without a resulting cacophony in sound. This method resulted in "well-tuned" instruments, and Bach's composition highlights the versatility of his tuning.

The *Deux légendes* of **Franz Liszt** are inspired by the stories of two different saints. The first, "Saint Francis of Assisi preaching to the birds," expertly captures the twitter of birds and the solemn tones of Saint Francis. The second, "Saint Francis of Paola walking on the waves," recounts the tale of the saint's crossing the sea using his cloak as a raft. Liszt kept a painting of this account. Full of virtuosity and imagery, the two pieces were later orchestrated by the composer.

The final piece on the program is **Carl Vine's** *Piano Sonata No. 1*. A monumental modern work for the instrument, this two-movement work is an homage to the piano sonata of Elliott Carter. Michael Harvey, the pianist who premiered the piece, has this to say in the program notes:

"Drawing on the lithe beauty and contrapuntal elegance of the Elliott Carter Piano Sonata (1946), the Piano Sonata by Carl Vine is a work characterised by intense rhythmic drive and building up layers of resonance. These layers are sometimes delicate and modal, achieving a 'pointed' polyphony by the use of complex cross-rhythm, at other times being granite-like in density, creating waves of sound which propel the music irresistibly towards its climax.

"The scheme is similar to the Carter Sonata - two movements, with the slow section built into and defining the faster portions of the first movement. The second movement is based on a moto perpetuo which soon gives way to a chorale-like section, based on parallel fifths."



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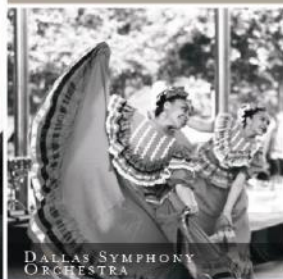
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PROGRAM

Prelude and Fugue in B-flat Minor, BWV 867

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685—1750)

Deux Legendes, S. 175

1. Saint Francis of Assisi preaching to the birds
2. Saint Francis of Paola walking on the waves

Franz Liszt
(1811—1886)

Piano Sonata No. 1 (1990)

Carl Vine
b. 1954

Shiv Yajnik, *piano*

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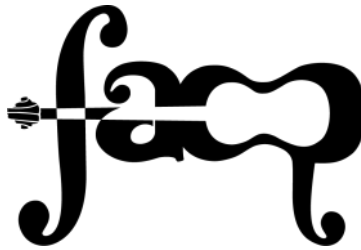
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