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NOVEMBER 21, 2021

Today's Young Artist Preconcert Performer
Pianist Evan Brezicki

Cythia Fok Lawing & Gloria Fok Cook

PIANO FOUR HANDS

Petite Suite

En bateau (Sailing)

Cortège (Retinue)

Menuet: Moderato

Ballet: Allegro giusto

Claude Debussy
(1862-1918)

Four Hungarian Dances

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

Two Slavic Dances Op. 72

Odzemek

Starodávny

Anton Dvořák
(1841-1904)

Danse Macabre Op. 49
(Transcribed by E. Guiraud)

Camille Saint Saëns
(1835-1921)

Cynthia Fok Lawing and Gloria Fok Cook bring to their concerts a very focused and concentrated approach to their duo performances. Growing up in Hong Kong, the sisters were immersed in piano instruction and performance from their early childhood. While their primary repertoire was solo piano, they frequently performed and competed as a piano duo. That pattern has remained with them their entire lives.

Cynthia Lawing received a Master of Music in Piano Performance and also acquired a second Bachelor of Music in Dalcroze Eurythmics from the Cleveland Institute of Music.

As a performer and teacher, Cynthia has been highly recognized in the region. She has performed solo recitals and concertos throughout the area, and many of her students have distinguished themselves through winning competitions and scholarships. Cynthia is on the piano faculty at Davidson College. She and her husband, trumpeter Bill Lawing, have performed duo recitals in ten countries over four continents. In 2019, Cynthia was inducted into the Steinway & Sons Teacher Hall of Fame — a prestigious designation recognizing the work of North America's most committed and passionate piano educators.

Gloria Cook received her Bachelor, Master as well as her Doctorate of Music Arts in Piano Performance from the Cleveland Institute of Music. She is a Professor of Music at Rollins College where recently she received the Cornell Distinguished Faculty Award.

She has performed with Bach Festival Orchestra at Rollins College, the Springfield Symphony, the Charleston Symphony, and the Hong Kong Philharmonic. Her research into the piano work of Edvard Grieg led to her publishing and presenting papers in Norway at the International Edvard Grieg Society conference.

As a piano duo, the sisters have returned to perform in Hong Kong with the Hong Kong Philharmonic, and they have recently embarked upon a concert tour of Taiwan. Separated by 500 miles, they spend intense days together in the summer, preparing programs to perform the following year. In addition to today's program, the sisters will be performing Johannes Brahms' *Liebeslieder Waltzes* with the Bach Festival Choir this season in a program commemorating the composer's 125th anniversary. The sister team is scheduled to perform in Vienna next year.



EXCITING SEASON UPDATE

In June, the amazing Robin Bullock, on guitar and mandolin, will wrap up M@SA's 2021-22 season.

We extend our gratitude to the following for their generous support of Music @ St. Alban's

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