



WASHINGTON
PERFORMING ARTS

HOME DELIVERY PLUS

2021 SERIES



2021 SERIES PREMIERE:

A Brief (and Modern) History of Piano Études
JENNY LIN, piano

PREMIERING FRI, JAN 29, 8PM (ET)

STREAMING ON DEMAND THROUGH
THU, FEB 4, 11:59PM (ET)

PROGRAM NOTES

Intro: The Story of the Piano Études

CHOPIN

Étude in A-flat Major, Op. 25, No. 1
Étude in C-sharp minor, Op. 10, No. 4

Interview with William Bolcom

WILLIAM BOLCOM

Étude Book II, No. 3: "Nocturne"
Étude Book III, No. 2: "Rag Infernal"

Story: Liszt and Virtuosity

LISZT

Étude transcendante No. 1 in C Major,
S.139/1: *Preludio*
Étude transcendante No. 11 in D-flat Major,
S.139/11: *Harmonies du soir*

Interview with Philip Glass

PHILIP GLASS

Étude No. 16
Étude No. 6

Story: 20th Century

DEBUSSY

Étude No. 1: *Pour les cinq doigts d'après
Monsieur Czerny*
Étude No. 11: *Pour les arpèges composés*

Summary: The Pianist-Composer

GERSHWIN (arr. Earl Wild)

Virtuoso Étude No. 4: "Embraceable You"
Virtuoso Étude No. 6: "I Got Rhythm"

I am so delighted to bring to you an hour of music titled: *A Brief (and Modern) History of Piano Études*, featuring works from Chopin to some of our greatest living composers. This program, especially designed for Washington Performing Arts's *Home Delivery Plus*, is part of my *Études Project*, an ongoing exploration of the tradition and transformation of keyboard virtuosity in the piano repertoire. Inspired by my world tour of Philip Glass's Complete Piano Études with the composer himself, I have created *The Études Project* with a series of programs juxtaposing modern pieces alongside some of the most challenging works from the existing catalogue.

Since the time of Scarlatti and Bach, composers who gravitated to the keyboard have been expanding and redefining technical virtuosity. The transformation from harpsichord and clavichord to the modern piano has allowed composers to write better and faster pieces. The étude as a genre was established in the 19th Century, first as exercises in instruction books. Then with the popularity of the piano, composers like Clementi and Czerny began to write music that would both please the audience and serve as teaching tools. The étude reached a pinnacle of sorts during the 19th and 20th Centuries, with composers like Chopin and Liszt giving the audience some of the most technically challenging, as well as musically satisfying, compositions that are concert worthy.

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I have always been fascinated by the intricate history of piano études, and how throughout written music, it has continued to be one of the most important genres in keyboard literature. How did we get from Bach's Clavier-Übung to Philip Glass's Piano Études? And where is the form going now? I hope to explore these questions through this concert made up of 12 études by six composers, in a tremendous variety of styles by Chopin, Liszt, Debussy, Bolcom, Glass, and Earl Wild's arrangements of Gershwin's tunes.

I extend the highest gratitude to Washington Performing Arts, Weiwuying Concert Hall at the National Kaohsiung Center for the Arts in Taiwan, and to everyone who has worked so hard to make this concert happen. Wishing you a happy, and most importantly, a healthy New Year.

—Jenny Lin

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Pianist **Jenny Lin** is an artist of keen musicianship, brilliant technique, and a compelling perspective shaped by a deep fluency in global culture. Born in Taiwan, raised in Austria, and educated in Europe and America, Lin has built a vibrant international career, notable for innovative collaborations with a range of artists and creators.

In this most unusual season, Lin has performances—both digital and in person—at the Mostly Mozart Festival, Washington Performing Arts, Winnipeg New Music, the Morris Museum, St. Olaf College, and elsewhere.

Jenny Lin also continues her collaboration with Philip Glass, performing his études in concerts around the globe. This experience inspired Lin to create *The Études Project*, in which she works with a range of living composers to create new technical piano études, pairing each new piece with an étude from the classical canon. The results are featured on Sono Luminus albums; Volume 1 showcases Lin's work with ICEBERG New Music, and Volume 2 will be released in 2021.

Jenny Lin is the featured pianist in Elliot Golden-thal's original motion picture score for Julie Taymor's 2020 film, *The Glorias*, and she recently recorded an album with accordionist Guy Klucevsek (created in "contactless" fashion) featuring the music of Giya Kancheli. Her catalogue (which includes more than 30 albums, on Hänssler Classic, eOne, BIS, New World, Albany, et al) includes the music of Arthur Schnabel; Chopin's Nocturnes; Shostakovich's Preludes and Fugues; transcriptions of the songs of Chinese pop singer Teresa Teng; and *Melody's Mostly Musical Day*, an album, picture book, and multimedia children's concert.

Lin has performed with orchestras throughout the world, including the American Symphony Orchestra, NDR and SWR German Radio Orchestras, the RAI National Symphony Orchestra, and others. She has performed at Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, the Kennedy Center, at BAM Next Wave, Spoleto Festival USA, the Schleswig-Holstein Festival, and elsewhere.

Fluent in English, German, Mandarin, and French, Jenny Lin holds a bachelor's degree in German Literature from the Johns Hopkins University and studied music at the Hochschule für Musik, and at the Peabody Conservatory. Jenny Lin currently resides with her family in New York City.



LINGER LONGER PANELISTS



Anastasia Tsioulcas is an NPR Arts reporter and the Series Host of *Home Delivery Plus 2021*. Tsioulcas's NPR roles have included interviews with the likes of composers Steve Reich and Terry Riley and, as a former reporter and producer for NPR Music, production

of episodes of the popular *Tiny Desk Concert* series. For *Home Delivery Plus*, she lends her insights to a number of performance "packages," from introducing the events to moderating post-performance talks to curating Spotify playlists inspired by package artists and themes.



Dan Zigmund is a writer, technologist, and Zen teacher. He is a guiding teacher at Jikoji Zen Center and serves on the board of directors of both that temple and the San Francisco Zen Center. He has also led teams at some of the world's most successful companies,

including Apple, Facebook, Google, and Microsoft. His most recent book *Buddha's Office: The Ancient Art of Waking Up While Working Well* was published in 2019.

HAYES PIANO SERIES

Established in 1966 in honor of Washington Performing Arts founder Patrick Hayes and his wife, pianist and pedagogue Evelyn Swarthout Hayes, the Hayes Piano Series has featured recitals by some of the world's finest emerging pianists, including Alfred Brendel, Yuja Wang, Lang Lang, Daniil Trifonov, and so many more. Although the in-person subscription series is on hiatus due to the current pandemic, we are pleased to welcome Jenny Lin and [Schaghajegh Nosrati](#) to the extraordinary lineage of "Hayes Artists" in 2021.

SPECIAL THANKS

Washington Performing Arts is grateful to National Kaohsiung Center for the Arts, Weiwuying for generously hosting the performance.

EVENT SPONSORS

This performance is made possible through the generous support of Dr. Irene Roth and Dr. Vicken Poochikian, and Anne and Burton Fishman.

Representative Bi-khim Hsiao of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States is the honorary patron of this engagement.

SERIES SPONSORS

Thank you to the following lead supporters of Washington Performing Arts's mission-driven work in 2020/21, including presentation of Home Delivery Plus: Jacqueline Badger Mars and Mars, Incorporated; D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities; Betsy and Robert Feinberg; Dr. Gary Mather and Ms. Christina Co Mather; the National Capital Arts and Cultural Affairs Program and the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts; Tom Gallagher; The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation; and the Dallas Morse Coors Foundation for the Performing Arts.



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