



DUKE MUSIC

Best of Biddle virtual series
presents
January 2021 Student Showcase

January 22, 2021
7:30 pm EST

French Suite in E-flat Major, BWV 815

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

- I. Allemande
- II. Courante
- III. Sarabande
- IV. Gavotte
- V. Air
- VI. Menuet
- VII. Gigue

Nathaniel Maxwell, piano

Beethovenian La Folia

Jeremy Sexton and Alina Xiao

Five variations inspired by Beethoven's Symphonies 1-5

Jeremy Sexton, trumpet and Alina Xiao, piano

Sonata in A-flat Major, Hob. XVI:43

Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

- Moderato
- Minuet I—II

Aram Lindroth, piano

Wind Quartet, Op. 93 (1907)

Karl Goepfert (1859-1942)

- I. Allegro risoluto

Joy Bao-Dai and Priscilla La, flutes
Michael Wang, clarinet; Michael Manns, bassoon

String Quartet No. 1 in E Minor 'From my Life' (1876)

Bedřich Smetana (1824-1884)

- I. Allegro vivo appassionato

Unprecedented Quartet
Charlie Todd and Megan Rabe, violins
Steven Oh, viola; Holly Kim, cello

Recordame

Joe Henderson (1937-2001)/arr. Caleb Woo

Duke University Saxophone Quartet (DUSQ)
Minjun Kwak, soprano saxophone; Susan Fancher, alto saxophone
Caleb Woo, tenor saxophone; Eddie Chen, baritone saxophone

About the Musicians

Nathaniel Maxwell is a sophomore at Duke, studying Mathematics and Music. He has been playing the piano for 13 years and was the pianist for the NafME National Orchestra in 2017. He is currently studying with Professor Heid at Duke, where he is a member of the Symphony Orchestra and the Marching Band.

Jeremy Sexton is a fourth-year PhD student in Musicology. Originally from Winston-Salem, NC, he has been playing the trumpet since the age of 12. He completed his undergraduate degree at Wake Forest University in 2017, majoring in Music and Mathematics with a minor in Latin. Jeremy's dissertation-in-progress at Duke is titled *Samuel Barber as Synthesizer: An Analytical and Critical Reappraisal*. When not involved in various musical activities, he loves to spend time quietly enjoying the beauty of nature.

Alina Xiao is a senior at Duke, with a major in Biology and a minor in Music. She previously studied the piano with Professor Randall Love, and is now a student in Professor Jokubaviciute's studio. In addition to solo performances, she plays the piano with the Duke Wind Symphony. Alina also studies conducting with Professor Mösenbichler-Bryant.

Aram Lindroth is a first-year prospective Math major in Trinity; he has been playing piano for 13 years and currently studies with Professor Ieva Jokubaviciute. He enjoys performing both solo and chamber music and has participated in numerous music programs, including Mallarme Youth Chamber Orchestra, Point CounterPoint, the East Carolina University Piano Festival, and Kinhaven. He has had success in both of the competitions he has entered, placing first in the Chapel Hill Philharmonia's concerto competition in 2016 and third in the Winston-Salem Symphony's Peter Perret concerto competition in 2018. Although he couldn't participate in chamber music this fall at Duke due to a hand injury, he looks forward to becoming more involved in the Duke music community in the coming semesters.

Wind Quartet

Joy Bao-Dai is a first-year student hoping to major in Statistics on the pre-med track. She has been playing the flute for 10 years and has performed in the Youth Orchestra of Charlotte and the Duke Symphony Orchestra/Wind Symphony joint ensemble, in addition to participating in Chamber Music at Duke. Music has always been a major part of her life, and in addition to the flute, she also plays the piano and guitar.

Priscilla La is a first year student who plans to major in Psychology and minor in Chemistry and Biology. She has played flute for eight years and is also a John Philip Sousa award winner. Currently, she is a student in the Duke flute studio under Carla Copeland Burns.

Michael Wang is a first year student from Cary, North Carolina, planning to major in Neuroscience with a minor in Music. He has been playing clarinet for eight years. During high school, Michael auditioned for and placed into several honors bands and orchestras, including the NCMEA All-State Honors Band and Orchestra. This is his first time performing in a chamber ensemble at Duke.

Michael Manns is a first-year student from Dallas, Texas, who plans to study Biology with minors in Chemistry and Music. He is currently in his eighth year of playing bassoon and now studies under the instruction of Jessica Kunttu. As a soloist in high school, Michael has consistently placed First Chair at the regional level in both band and orchestra competitions. In the past two years he has also performed in the TMEA All-State Philharmonic Orchestra, where he served as Principal Bassoon during his second year with the orchestra. This year is Michael's first time participating in a chamber ensemble at Duke.

Unprecedented Quartet

Charlie Todd is a senior from Virginia Beach, VA majoring in Computer Science with minors in Music and Statistical Science. He first started playing violin in third grade, but he became passionate about music in ninth grade after his first full-orchestra performance (“Pictures at an Exhibition,” Mussorgsky/Ravel). In each of his semesters at Duke, he has taken lessons with Professor Eric Pritchard and performed with the Duke Symphony Orchestra, of which he is now a co-president. Outside of Duke, he has played with the Kelvin Ensemble at the University of Glasgow, where he also learned to (barely) play the bagpipes. Last year, he received the Ciompi Quartet Award in Chamber Music, and he considers chamber music to be a highlight of his Duke career— especially the weekly meetings of the Unprecedented Quartet in an otherwise unusual Fall 2020 semester.

Megan Rabe is a junior at Duke majoring in Neuroscience with a Psychology minor. She began playing violin at the age of six at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. When she moved to Maryland, she began attending the Peabody Institute Preparatory. Since 2010, she has studied with Rebecca Henry at Peabody. She was also a member of the Pre-Conservatory Violin Program (PCVP), a group of eight violinists who performed in the Baltimore community and around the country. Fun fact: In her sophomore year of high school, Megan first discovered Duke when she visited for a PCVP/Duke String School collaboration. Her love for chamber music emerged when she performed with the Amici Trio in the quarterfinals of the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition in 2015. Megan is so grateful to the Duke Chamber Music program, in which she has found great joy, enrichment, and friendship.

Steven Oh is a senior pursuing an interdepartmental major within Computer Science and Music at Duke, along with a minor in Visual & Media Studies. Steven has been playing violin for 16 years, studying with Professor Hsiao-mei Ku during his time at Duke. Through his chamber music studies, he recently began playing the viola this past year. In addition to participating in the Chamber Music program, Steven has also played violin with the Duke Symphony Orchestra, Duke Chamber Players, Duke Viennese Ball Orchestra, and Ensemble Hippocrates.

Holly Kim is a senior at Duke majoring in Chemistry, with a concentration in Biochemistry, and a minor in Music. She is currently studying under Caroline Stinson. She has been involved in the Music Department since her freshman year, participating in Duke Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Music, and cello lessons. She also volunteers at Kidznotes, where she teaches elementary school students to read music and to play the cello, and is a performing arts volunteer at the Duke Hospital. Outside of school, Holly enjoys rock climbing and doing puzzles.

Duke University Saxophone Quartet (DUSQ)

Minjun Kwak, soprano saxophone, is a freshman planning to double major in Electrical & Computer Engineering and Computer Science. This was his first semester playing with the Duke University Saxophone Quartet. Although he plays soprano saxophone in the quartet, his main instrument is alto saxophone, which he has been playing for seven years. In high school, he participated in the marching band, jazz band, and wind symphony, as well as sitting principal chair in the Idaho All-State Honor Band and the All-Northwest Band. Some notable awards include 1st place at the 2019 Idaho State Solo Competition, 1st place at the 2019 MTNA State Competition, and 1st place at the 2017 Meridian Symphony Orchestra Young Artist Competition.

Susan Fancher, alto saxophone, (sitting in for Duke student **JJ Ndubuisi**), is the saxophone instructor at Duke University.

Caleb Woo, tenor saxophone, is a junior majoring in the IDM in Data Science and minoring in Music. He has been playing the saxophone for 11 years and has earned 2nd prize in the 2018 North American Saxophone Alliance High School Solo Competition and a YoungArts Honorable Mention in Classical Music. During his high school career, he consistently placed as top chair in the Region, All State, All Eastern, and All National Bands and was awarded the New Jersey Governor's Award in Arts Education in 2018. At Duke, Caleb is a member of the Duke University Saxophone Quartet. In his free time, he enjoys watching sports, especially the New York Yankees.

Eddie Chen, baritone saxophone, is a sophomore from Plano, TX majoring in Statistics with a minor in Finance. He started playing the saxophone in fifth grade and previously studied with Don Fabian before coming to Duke, where he now studies with Dr. Susan Fancher. Eddie has participated in various ensembles including the Texas All-State band, Honor Band of America, and Tanglewood Young Artist Wind Ensemble. He is a previous YoungArts Foundation Honorable Mention winner and has also appeared on NPR's "From the Top." At Duke, Eddie is a member of the Duke University Saxophone Quartet, in which he plays the alto saxophone and occasionally the baritone saxophone. His favorite memory is performing "Memory" by Zarvos with the quartet last year.