

***Zexun Shen*, Cello**

With

***Matthieu Cognet*, Piano**

Sunday, December 18, 2016 at 7:30 PM

Recital Hall | Staller Center of Arts

**Suite for Unaccompanied Cello No.6 in D Major, BWV 1012**

Johann Sebastian Bach

(1685-1750)

*Prélude*

*Allemande*

*Courante*

*Sarabande*

*Gavotte*

*Gigue*

**Adagio und Allegro**

Robert Schumann

(1810-1856)

**INTERMISSION**

**from 24 Preludes for Unaccompanied Cello, op. 100 (1968)**

Mieczysław Weinberg

(1919-1996)

*Prelude No. 1*

*Prelude No. 3*

*Prelude No. 5*

*Prelude No. 6*

*Prelude No. 13*

*Prelude No. 22*

**Caprice for Cello Solo in E minor, Op.25, No.12**

Alfredo Piatti

(1822-1901)

**Cello Sonata in C Major. Op.119**

Sergei Sergeyevich Prokofiev

(1891-1953)

*I. Andante grave*

*II. Moderato*

*III. Allegro, ma non troppo*

Zexun Shen is a student of Colin Carr.

This recital is presented in partial fulfillment of the Doctor of Musical Art degree.



Born in Shanghai, China, Mr. Zexun Shen (Jason) has studied in the Elementary, Middle and High Schools of the Shanghai Conservatory of Music with Professor Da-Hai Liu and graduated with honors and many awards from competitions in 2009. In the same year, Mr. Shen began his studies with Mr. Timothy Eddy at the Mannes College of Music (BM 2013, MM 2015), where he was presented with Full Scholarship and the Goldsmith Foundation Award and served as the principal cellist of the Mannes Orchestra since 2011. After Mr. Shen graduated from Mannes with honors, he completed his professional study with Dean's Award under the guidance of Philippe Muller at Manhattan School of Music. In 2016, Mr. Shen joined Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and started his study with Colin Carr for Doctor of Musical Art degree at Stony Brook University.

Mr. Shen has performed extensively in the US and abroad (including China, Australia, and Poland) as a soloist and chamber musician, playing at venues such as the Alice Tully Hall, Carnegie Hall, the Steinway Hall, Merkin Concert Hall, Metropolitan Museum, Morgan Library Museum, and taken part in music festivals such as the Sarasota Music Festival, Heifetz International Music Institute (String Quartet Seminar), and the Taos Chamber Music Festival, working with the members of the Borromeo String Quartet, Brentano String Quartet, the Moscow Rachmaninoff Piano Trio, the Guarneri String Quartet, and the Orion String Quartet, amongst others. Mr. Shen has performed in solo and chamber master classes given by world-renowned musicians such as Shmuel Ashkenazi, Christoph Henkel, Andres Diaz, Paul Katz, Ralph Kirshbaum, Laurence Lesser, Robert McDonald, Joseph Silverstein, Michael Tree.

Recently, Mr. Shen shared the same stage with Russian pianist, Vladimir Feltsman in two performances of the Mannes in Unison concert series in the Merkin Concert Hall. He plays on an 1889 Giovanni Dollenz cello made in Triesta, Italy with a 1860 Charles Peccatte bow made available to him as a gift from a private sponsor.



French pianist Matthieu Cognet seriously undertook his piano studies in 2002 at the Conservatoire Supérieur de Paris–CNR, while finishing his Master of Musicology at the University of La Sorbonne. In 2007, he graduated with High Distinction from the Royal Conservatory of Brussels where he studied with Jean-Claude Vanden Eynden. A year later he moved to Bloomington, Indiana, in order to pursue a Performer Diploma under the guidance of Emile Naoumoff at Indiana University. He had the privilege to work with Janos Starker as a studio accompanist at IU, as well as Joshua Bell and Andre Watts.

He performed in numerous master-classes in Europe with Jacques Rouvier in Nice (1998), Aquiles Delle-Vigne in Salzburg (2001), Dominique Merlet in Courchevel (2002, 2005), Boris Berman and Paul Badura-Skoda in Vila-seca (2011). In April 2010, he won the 1st Prize in the Travel Grant Competition in Bloomington. He is a laureate of the Concours Musical de France, and was a semifinalist in the Heida Hermanns International Piano Competition in Westport, Connecticut in December 2009, as well as in the Pozzoli International Piano Competition in Seregno, Italy, in September 2011. In March 2015, he won the Stony Brook Concerto Competition with R. Strauss' Burlesque for piano and orchestra.

Matthieu Cognet is highly interested in the two-piano repertoire, which he performs regularly with Macha Kanza throughout Europe and the United States. He regularly plays as a soloist and a collaborative pianist in France, Belgium, Spain, Italy, Germany and the United States. He recently performed in the Myra Hess Series in Chicago with violinist Kinga Augustyn, at Steinway Hall and Carnegie Hall (Weill Hall) in New York City. He recently collaborated in concert with Juilliard and Stony Brook faculty and Grammy Award nominee Carol Wincenc.

In March 2015, Lauren Keiser Publications released his own arrangement for piano solo of La Valse by Maurice Ravel.

He is currently finishing his Doctor of Musical Arts degree at Stony Brook University, under the guidance of Professor Gilbert Kalish.