

KEYBOARD

RECITAL SERIES 2025–26



*Nicolas Namoradze,
piano*

Tuesday, Sept. 16

Schneebeck Concert Hall | 7:30 p.m.

*All are invited to a reception following the program in the
Schneebeck Concert Hall lobby.*

PUGET SOUND KEYBOARD RECITAL SERIES

Nicolas Namoradze, piano

PROGRAM

Piano Sonata No.10, Op.70.....Alexander Scriabin
(1872–1915)

(The remaining selections in the first half are to be played without pause.)

Prelude and Fugue No.9 in E major,.....Johann Sebastian Bach
The Well-Tempered Clavier Book II, BWV 878 (1685–1750)

Fugue in E minor, WoO 20.....Alexander Scriabin
(1872–1915)

Prelude and Fugue No.18 in G-sharp minor,.....Bach
The Well-Tempered Clavier Book I, BWV 863

Piano Sonata No.2 in G-sharp minor,.....Scriabin
Op.19, "Sonata-Fantasy"
Andante
Presto

INTERMISSION

Two Preludes from Book I.....Claude Debussy
"Les sons et les parfums tournent dans l'air du soir" (1862–1918)
La cathédrale engloutie

Two Études.....György Ligeti
No.11, En suspens (1923–2006)
No.16, Pour Irina

Daphnis et Chloé, Suite No.2 (arr. Namoradze).....Maurice Ravel
Lever de jour (1875–1937)
Pantomime
Danse générale

BIOGRAPHY

NICOLAS NAMORADZE is a visionary pianist and composer known for his innovative artistry. He came to international attention in 2018 upon winning the triennial Honens International Piano Competition in Calgary, Canada, and has since garnered international acclaim for his performances and recordings. A *Musical America* New Artist, *BBC Music Magazine* Rising Star and *Gramophone* One to Watch, he was bestowed the Pianist of the Year Award by the UK Critics' Circle in 2022. His often sold-out recitals around the globe have been met with glowing critical praise, and recent album releases on the Honens, Hyperion and Steinway labels have received extraordinary accolades, including the *Choc de Classica*, Record of the Month in *Limelight*, Instrumental Disc of the Month in *BBC Music Magazine*, Editor's Choice in *Gramophone*, Editor's Choice in *Presto Classical* and Critics' Choice in *International Piano*, as well as a first-place debut in the UK charts for classical instrumental albums.

Namoradze begins this season in San Antonio with Ravel's Piano Concerto for the Left Hand before a series of recitals across Canada. Further orchestral appearances include performances with the Calgary Philharmonic, Moravian Philharmonic, Georgian Philharmonic and Sarasota Festival Orchestras. Recital highlights include appearances at Munich's Prinzregententheater, the Meisterkonzerte Homburg and London's Wigmore Hall. He returns to the Konzerthaus Dortmund and Verbier Festival for a second year of residencies and appears as a guest artist in residencies at the Cleveland Institute of Music and the Sarasota Music Festival. He also serves on jury panels for the Busoni and Honens competitions.

Following a broadcast from a series of performances last season of Brahms' Piano Concerto No. 2 with Iván Fischer and the Budapest Festival Orchestra, medici.tv included the concert as one of nine all-time greatest performances by former piano competition winners in a "prizewinner to pantheon" lineup and named him among thirty-five pianists in their list of "history's most celebrated pianists." Further critical highlights include five-star reviews in *The Telegraph* and *The Guardian*, which called his performance at London's Royal Festival Hall "ideally laconic and debonair, weighty yet exquisite, and exactly precise in tone and touch." A cover feature in *International*

Piano declared his recital at Wigmore Hall “astonishing,” his playing “unfolding in an opalescent glow, every bar touched with beauty... exultant and never less than technically immaculate.”

Other recent activities include residencies at the Antwerp Symphony Orchestra and the Dresdner Philharmonie, recital appearances at the Klavier-Festival Ruhr, Munich’s Isarphilharmonie, Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, Beethovenfest Bonn, Kulturpalast Dresden and LuganoMusica, among others, and a series of performances with multiple Canadian orchestras of a new piano concerto commissioned for him by Kati Agócs. He has appeared in recital at Carnegie Hall, Konzerthaus Berlin, Tokyo Bunka Kaikan and Boston’s Gardner Museum, festival appearances at Tanglewood, Banff, Gstaad, Festival Radio France Montpellier, Festspiele Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Portland Piano International and others, and performed with orchestras including the London Philharmonic, Sinfonieorchester Basel, Milwaukee Symphony and the RAI Orchestra, with conductors such as Karina Canellakis, Hans Graf, Jeffrey Kahane, John Axelrod, Ken-David Masur, Finnegan Downie-Dear and Daniele Rustioni.

Highlights of his work as a composer include commissions and performances by leading artists and ensembles including Ken-David Masur, Lukas Ligeti, Tessa Lark, Metropolis Ensemble and the Momenta, Verona and Barkada Quartets, at festivals such as the Chelsea Music Festival, Honens Festival, Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, Portland Piano International and the Klavier-Festival Ruhr, and several album releases on the Steinway label. He has also composed and produced a number of film soundtracks, including *Le chant des étoiles*, produced by the Musée Unterlinden, and *Nuit d’opéra à Aix*, made in association with the Festival d’Aix-en-Provence. His compositions are published by the Japan-based Muse Press.

Namoradze is also involved in new directions in performance and audience engagement. His doctoral thesis at the CUNY Graduate Center developed mathematical models for aspects of musical perception, winning the Barry Brook Award for dissertation of the year. It is now published by Springer as the book “Ligeti’s Macroharmonies” in the Computational Music Science series. He furthered this research through postgraduate studies at the Institute

of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience at King's College London, where his interests included new perspectives on musical performance. Informed by this work, Namoradze presents recital formats that reimagine the concert experience through a range of innovative projects, including moderated recitals with a focus on deep listening and interdisciplinary collaborations with scientific research. He is also the creator of a digital platform exploring intersections between music and the cognitive sciences on IDAGIO, the world's leading classical music streaming app.

Namoradze was born in Tbilisi, Georgia in 1992 and grew up in Budapest, Hungary. After completing his undergraduate studies in Budapest, Vienna and Florence, he moved to New York for his master's at The Juilliard School and his doctorate at the CUNY Graduate Center, holding the Graduate Center Fellowship. His teachers and mentors have included Emanuel Ax, Yoheved Kaplinsky, Zoltán Kocsis, Matti Raekallio, András Schiff and Eliso Virsaladze in piano, and John Corigliano in composition. After serving on the faculty of Queens College, where he taught chamber music, composition and music history, he now is on the piano and chamber music faculty of the CUNY Graduate Center and teaches at The Juilliard School.

UPCOMING SCHOOL OF MUSIC EVENTS

All events are free unless noted otherwise. Most performances are streamed live at pugetsound.edu/schneebecklive. Tickets available at tickets.pugetsound.edu, in the Logger Store, or at the door.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 19

Jacobsen Series: The Breaking Winds Bassoon Quartet

Brittany Harrington-Smith, Yuki Katayama Poole, Kara LaMoure,
and Lauren Yu Ziemba

Schneebeck Concert Hall, 7:30 p.m. | Tickets required, free for students

FRIDAY, SEPT. 26

COLLAGE – 15th Annual Faculty and Student Music Showcase

Schneebeck Concert Hall, 7:30 p.m. | Tickets required: \$15 general;
\$10 sr. citizens, military, Puget Sound faculty and staff; \$5 students

SATURDAY, OCT. 4

Northwest High School Honor Choir

Rosephanye Powell, guest conductor
Schneebeck Concert Hall, 4 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCT. 5

Jacobsen Series: Puget Sound Piano Trio

Maria Sampen, violin; Alistair MacRae, cello; Ronaldo Rolim, piano
Schneebeck Concert Hall, 2 p.m. | Tickets required, free for students

SATURDAY, OCT. 11

Puget Sound Jazz Orchestra with guest vocalist Nnenna Freelon

Jeff Chang, director, presented by ASUPS Performing Arts
and the School of Music

Schneebeck Concert Hall, 7:30 p.m. | Tickets required

SUNDAY, OCT. 12

Fall Choral Concert

Steven Zopfi and Erin Guinup, conductors
Schneebeck Concert Hall, 4 p.m.

All listings are subject to change. For the most current information about upcoming arts events and lectures, visit pugetsound.edu/events.

Puget Sound is committed to being accessible to all people. If you have questions about event accessibility, please contact 25Live@pugetsound.edu, or visit pugetsound.edu/accessibility.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge that this event takes place on the ancestral territory of the Puyallup Tribe and the Lushootseed-speaking people, whose relationship with the land continues to this day.

We respectfully acknowledge and honor the history and presence of Indigenous students, staff, and faculty here at Puget Sound. We who are guests on this land offer our gratitude for the opportunity to make music together here.

The School of Music strives to recognize, include, and respect all of the peoples and musical traditions that make up our community.

The School of Music at University of Puget Sound, situated within a nationally recognized liberal arts university, prepares students to be broad-minded, creative, arts-aware social leaders. We attract highly engaged student musicians and empower them to create the diverse musical offerings and effective educational programs of the future.

From the classroom to the concert hall, we cultivate students' self-expression, cultural competency, and critical engagement. Through a wide variety of public offerings and a vibrant Community Music program, the School of Music enriches the cultural life of both the Puget Sound campus and surrounding communities.

Community Music, a division of the School of Music, welcomes people of all ages and skill levels to participate in music lessons and classes throughout the year.
pugetsound.edu/communitymusic | 253.879.3575

