

## THE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC PRESENTS

## Faculty Recital

# Joseph Bognar and Nicole Lee

## Piano for Four Hands

Sunday, May 2, 2021, 2:00 P.M. Duesenberg Recital Hall

### **PROGRAM**

L'embarquement pour Cythère Francis Poulenc (Valse-Musette pour deux pianos) (1899-1963)

Scaramouche pour deux pianos

I. Vif

II. Modéré

III. Brazileira

Petite Suite

I. En Bateau

II. Cortège

III. Menuet

IV. Ballet

Pavane pour une infante défunte

~brief pause~

Libertango

Gazebo Dances

I. Overture

II. Waltz

III. Adagio

IV. Tarantella

Darius Milhaud

(1892-1974)

Claude Debussy

(1862-1918)

Maurice Ravel

(1875-1937)

Astor Piazzolla (1921-1992)

(arr. Pablo Ziegler)

John Corigliano

(b. 1938)

#### ABOUT THE ARTISTS

**Joseph Bognar** is associate professor of music at Valparaiso University, where he teaches piano, harpsichord, and music theory. He has served on the faculties of the Maud Powell Music Festival, Lutheran Summer Music, and the Stamford International Music Festival. As a member of the Castillon Piano Trio, he has performed in the United Kingdom, receiving acclaim for "his superb technique ... one could only marvel at this talented performer." (Evening Telegraph, U.K.) His performances with the trio have aired on BBC radio. He toured China with Windiana, Northwest Indiana's professional wind ensemble, where he appeared as piano soloist in works of Gershwin and Xian. His live performances from Symphony Center, Chicago and the Chicago Cultural Center have aired on WFMT-FM.

As a proponent of contemporary music, he has premiered piano solo works of composer Stephen Wilcox throughout the United States, including a performance at the Peabody Conservatory of Music, and has recorded Wilcox's work for the Capstone record label. He premiered a new piano work by Wilcox in November 2009 for the Santa Barbara Arts Fund. His most recent campus performances have featured some of the most formidable 20th-century works, including Rzewski's The People United Will Never Be Defeated! and Ives's Sonata no. 2: Concord, Mass.

He has presented lecture-recitals on the works of Fauré and Schubert. His doctoral research explores Schubert's compositional self-borrowing in the construction of operatic arias, and his article, "J.C. Bach's Temistocle: Detecting the Reform Spirit in Eighteenth-Century Opera Seria," appears in volume XIV of the Music Research Forum. His compositions for organ are published by Augsburg Fortress Press. Bognar completed undergraduate studies in piano and organ at Valparaiso University, where he graduated summa cum laude. Awarded two university fellowships, he studied piano with internationally renowned accompanist John Wustman at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he earned his doctor of musical arts.

**Nicole Lee**, a native of Vancouver, Canada, is a pianist acclaimed as both a soloist and a collaborative artist. The Bradenton Herald lauds, "Lee is a consummate artist who exhibits a carefully honed touch with the beauty and refinement of fine porcelain." As a soloist, she has performed at the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, the Sarasota Opera House, the Orpheum in Vancouver, Canada, and for CBC Radio in Ottawa, Canada. She has also performed as soloist with several symphony orchestras, including the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, the Florida West Coast Symphony, and the New Westminster Symphony, and Kalamazoo Philharmonic. Her awards include First Runner-Up in the International Stravinsky Awards Competition, First Prize in the Pasadena Fine Arts Club Competition, and Semi-finalist in the Royal Over-Seas League Competition in London.

Lee is also active as a chamber musician. She was praised as "outstanding" by The Strad for her work with violinist Gregory Maytan in their first CD, Scandinavia. The recording was selected by The Strad as the top recital CD of April 2009 and highly praised by Strings Magazine and the American Record Guide. She continues to perform collaborative recitals with instrumentalists and especially enjoys presenting 4-hand piano repertoire with colleague Joseph Bognar. Ms. Lee has recently performed on the concert series at the Grand Rapids Art Museum, Saugatuck Hempy Keyboard series, and the Dame Myra Hess Concert Series in Chicago.

Lee holds B.M. and M.M. degrees in piano performance from the University of Southern California, where she studied with John Perry. She was selected as the outstanding graduate of the Keyboard Studies Department in both her graduate and undergraduate programs. She also holds performance and teacher's diplomas from the Royal Conservatory of Music of Toronto and Licentiate and Fellowship diplomas from the Trinity College of London. She is currently a member of the music faculty at Valparaiso University.