

LIVE *from* HOCHSTEIN

Soundscapes

Bonnie Choi and Beverly Smoker, piano

Wednesday, October 22, 2025

Hochstein Performance Hall

50 N. Plymouth Ave. • 585.454.4596 • hochstein.org

PROGRAM

Gottes Zeit ist die allerbeste Zeit, BWV 106

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685 - 1750)
transc. György Kurtág

Sonata in C Major, K. 521
I. *Allegro*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756 - 1791)

Andante and Allegro Brillante, Op. 92

Felix Mendelssohn
(1809 - 1847)

Schafe können sicher weiden, BWV 208

Johann Sebastian Bach
transc. Leonard Duck

Brahms in Salsa

Tal Zilber
(b. 1982)

Bonnie Choi and Beverly Smoker, piano



The Hochstein School is grateful to Sidney & Barbara Sobel for generously providing continuous underwriting support for *Live from Hochstein* since 1993.

Today's *Live from Hochstein* performance is broadcast live and in stereo on **wxxl Classical** FM, 91.5 with host Mona Seghatoleslami

PERFORMERS

Fulbright Scholar **Bonnie Choi** is the editor of the new book, *Mel Bonis, the Woman and the Composer* (Furore Verlag). Her forthcoming performance edition of Cécile Chaminade's *Automne* will be published later this year. Dr. Choi's "dazzling technique" (South China Morning Post) and "wonderfully expressive playing" (Audio Technique) has won her numerous honors, including prizes at the International Harpsichord Competition in Brugge, Belgium and the National Association of Young Performers Competition, as well as recognition as a Finalist at the Pro Musicis Award Competition. She has concertized around the world, her performances have been broadcast on public radio in the United States and Hong Kong, and she has recorded for VM Music.

Dr. Choi has given presentations on piano pedagogy at the MTNA National Conferences and NCKP Conferences, as well as masterclasses and lectures in China on the piano. On the harpsichord, she has given lectures and master classes at the National Harpsichord Competition in Kansas, the Hanoi Conservatory of Music in Vietnam, the Shanghai Conservatory of Music in China, and at Baptist University and the Academy of Performing Arts in Hong Kong. Prior to joining the faculty at Nazareth University she was a visiting faculty member at Shandong Normal University in China. Dr. Choi is the founder and harpsichordist of Air de Cour.

Beverly Smoker is Professor Emerita of Music at Nazareth University, where she taught piano and served as Coordinator of Keyboard Studies, Chair of the Music Department, and Director of the Master of Music in Performance and Pedagogy program. Prior to teaching at Nazareth she taught at Cornell University, Grinnell and Coe Colleges, and at the University of Iowa. Dr. Smoker has also taught privately in her home, and her students have gone on to earn undergraduate and graduate degrees in music at institutions throughout the country, and maintain careers as pedagogues and performing artists. A long time MTNA member, Dr. Smoker has presented many lectures, workshops, and performances for national and state conferences as well as for local community organizations.

Dr. Smoker's career as a pianist has included performances on the Knitting Factory Composer Series in New York City, and on recordings for Centaur Records and ABC Radio in Brisbane, Australia. She has presented a wide range of repertoire, including premiering several works written for her. Dr. Smoker was a recipient of a Gramma Fisher Fellowship at the American Institute of Musical Studies in Graz, Austria and was a regular recipient of solo touring grants from the Iowa Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts. In 2017 she was honored with the Rochester Philharmonic's Outstanding Music Educators Special Award

Hochstein would like to thank its donors and patrons for their support of our mission to provide people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities with access to excellent music and dance education in a community that nurtures and encourages personal achievement.

To learn more about The Hochstein School, visit our website at www.hochstein.org. For information on how to support Hochstein, please contact Gwen Green, Director of Development, at development@hochstein.org or 585.454.4403 x225.



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ENJOY THESE PERFORMANCES?

If you wish to support future *Live from Hochstein* performances for the Rochester community, please consider making a donation in the baskets provided at the exits or at <https://hochstein.org/Support>. Any checks can be made out to The Hochstein School with *Live from Hochstein* in the memo. THANK YOU!

JOIN US NEXT WEEK

Bridging Generations: Music of Bach, Bridge, and Brahms
Featuring Kathleen Murphy Kemp, cello and Dr. Jiao Sun, piano

October 29, 2025 at 12:10PM

AUDIENCE REMINDERS

- Please enter and exit the hall only during applause.
- Food and beverages are not allowed in the Performance Hall.
- Please turn off cell phones and other devices that may sound or light up during the performance. The use of cameras/recording devices is strictly prohibited.
- Restrooms are located downstairs and can be accessed from the back of the Performance Hall. Wheelchair accessible/gender neutral restrooms are in the School; please ask an usher for directions.
- Fire exits are located along the sides and rear of the Performance Hall.