



National Gallery of Art

81st Season of
Concerts

March 10, 2024

cover: Simon Vouet and Studio, *The Muses Urania and Calliope* (detail),
c. 1634, oil on wood, National Gallery of Art, Samuel H. Kress Collection,
1961.9.61

Program

March 10, 3:00 p.m.

West Building, West Garden Court

Inna Faliks, piano

Inscape Chamber Orchestra

Richard Scerbo, artistic director and conductor

With members of the DC Youth Orchestra Program
and the Washington Musical Pathways Initiative

Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel (1805 – 1847)

Overture in C Major

Clara Schumann (1819 – 1896)

Piano Concerto in A Minor, op. 7

Allegro maestoso

Romanze: Andante non troppo con grazia

Finale: Allegro non troppo - Allegro Molto

Clarice Assad (b. 1978)

A Retirada

Clarice Assad

Lilith Concerto for Piano and Orchestra *

I. Spellbinder

II. Forbidden Charms

III. Unchained

Written for and dedicated to Inna Faliks and
commissioned by Tom Baron

* World premiere

Musicians

Inna Faliks

Ukrainian-born pianist Inna Faliks has presented thousands of recitals and concerts throughout the United States, Asia, and Europe. Her recent performances were held at Ravinia, Alice Tully Hall, and the Wallis Annenberg Center, with debuts at the Festival Internacional de Piano in Mexico, the Fazioli Series in Italy, and the Tel Aviv Museum. She has performed at Carnegie Hall's Weill Concert Hall and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, Salle Cortot in Paris, and Tchaikovsky Hall in Moscow, as well as at the Verbier, Mondo Musica Cremona, Gilmore, and Newport Classical festivals. Since her teenage debut with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Faliks has performed with renowned conductors Leonard Slatkin, Keith Lockhart, and Edward Polochick, and with a new generation of conductors, including Thomas Heuser and Richard Scerbo.

Faliks has premiered works composed for and dedicated to her by Billy Childs, Timo Andres, Richard Danielpour, Paola Prestini, Ljova, and Peter Golub. Her autobiographical show *Polonaise-Fantaisie* has been performed worldwide. It led to the musical memoir *Weight in the Fingertips* (Globe Pequot, 2023). Her recent CD releases, *Reimagine: Beethoven and Ravel* and *The Schumann Project*, received rave acclaim. This spring she releases her recording *Manuscripts Don't Burn*. A Yamaha Artist, Faliks is also Professor of Piano/Head of Piano at UCLA.

Inscape Chamber Orchestra

Founded in 2004 by artistic director Richard Scerbo, Inscape Chamber Orchestra pushes the boundaries of classical music. This Grammy-nominated group of high-energy master musicians is among the top performing ensembles in the Washington, DC, region and beyond.

Inscape works with emerging American composers to present concerts featuring the music of our time. Since its inception, it has commissioned and premiered over 20 new works. Inscape musicians regularly perform with the Washington Opera Orchestra and the National, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Virginia, Richmond, and Delaware symphonies. Some are members of Washington military service bands.

Susanna Loewy, flute 1 and piccolo
Jeannette Lewis, flute 2
Bethany Slater, oboe 1
Evan Ross Solomon, clarinet 1 and bass clarinet
Bee Ungar, bassoon 1
Justin Drew, horn 1
Brandon Almagro, trumpet 1
James Anderson, trombone
Eric Plewinski, percussion and timpani
John Patton, percussion
Rachel Segal, violin 1
Patrick Lin, violin 1
Anne Donaldson, violin 1
Julian Maddox, violin 1
Sarah D'Angelo, violin 2
Sandy Choi, violin 2
Reina Liu, violin 2

Megan Yanik, viola
Bryce Bunner, viola
Jerome Gordon, viola
Ben Capps, cello
Gabe Hightower, cello
Paula Lahoz Sanchez, cello
Tim Provost, bass

DC Youth Orchestra Program

The DC Youth Orchestra Program (DCYOP) offers group lessons and ensemble training on all orchestral instruments for students ages 4 to 18 from across the Washington metropolitan area. Musicians in DCYOP orchestras range from beginning to advanced students. They have toured 24 countries, played for numerous US presidents and foreign diplomats, and worked with esteemed musicians, such as Aaron Copland, Lorin Maazel, Mstislav Rostropovich, Gustavo Dudamel, and Kevin Deas.

Kalman Levitin, oboe 2 and English horn
Jerry Du, clarinet 1 and 2
Samuel Pikofsky-Christiansen, horn 2
Gabriel Mallek, trumpet 2
Ricardo Cruz, timpani
Chloe Lee, violin 1
Alejandra Anzola, violin 1
Catherine Shin, violin 2
Amelia Hanbury, viola
Kimi Harris, viola
Annalyn Chao, viola
Edgar Solomon, cello

Washington Musical Pathways Initiative

Through Washington Musical Pathways Initiative, aspiring professional musicians receive comprehensive musical support, including tuition scholarships and mentorship, to help them on their musical journeys.

Oscar Machado, bassoon 2

Veronica Anzola, violin 1

Elan Weber, violin 1

Mika Inoue, violin 2

Santiago Funes, violin 2

Ishaan Banarjee, cello

Avril Graffe-Droboniku, cello

Jonathan Stiff, bass

Notes

The female archetype Lilith has been described in myths across millennia as either a dangerous demoness or a powerful goddess. Her diverse forms across cultures still mystify yet fascinate us.

Ancient Sumerian tales first paint her as an untamed sexual force. Medieval lore describes her as the serpent in the Garden of Eden. European folk tradition presents her as a witch's deity, the leader of the chaotic Wild Hunt, and a hypnotic siren forever wandering in exile. Over time, she becomes Lamia, who devours children and seduces lovers, and deadly Medusa, who kills with a single sidelong glance from her enchanted eyes.

To modern feminists, Lilith might represent the fully liberated woman unbound by external chains of patriarchal suppression. In Jungian terms, she is anarchic primal anima, the swirling chaos of repressed desires and unconscious fears, granted a form of seductive shadow. Her lingering mystique exists in the liminal space between base impulse and spiritual transcendence, never wholly safe but far too compelling and fascinating to resist.

This piano concerto pieces together refracted shards of Lilith's rich legacy as both destroyer and muse. Her iconic phases and dualities are reborn through three interconnected movements.

I. Spellbinder

The opening movement conjures Lilith's enticing allure. Her unearthly beauty and captivating sensual appeal draw souls willingly into her orbit of mystery, despite the barely muted intimations of danger.

II. Forbidden Charms

Marked by profound wisdom borne of forbidden transgressions, this movement unveils occult insights from magical realms. Lilith's charms are laced with peril. Those who pursue their revelation cannot turn away once they are under her sway.

III. Unchained

In the tempestuous finale, Lilith's wild unpredictability is unleashed as she embraces chaos with untempered passion. Eternally beguiling, her capricious spirit makes uneasy those who are now entirely in her seductive thrall, spellbound witnesses to her whims.

I gratefully acknowledge the commissioning patronage and visionary support of Thomas Baron, whose generosity and friendship I cherish. — Clarice Assad

Upcoming Concerts

Interested in future music performances at the National Gallery of Art? Visit our calendar page at nga.gov or scan the QR code below to learn more about future concerts, as well as our permanent collection, current exhibitions, and many public programs.



General Information

Admission to the National Gallery of Art and all of its programs is free of charge, except as noted.

The use of cameras or recording equipment during the performance is not allowed. Please be sure that all portable electronic devices are turned off.

Concerts are made possible in part through the generosity of donors to the National Gallery of Art through the Circle. Reserved seating is available in recognition of their support. Please contact the development office at 202.842.6450 or circle@nga.gov for more information.

National Gallery of Art Podcast: Sound Thoughts on Art

Sound Thoughts on Art, a podcast from the National Gallery of Art, explores the intersection of sight and sound. Hosted by musician and journalist Celeste Headlee, each episode focuses on a work of art in the National Gallery's collection and now features performers Jenny Scheinman, Dom Flemons, Sa-Roc, Delfeayo Marsalis, Daniel Ho, Maria Schneider, Peter Sheppard Skaerved, and others. Listen and dig deeper at nga.gov/music-programs/podcasts.