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Shanghai Quartet | Wu Han Quintets by Dvořák and Schumann

Office of Arts + Cultural Programming

PEAK Performances at Montclair State University

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Montclair State's **Office of Arts & Cultural Programming (ACP)** presents and produces leading artists of the world in dance, music, theater, and opera. Under its signature series Peak Performances, ACP has produced works such as *Zinnias: The Life of Clementine Hunter* by Robert Wilson, Bernice Johnson Reagon, Toshi Reagon, and Jacqueline Woodson; *Dog Days* by David T. Little and Royce Vavrek; Harry Partch's *Oedipus*; and Ridge Theater's *The Difficulty of Crossing a Field* by David Lang. In addition, ACP has commissioned works by Bill T. Jones, Kronos Quartet, Jan Fabre, Liz Lerman, Wayne McGregor, Laurie Anderson, Romeo Castellucci, Richard Alston, Susan Marshall, Fred Hersch, and David Gordon.

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To view our complete season and for more information, visit peakperfs.org.



Peak Performances

THE 2014-15 SEASON



Quartet-in-Residence

Shanghai Quartet with Wu Han, piano



October 12, 2014 • 3:00pm

Alexander Kasser Theater



MONTCLAIR STATE
UNIVERSITY

Dr. Susan A. Cole, President
Daniel Gurskis, Dean, College of the Arts
Jedediah Wheeler, Executive Director, Arts & Cultural Programming

Quartet-in-Residence

Shanghai Quartet

Weigang Li, violin
Yi-Wen Jiang, violin
Honggang Li, viola
Nicholas Tzavaras, cello

Guest Artist

Wu Han, piano

PROGRAM

**String Quartet no. 27 in D Major ("Sun"),
op. 20, no. 4, Hob. III:34**

Franz Joseph Haydn (1732–1809)

Allegro di molto
Un poco adagio e affettuoso
Menuetto alla Zingarese: Allegretto
Presto e scherzando

Piano Quintet in E-flat Major, op. 44

Robert Schumann (1810–1856)

Allegro brillante
In modo d'una marcia. Un poco largamente
Scherzo: Molto vivace
Allegro ma non troppo

~~Intermission~~

Piano Quintet no. 2 in A Major, op. 81, B. 155

Antonín Dvořák (1841–1904)

Allegro, ma non tanto
Dumka. Andante con moto
Scherzo (Furiant). Molto vivace
Finale. Allegro

Duration: 2 hours, including one 15-minute intermission.

In consideration of both audience and performers, please turn off all electronic devices.
The taking of photographs or videos and the use of recording equipment are not permitted.
No food or drink is permitted in the theater.

About the Artists

Wu Han

Named *Musical America's* 2012 Musician of the Year, pianist Wu Han ranks among the most esteemed and influential classical musicians in the world today. She appears regularly in many prestigious venues across the United States, Europe, and the Far East as both soloist and chamber musician and tours extensively as duo pianist with cellist David Finckel. Since 2004, Wu Han and David Finckel have served as artistic directors of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, the largest chamber music organization in North America. They are the founding artistic directors of Music@Menlo, a chamber music festival and institute in the Silicon Valley, which has garnered international acclaim throughout its 12 seasons. David Finckel and Wu Han also serve as artistic directors of Chamber Music Today, an annual festival held in Seoul, Korea. The festival, now celebrating its fourth anniversary, is at the forefront of expanding the presence of chamber music in the Far East.

Wu Han's wide-ranging musical activities include the founding of ArtistLed, classical music's first musician-directed and Internet-based recording company; the establishment and design of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center's acclaimed CMS Studio and CMS Live labels as well as the Society's recording partnership with Deutsche Grammophon; and the much-lauded Music@Menlo LIVE label.

Wu Han has also achieved universal renown for her passionate commitment to nurturing the careers of countless young artists through a wide array of education initiatives. Under the auspices of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Wu Han and David Finckel lead the LG Chamber Music School, which provides workshops for young artists in Korea. In 2013, Wu Han and David Finckel established a chamber music workshop at the Aspen Music Festival and School.

davidfinckelandwuhan.com

Shanghai Quartet

Renowned for its passionate musicality, impressive technique, and multicultural innovations, the Shanghai Quartet has become one of the world's foremost chamber ensembles. Its elegant style melds the delicacy of Eastern music with the emotional breadth of Western repertoire, allowing it to traverse musical genres including traditional Chinese folk music, masterpieces of Western music, and cutting-edge contemporary works.

Formed at the Shanghai Conservatory in 1983, the Quartet has worked with the world's most distinguished artists and regularly tours the major music centers of Europe, North America, and Asia. Recent festival performances range from the International Music Festivals of Seoul and Beijing to the Festival Pablo Casals in France, Beethoven Festival in Poland, Yerevan Festival in Armenia,

and Cartagena International Music Festival in Colombia, as well as numerous concerts in all regions of North America. The Quartet has appeared at Carnegie Hall in chamber performances and with orchestra. Among innumerable collaborations with noted artists, they have performed with the Tokyo, Juilliard, and Guarneri Quartets; cellists Yo-Yo Ma and Lynn Harrell; pianists Menahem Pressler, Yuja Wang, Peter Serkin, and Jean-Yves Thibaudet; pipa virtuosa Wu Man; and the male vocal ensemble Chanticleer. The Shanghai Quartet has performed regularly at many of North America's leading chamber music festivals, including the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, Chamberfest Ottawa, and Maverick Concerts.

The Quartet has a long history of championing new music and juxtaposing traditions of Eastern and Western music. The Quartet's 30th-anniversary season brought five new commissions: *Bullycide*, for piano, string quartet, and bass, by David Del Tredici; *Fantasia*, a piano quintet by Australian composer Carl Vine; a concerto for string quartet and symphony orchestra by Jeajoon Ryu; *Verge Quartet* by Lei Liang; and *Scherzo* by Robert Aldridge, commissioned by Yu Long and the Beijing Music Festival. Their 25th anniversary season featured Krzysztof Penderecki's String Quartet no. 3: *Leaves from an Unwritten Diary*, Chen Yi's *From the Path of Beauty*, String Quartet no. 2 by Vivian Fung, and jazz pianist Dick Hyman's String Quartet. Other important commissions and premieres include works by Bright Sheng, Lowell Lieberman, Sebastian Currier, Marc Neikrug, and Zhou Long. Dan Welcher's *Museon Polemos* for double quartet premiered in 2012 with the Miró Quartet at the University of Texas at Austin, followed by performances at Montclair State in Fall 2013. The tradition will continue in 2014–15 with the premiere of Du Yun's *Tattooed in Snow* at Peak Performances and in 2015–16 with the premiere of a quintet for string quartet and pipa by Zhao Jiping, China's most renowned film composer (*Raise the Red Lantern; Farewell, My Concubine*...), with Wu Man.

The Shanghai Quartet has an extensive discography of more than 30 recordings, ranging from the Schumann and Dvořák piano quintets with Rudolf Buchbinder to Zhou Long's *Poems from Tang* for string quartet and orchestra with the Singapore Symphony (BIS). In 2003 Delos released the Quartet's most popular disc, *Chinasong*, a collection of Chinese folk songs arranged by Yi-Wen Jiang. In 2009 Camerata released the Quartet's recordings of the complete Beethoven String Quartets, a seven-disc project.

The Shanghai Quartet currently serves as Quartet-in-Residence at the John J. Cali School of Music at Montclair State University, Ensemble-in-Residence with the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra, and visiting guest professors of the Shanghai Conservatory and the Central Conservatory in Beijing. They are proudly sponsored by Thoastik-Infeld Strings.

shanghaiquartet.com