

# JACOBSEN

PROFESSIONAL ARTIST SERIES 2025–26



## Duo Diorama

Winston Choi, piano, and Minghuan Xu, violin



**Saturday, Nov. 1**

Kilworth Memorial Chapel, 7:30 p.m.

# **JACOBSEN SERIES**

Established in 1984, the Jacobsen Series features performances by School of Music faculty members, students, alumni, and guest artists for the university and the community. The series is named in honor of Leonard Jacobsen, professor of piano and chair of the piano department at Puget Sound from 1932 to 1965 and consists of theme-related concerts presented between September and April each academic year.

The Jacobsen Series Scholarship Fund awards annual music scholarships to outstanding student performers and scholars. This fund is sustained entirely by season subscribers and individual ticket sales. University of Puget Sound wishes to recognize and thank our many patrons whose support has assisted worthy students and has contributed to this successful series.

**Jacobsen Series: Duo Diorama**

Winston Choi, piano, and Minghuan Xu, violin

Nov. 1, 2025

**PROGRAM**

Toft Serenade for violin and piano (2006).....Augusta Read Thomas  
(b. 1964)

The Red Violin: Chaconne for Violin and Piano (1997)...John Corigliano  
(b. 1938)

INTERMISSION

Sonata for Violin and Piano, Op. 134.....Dmitri Shostakovich  
I. Andante (1906–75)  
II. Allegretto  
III. Largo

Somewhere, a Fantasy for Violin and Piano.....Harold Arlen  
(1905–86)/  
Leonard Bernstein  
(1918–90)  
arr. by Winston Choi

*All are invited to a reception following the program in the  
Kilworth Memorial Chapel basement.*

## BIOGRAPHIES

Canadian pianist **WINSTON CHOI** is professor and program director of piano at Roosevelt University's Chicago College of Performing Arts. Winner of France's Concours International de Piano 20e siècle d'Orléans and Laureate of the Honens International Piano Competition, he is internationally recognized for his bold interpretations of the standard repertoire and his unwavering commitment to contemporary music. He appears worldwide as a soloist, chamber musician, and educator.

Choi has performed concerti with numerous North American and international orchestras, including the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, Calgary Philharmonic, Victoria Symphony, l'Orchestre National de Lille, and Colombia's national orchestra. His solo recitals have brought him to major venues such as Carnegie-Weill Recital Hall, the Kennedy Center, and France's Salle Cortot. A prolific chamber musician, he tours widely as a member of Civitas Ensemble, Duo Diorama (with violinist MingHuan Xu), and Trio Diorama (with Xu and cellist Nick Photinos), and recently performed with Matthias Goerne at the Ravinia Festival.

A passionate advocate for new music, Choi has premiered and commissioned over 100 works. His recordings include Elliott Carter's complete piano music, Jacques Lenot's works (winner of the Grand Prix du Disque), and music by Thomas Adès. He appears on labels such as BIS, Cedille, and Naxos, and is a core member of Ensemble Dal Niente. He earned degrees from Indiana and Northwestern Universities, and studied with Menahem Pressler and Ursula Oppens. A dedicated pedagogue, Choi is also in demand as a masterclass clinician and conference presenter, sharing insights on phrasing, technique, and interpretation.

Violinist **MINGHUAN XU** is a dynamic performer and educator whose wide-ranging career spans solo, chamber, and contemporary music across five continents. Her expressive artistry and versatility have taken her to venues such as Carnegie Hall, Symphony Space, the Library of Congress, and the Smithsonian Institution, with many festival appearances as well. She has toured extensively throughout China, South America, and Europe, and her performances have been featured on NPR, WFMT, and CBC.

A passionate advocate for contemporary music, she has premiered hundreds of works. She has worked closely with composers such as William Bolcom, John Corigliano, George Lewis, Huang Ruo, and Augusta Read Thomas. She is a core member of Ensemble Dal Niente and a former violinist with the Grossman Ensemble at the University of Chicago.

She tours internationally with her husband, pianist Winston Choi, as part of Duo Diorama, known for bold programming and dynamic performances. She also appears with Trio Diorama alongside cellist Nick Photinos.

Xu has performed as concerto soloist with orchestras such as the Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Cheyenne Symphony, Kamloops Symphony, Oak Ridge Symphony, Midland-Odesa Symphony, and Cathedral Bluffs Symphony. She has served as guest concertmaster with the Elmhurst Symphony, Illinois Philharmonic, Richmond Symphony, and Peninsula Music Festival Orchestra.

Xu is program director of strings and assistant teaching professor of violin at Roosevelt University's Chicago College of Performing Arts, where she has helped shape a vibrant, internationally recognized string program. Her studies were at institutions such as the Curtis Institute of Music, the Oberlin Conservatory, Northwestern University and Stony Brook University.

## UPCOMING SCHOOL OF MUSIC EVENTS

All events are free unless noted otherwise. Most performances are broadcast at [pugetsound.edu/schneebecklive](https://pugetsound.edu/schneebecklive). Tickets available at [tickets.pugetsound.edu](https://tickets.pugetsound.edu), in the Logger Store, or at the door.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 5

### **School of Music Noon Convocation**

Concerto-Aria Spotlight  
Schneebeck Concert Hall, noon

FRIDAY, NOV. 7

### **Popular Music Ensemble**

Dawn Padula and Rob Hutchinson, co-directors  
Schneebeck Concert Hall, 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, NOV. 14

### **Keyboard Weekend: Jacobsen Series: Ronaldo Rolim, piano**

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

SATURDAY, NOV. 15

### **Keyboard Weekend: Samuel Coleridge-Taylor 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday Concert**

Puget Sound student and faculty performers  
Kilworth Memorial Chapel, 6 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOV. 16

### **Keyboard Weekend: 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Bethel Schneebeck Organ Recital**

Wyatt Smith, organ  
Kilworth Memorial Chapel, 2 p.m.

All listings are subject to change. For the most current information about upcoming arts events and lectures, visit [pugetsound.edu/events](https://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](mailto:25Live@pugetsound.edu), or visit [pugetsound.edu/accessibility](https://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](https://pugetsound.edu/communitymusic) | 253.879.3575





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