



90TH ANNIVERSARY

Spala

Celebrating 90 remarkable years
of innovation, access, and excellence
at the Music Institute of Chicago

Bravo!

KPMG is proud to support the Music Institute of Chicago on their 90th anniversary. We recognize the Music Institute's enduring commitment and dedication to music education and performances for people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds throughout Chicagoland. KPMG is especially proud of the Music Institute of Chicago's community outreach programs that create equitable access to music education for children from under-resourced neighborhoods.

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Welcome

Welcome to the Music Institute of Chicago's 90th Anniversary Virtual Gala! We are sorry we cannot gather in person during this milestone year, but are thrilled to know that we have friends, students and alumni watching from around the country.

For 90 incredible years, the Music Institute has provided high quality music education to children and adults of every level of experience. Since 1931, the vision of founders Dorothy and David Dushkin has grown and blossomed over time into what is now one of the largest and most respected community music schools in the country.

In any given year, more than 1,500 students of all ages study with our exceptional faculty at eight campuses in Chicago and across the North Shore. More than 15,000 visitors are welcomed to Nichols Concert Hall for performances, workshops, master classes, and lectures. Programs like Third Coast Suzuki Strings and ArtsLink are providing equitable access to music lessons for an additional 1,000 children from under-resourced neighborhoods by removing socio-economic barriers to participation.

Today we gather to raise support and awareness for this work and to establish the foundation for the Music Institute's strong and vibrant future. All funds raised through this event are helping the Music Institute nurture the next generation of talent—regardless of their means—by providing financial aid and scholarship support and by underwriting core outreach and service initiatives that extend throughout the Chicagoland area. With your help, the Music Institute is changing lives through music.

We are delighted to honor an exceptional group of individuals during this anniversary year whose contributions to music and music education are exemplary. Please read on to learn more about our 2021 Dushkin Award recipient, Maestro Zubin Mehta; our 2021 Cultural Visionary Award for Chicago recipients, Linda and Bill Gantz; and our 2021 Richard D. Colburn Award for Teaching Excellence recipients, Nina and Daniel Wallenberg.

We acknowledge with great appreciation this year's Honorary Chairs, Alexandra C. and John D. Nichols, two visionary supporters without whom the Music Institute would not be where it is today. We also thank Vice Chairs, Dr. Prema Abraham and Dr. Jim Buchanan; Sanjay and Rehka Jayaram; and Donna La Pietra and Bill Kurtis for their leadership of this year's event. Together, we are proud to present the talented student performers, alumni, and faculty who represent what the Music Institute of Chicago is capable of offering.

Finally, we are deeply grateful to the remarkable group of civic, business, and philanthropic leaders who have made contributions this year, ensuring we remain strong in our mission to instill in individuals of all ages and all backgrounds a lifelong love for music. On behalf of the entire family at the Music Institute of Chicago, thank you for joining us as we pay tribute to nine decades of innovation, access, and excellence in music education.

Sincerely yours,

Jeffrey and Christine Morse

Co-Chairs

2021 Anniversary Gala

Scott and Areta Verschoor

Co-Chairs

2021 Anniversary Gala

Program

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Scott and Areta Verschoor, Jeffrey and Christine Morse
Gala Co-Chairs

PERFORMANCE

Tambourin Chinois, Op. 3

Esme Arias-Kim, violin
Milana Pavchinskaya, piano

Fritz Kreisler (1875-1962)

OPENING REMARKS

Mark George, *President and CEO, Music Institute of Chicago*

PERFORMANCES AND AWARDS

Ecossaise

Vida Burekovic, piano

Johann Nepomuk Hummel (1778-1837)

ANNIVERSARY GREETING

Joshua Bell

Happy Birthday Violin Variations

Rachel Barton Pine, violin

Rachel Barton Pine (b.1974)

Scaramouche (Suite for two pianos)

III. Brazileira
Ashley Kim and Mark Zhu, piano

Darius Milhaud (1892-1974)

Presentation of the 2020 Cultural Visionary Award for Chicago

Helen Zell

Presentation of the 2020 Dushkin Award

Evgeny Kissin

Oboe Quartet in F Major, K. 371

III. Rondeau. Allegro
Zachary Allen, oboe
Katherine Lee, piano

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)
(arranged by Peter Hodgson)

Étude in G-sharp minor, "La Campanella"

Inna Faliks, piano

Franz Liszt (1811-1886)

ANNIVERSARY GREETING

Midori

Theme from "Witches' Dance"

Yonah Kim, cello

Niccolò Paganini (1782-1840)

Presentation of The Richard D. Colburn Award for Teaching Excellence

2020 Abraham and Arlene Stokman

2021 Daniel and Nina Wallenberg

Darshan

Maya Anjali Buchanan, violin

Reena Esmail (b. 1983)

ANNIVERSARY GREETING

Renée Fleming

Presentation of the 2021 Dushkin Award

Zubin Mehta

Banjo & Fiddle

Aiden Yu, violin

Maya Galperin, piano

William Kroll (1901-1980)

ANNIVERSARY GREETING

Wynton Marsalis

Presentation of the 2021 Cultural Visionary Award for Chicago

Linda and Bill Gantz

CLOSING REMARKS

Mark George

FINALE

String Quartet No. 6 in F minor, Op. 80

I. Allegro vivace assai

Kairos String Quartet


Joshua Brown, violin

Thompson Wang, violin

Julian Rhee, viola

Lydia Rhea, cello

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

A vintage Shure microphone and a vinyl record are the background of the entire page. The microphone is a classic Shure model, likely a 57, with a silver grille and a blue body. The vinyl record is partially visible in the upper right corner. The text is overlaid on a dark, semi-transparent background.

Shure Incorporated is proud to be the technical sponsor of the Music Institute of Chicago. 96 years ago, our founder, S.N. Shure started the company in downtown Chicago. We've grown to become a worldwide innovator in sound and audio technology and we celebrate the work MIC is doing to educate, engage, and inspire communities through the power of music.

SHURE CONGRATULATES MIC ON THEIR 90TH ANNIVERSARY

...and the extraordinary work they have done
and will continue to do in the future.

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Dushkin Award

2021 DUSHKIN AWARD

ZUBIN MEHTA

The Dushkin Award was established more than thirty years ago to honor the memory of the Music Institute's founders, Dorothy and David Dushkin. This internationally recognized award has been conferred upon some of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries' most revered and accomplished musical artists, as well as music educators and other role models for students of the Music Institute of Chicago.

Maestro **Zubin Mehta** was music director of the Israeli Philharmonic Orchestra for 50 years, becoming conductor emeritus in 2019. In 1978, he took over as music director of the New York Philharmonic, commencing a tenure of 13 years, the longest in the orchestra's history. He also served as music director of the Montreal Symphony Orchestra and the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra, and he has conducted for the Metropolitan Opera New York, Vienna State Opera, Royal Opera House Covent Garden, La Scala Milano, and the Lyric Opera of Chicago. He cultivates young musical talent worldwide as co-chairman of the Mehli Mehta Music Foundation in Bombay, with his brother Zarin, and the Buchmann-Mehta School of Music in Tel Aviv. ■



[ZUBIN MEHTA BIOGRAPHY](#)
[PAST DUSHKIN AWARDEES](#)

Cultural Visionary

2021 CULTURAL VISIONARY AWARD FOR CHICAGO

LINDA & WILBUR GANTZ



Founded in 2010, the Music Institute's Cultural Visionary Award celebrates individuals who possess the qualities that Chicago's forebears successfully used to advance the civic and cultural presence of our great city, through their commitment to: improve the quality of life for all citizens, advance a strong spirit of philanthropy, and prepare succeeding generations of citizens who will contribute their strong leadership to continue Chicago's rich legacy of civic and cultural pride.

Linda Theis Gantz and Wilbur "Bill" Gantz have generously supported the Music Institute of Chicago for nearly 30 years and previously served as Gala Vice Chairs. Bill is president of PathoCapital LLC, an investor in healthcare companies, and previously held leadership positions with several biopharmaceutical companies. He is a trustee of The Field Museum of Natural History, ending his term as Board Chair on March 15, 2021, and has served on the boards of the Brain Research Foundation, Economic Club of Chicago, and Princeton University. Linda is known for her influential philanthropic work on behalf of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago, serving on its Corporate Board and Women's Board. The couple is passionate about education and active in supporting Holy Family Ministries in Chicago's North Lawndale neighborhood. They moved to Chicago in 1975 and are proud to have raised their family here. ■

PAST CULTURAL VISIONARY AWARD FOR CHICAGO RECIPIENTS

"When you hear a five-year-old child playing a violin so beautifully and realize that they might not have had the opportunity to develop their great gift without the Music Institute, that's when you know you have found your place."—**Linda Gantz**

How lucky and fortunate we have been as a family; my parents have really shown us the world.—**Leslie Gantz McLamore**

My grandmother and my grandfather, they're the glue that hold our family together.—**Dylan McLamore**

Colburn Award

2021 THE RICHARD D. COLBURN AWARD FOR FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

NINA & DANIEL WALLENBERG

The Richard D. Colburn Award for Teaching Excellence is presented annually to faculty members of the Music Institute of Chicago who exemplify the high standard of excellence set by Richard D. Colburn in his many musical endeavors. Great teaching is what we most value at the Music Institute. The teaching of music includes instruction in technique, performance, collaboration with other musicians, and sharing one's gifts with the wider community.

The Music Institute presents its Richard D. Colburn Award for Teaching Excellence to **Nina Wallenberg and Daniel Wallenberg**. A member of the Music Institute's Suzuki cello faculty and Musikgarten® early childhood music and movement program for more than 30 years, Nina is a member of the Northbrook Symphony and was formerly principal cellist of Orquesta Sinfonica del Valle in Cali, Colombia, and the Utah Valley Symphony. She previously taught at the Rubin Academy—Community Division in Jerusalem and at Brigham Young University. Daniel, a native of Bogotá, Colombia, has been conductor of the Music Institute of Chicago Chorale since 1987. He also conducts the Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation adult and children's choirs and worked with Chicago Children's Choir's Neighborhood Choir programs in Rogers Park and Humboldt Park. He has extensive experience conducting collegiate, community, professional, and children's choral groups throughout the world and has many choral arrangements to his name. ■

AN INTERVIEW WITH NINA & DANIEL WALLENBERG

PAST RICHARD D. COLBURN AWARDEES



Twenty-Twenty

2020 DUSHKIN AWARD

EVGENY KISSIN

Russian pianist **Evgeny Kissin** made his concerto debut at age 10 and began touring internationally while still in his teens. In 1990 he made his North American debut with the New York Philharmonic under Zubin Mehta and gave the first piano recital in Carnegie Hall's centennial season. Kissin has given regular recital tours of Europe, America and Asia and has performed with leading orchestras worldwide.

Kissin is the recipient of numerous musical awards and tributes including the Shostakovich Award, one of Russia's highest musical honors (2003), an Honorary Membership of the Royal Academy of Music in London (2005), and the 2005 Herbert von Karajan Music Prize. He received an Honorary Doctorate of Music from the Manhattan School of Music in 2001 and is an honorary doctor of the Hong Kong University, the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, and the Ben Gurion University in Beer Sheba.

Kissin's recordings have contributed significantly to the library of masterpieces recorded by the world's greatest performers.



[EVGENY KISSIN BIOGRAPHY](#)

Twenty-Twenty

2020 THE RICHARD D. COLBURN AWARD FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

ARLENE AND ABRAHAM STOKMAN

Arlene and Abraham Stokman are both members of the Music Institute piano faculty—Abraham since 1991 and Arlene since 1984. Abraham attended the Juilliard School on scholarship, earning bachelor's and master's degrees. After serving as a vocal coach in Juilliard's opera department, he performed concerts throughout the U.S. and Canada. He has served as chairman of the piano department at the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago and was artist-in-residence and assistant professor at the Chicago Musical College of Roosevelt University. Arlene earned a master's degree with honors from Roosevelt University and a bachelor's degree with honors from the University of Santo Tomas Conservatory of Music in the Philippines. She has taught piano at the University of Illinois-Chicago and Sherwood Conservatory of Music and is a Suzuki Association of Americas member. Together the Stokman's have given four-hand and two piano concerts in the Chicago area. They have recorded two piano music by Howard Sandroff and Ramon Zupko for Centaur records and CRI.



2020 CULTURAL VISIONARY AWARD FOR CHICAGO

HELEN ZELL

Helen Zell is an active philanthropist and thought leader in the fields of arts and education who is passionate about music, literature, and the visual arts. She is executive director of the Zell Family Foundation, chair of the Board of Trustees of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association (CSO), and vice chairman of the Chicago Public Education Fund. Among numerous other initiatives, she led the Zell Family Foundation's underwriting of the CSO's music director position in perpetuity, now known as the Zell Music Director. Past and current board service includes Steppenwolf Theatre, the Museum of Contemporary Art, the Ounce of Prevention Fund, and Teach for America.

Gala Donors

2021 ANNIVERSARY GALA DONORS

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The Music Institute is grateful to all of the supporters who contributed at all levels to ensure our continued success.

*Listing as of May 7, 2021.

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Celebrating 90 Years

The Music Institute of Chicago is proud to celebrate ninety years of empowering people of every age and ability to listen, communicate, express, and connect through music. Since its founding, the Music Institute has served as an important community resource whose nine-decade history is highlighted by innovative teaching, inspiring performances, and a fundamental drive to ensure access to music for everyone.

On September 14, 1931, "The School of Musical Arts and Crafts" was born. From its modest beginnings as an old farmhouse on the corner of Willow and Rosewood in Winnetka, this little seed of a music school, situated in an apple orchard, grew and blossomed into what it is today: the Music Institute of Chicago.

WE ARE:

- A Community Music School serving more than 1,500 of all ages and backgrounds.
- A nationally-recognized Academy pre-conservatory training program.
- Performers and musical artists regularly on stage at Nichols Concert Hall.
- Teachers and educators reaching thousands through integrated curricula in Chicago Public Schools.
- An outstanding faculty that rivals the very best music schools around the country.
- A music community!

Although founder David Dushkin could hardly have imagined that 90 years later the Music Institute would be reaching students nationwide, we endure and flourish because his foundational words continue to ring true, **"Music is basic to life, like bread and fresh air."** ■

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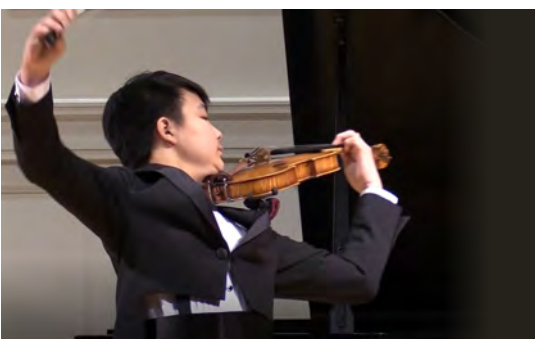
COMMUNITY MUSIC SCHOOL

The Music Institute of Chicago is one of the most respected community music schools in the nation. Offering musical excellence built on the strength of its distinguished faculty, commitment to quality, and breadth of programs and services, the Music Institute reaches thousands of students of all ages and levels of experience across eight teaching locations, through Third Coast Suzuki Strings, and through its ArtsLink partnership with Chicago Public Schools.

Zachary Allen, oboe, age 16, student of Erica Anderson

Zachary Allen is a MIC Merit Scholar, and a fellow of the Chicago Musical Pathways Initiative since 2019. He is currently the principal oboist of the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra's Symphony Orchestra.

Zachary has won a number of international competitions including the 2020 Music and Stars Awards (Gold Star), 2020 Canadian International Music Competition, 2020 Grand Prize Virtuoso International Music Competition, and 2020 Great Composers Competition (best Saint-Saëns performance). As a first prize winner in the 2020 American Fine Arts Festival, he will perform at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall next year. Most recently Zachary won the Winds and Percussion category in the 2020 Midwest Young Artists Walgreens National Concerto Competition and the Winds Division of the 2021 DePaul Concerto Festival For Young Performers. Zachary has performed in master classes for Elaine Douvas, Eugene Izotov, Alex Klein, and William Welter and will attend Interlochen Arts Camp this summer.



Aiden Yu, violin, age 12, student of Davis King

Aiden has won awards including first place in the 2019 Junior Division of the Cremona International Competition for Strings and first prize in the 2019 International Music Competition Brussels Grand Prize Virtuoso. He was a 2020 DePaul Concerto Competition strings winner and the 2020 winner of the CYSO Concerto Competition for Concert Orchestra.



Vida Burekovic, piano, age 8, student of Dr. Christina Tio

Yonah Kim, cello, age 6, student of Avi Friedlander



THE ACADEMY

The Academy of the Music Institute of Chicago is a nationally recognized training center for highly gifted pre-college pianists and string players. Each year approximately 30 young musicians ages 13-19 participate in a comprehensive program that includes private instruction with renowned faculty, chamber music, orchestra, multiple levels of music theory, regular master classes, and a variety of performance opportunities.

Esme Arias-Kim, violin

Esme Arias-Kim, 15, is an Academy Merit Scholarship Fellow and studies violin with Almita Vamos. She is also a fellow of the Chicago Musical Pathways Initiative. Esme made her solo orchestral debut at the age of ten with the Oistrakh Symphony, and has since performed with orchestras across the country including solo recitals at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, Chicago Cultural Center, and Musikferien am Starnberger See, Germany.

Esme is a first place winner in many competitions, and most recently was awarded Overall Open Division Grand Winner of the 2020 Walgreens National Concerto Competition. In 2020, Esme received Grand Prize in the Junior division of the Sphinx Competition and soloed with the Civic Orchestra of Chicago at Orchestra Hall, Symphony Center after receiving first alternate in The Crain-Maling Foundation CSO Young Artists Competition.

Ashley Kim, piano

Ashley Kim, 17, studies piano with Dr. James Giles and Dr. Matthew Hagle. She was a 2020 and 2021 National YoungArts Foundation Winner, the 2021 MTNA Illinois winner, the 2020 DePaul Concerto Competition winner, the Emilio Del Rosario Concerto Competition Second Prize winner, and the Society of American Musicians Competition winner in two divisions.

Mark Zhu, piano

Mark Zhu, 16, studies piano with Yana Reznik. In 2021, he won First Place at the American Protégé International Piano & String Competition's Intermediate Category, and received a Gold Medal at the AADGT International Young Musicians Competition.

Mark Zhu and Ashley Kim are Academy Merit Scholarship Fellows and members of the Academy's chamber music program, coached by duo piano faculty members Claire and Ralph Neiweem.



BIOGRAPHIES ON MUSIC INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO STUDENTS

Maya Anjali Buchanan

VIOLIN



Indian-American violinist **Maya Anjali Buchanan** is a top medalist of the Washington, Stulberg, Stradivarius and Johansen International Competitions. She has performed in Europe and China and with orchestras throughout the United States, including the Chicago Symphony Orchestra as the winner of the 2017 Crain-Maling Foundation CSO Young Artists Competition. Festival debuts include the Harpa International Music Festival, Peninsula Music Festival and the Aspen Music Festival as the recipient of the 2019 Dorothy DeLay Fellowship Award. An alumna of the Music Institute of Chicago Academy, Maya currently studies at the Curtis Institute of Music with Ida Kavafian. She plays on a violin generously loaned by the Stradivari Society of Chicago. ■



The Kairos String Quartet



The Kairos String Quartet, comprised of Academy alumni Joshua Brown (violin/viola), Julian Rhee (violin/viola), Thompson Wang (violin), and Lydia Rhea (cello), won the Gold Medal in the Junior Division of the 2018 Fischhoff National Chamber Competition and First Prize in the Junior String Division of the 2018 M-Prize International Chamber Arts Competition, making Kairos the first chamber group to win the top prizes at both Fischhoff and M-Prize in the same year.

Kairos was formed in September of 2017 when all four students were scholarship recipient Fellows in the Academy. Named the Rembrandt Young Artists for 2018, all four alumni are currently pursuing music performance in college; Joshua, Julian, and Thompson are students at the New England Conservatory, while Lydia is studying at the Cleveland Institute of Music. ■



Rachel Barton Pine

VIOLIN



A leading interpreter of the great classical masterworks, violinist **Rachel Barton Pine** thrills audiences with her dazzling technique, lustrous tone, and emotional honesty. With an infectious joy in music-making and a passion for connecting historical research to performance, Pine transforms audiences' experiences of classical music.

Pine's 2019–20 season included a residency with the Singapore Symphony, as well as performances with the Royal Scottish National and Seattle Baroque Orchestras. In recital she appeared at Lincoln Center with Dr. Matthew Hagle, and Pine and harpsichordist Jory Vinikour performed in concerts presented by the National Gallery in Washington D.C.

Her November, 2019 Avie recording of the Dvorák and Khachaturian Violin Concerti with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra and conductor Teddy Abrams highlights the influence of each composer's local ethnic music.

Her discography of 39 acclaimed albums also includes *Mozart: Complete Violin Concerto*, *Sinfonia Concertante* with the Academy of St Martin in the Fields, Sir Neville Marriner conducting; *Bel Canto Paganini*, *Elgar & Bruch Violin Concertos* with the BBC Symphony, Andrew Litton conducting, and *Blues Dialogues*, an album of blues-influenced classical works for unaccompanied violin and violin and piano by 20th and 21st century composers of African descent.

Pine has appeared as soloist with many of the world's most prestigious ensembles, including the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Vienna Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic, and Camerata Salzburg.

Galvanized by the fact that young people learning classical music seldom have the opportunity to study and perform music written by Black composers, over the last 15 years, Pine and her RBP Foundation have collected more than 900 works by 350+ Black composers from the 18th–21st centuries, representing Africa, North and South America, Asia, the Caribbean, Europe, and Oceania. In 2018 the RBP Foundation released *Music by Black Composers (MBC) Violin Volume I*, the first in a series of pedagogical books of music exclusively by global Black classical composers, as well the MBC Coloring Book of Black Composers.

She performs on the "ex-Bazzini ex-Soldat" Joseph Guarnerius del Gesu (Cremona 1742). ■



[RACHEL BARTON PINE WEBSITE](#)

Inna Faliks

PIANIST



“Adventurous and passionate” (*The New Yorker*) Ukrainian-born American pianist **Inna Faliks** has made a name for herself through her commanding performances of standard piano repertoire, as well genre-bending interdisciplinary projects, and inquisitive work with contemporary composers.

After her acclaimed teenage debuts at the Gilmore Festival and with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, she has performed on many of the world’s great stages, with numerous orchestras, in solo appearances, and with conductors such as Leonard Slatkin and Keith Lockhart. Faliks is currently Professor of Piano and Head of Piano at UCLA. Critics praise her “courage to take risks, expressive intensity and technical perfection” (*General Anzeiger*, Bonn), “remarkable insight” (*Audiophile* audition) “poetry and panoramic vision” (*Washington Post*), “riveting passion, playfulness” (*Baltimore Sun*) and “signature blend of lithe grace and raw power” (*Lucid Culture*).

Highlights of the recent seasons include performances in Ravinia Festival and the National Gallery in DC, recital tours of China, with appearances in all the major halls such as Beijing Center for Performing Arts, Shanghai Oriental Arts Theater and Tianjin Grand Theater, as well as acclaimed performances at the Festival Intenacional de Piano in Mexico, in the Fazioli Series in Italy and in Israel’s Tel Aviv Museum, at Portland Piano Festival and with the Camerata Pacifica, with the modern dance troupe Bodytraffic at the Broad Stage Santa Monica, and Jacaranda Series in Los Angeles, where she performed Rzewski’s *The People United Will Never Be Defeated*. Faliks has been featured on WQXR, WNYC, WFMT and many international television broadcasts, and has performed in many other major venues such as Carnegie Hall, Met Museum, Moscow’s Tchaikovsky hall, etc.

She collaborates and premieres music by some of today’s most important composers such as Billy Childs, Richard Danielpour, Timo Andres and Clarice Assad. She is known for her poetry-music series *Music/Words*, and has collaborated with many important poets. She regularly tours with her monologue-recital *Polonaise-Fantasie, the Story of a Pianist*, which tells the story of her immigration to the United States from Odessa. This has been recorded on Delos; other acclaimed recordings include all-Beethoven, and Rachmaninoff/Ravel/Pasternak discs for MSR Classics. Upcoming recordings include *Reimagine Beethoven and Ravel* (9 world premieres) on Parma and the *Master and Margarita* project, with three world premieres and Liszt Sonata in B minor, on Sono Luminus. These programs will be performed nationwide in 2020-2021.

Faliks is also a writer—her article on China and classical music was recently published by the *Washington Post*. Inna Faliks is a Yamaha Artist, and is represented by John Gingrich Management. ■



[INNA FALIKS WEBSITE](#)



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Our people make
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