

LIVE *from*  
HOCHSTEIN

*Shared Keys*

A Celebration of Ensemble Piano

Featuring pianists Jamilya Arzanesh, Paula Rodney Bobb,  
Bethany Brinson, Huiping Cai, Yi-Wen Chang,  
Doleen Hood, Willie LaFavor, Gary Palmer, Julie Runion,  
E-Na Song and Oleksandra Yurchenko.

Wednesday, May 13 2026

Hochstein Performance Hall

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

# PROGRAM

Scaramouche  
III. Brazileira

Darius Milhaud  
(1892 - 1974)

Huiping Cai, Doleen Hood, Gary Palmer, Julie Runion

Sonata for Piano 4 Hands in D Major, Op. 6  
I. Allegro molto  
II. Rondo - Moderato

Ludwig van Beethoven  
(1770 - 1827)

Paula Rodney Bobb & Doleen Hood

Bolero from 5 Spanish dances, Op. 12 No. 5

Moritz Moszkowski  
(1854 - 1925)

Jamilya Arzanesh & Bethany Brinson

Piano Sonata No. 16 in C Major K. 545  
I. Allegro

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
(1756 - 1791)  
arr. Edvard Grieg

Paula Rodney Bobb & Willie La Favor

Suite bergamasque, CD 82  
III. Clair de lune

Claude Debussy  
(1862 - 1918)  
arr. Greg Anderson

Jamilya Arzanesh, Bethany Brinson, Julie Runion

Champagne Toccata for 2 Pianos 8 Hands

William Gillock  
(1917 - 1993)

Huiping Cai, Yi-Wen Chang, E-Na Song, Oleksandra Yurchenko

# PROGRAM

Over the Rainbow for 2 Pianos 8 Hands

Harold Arlen  
(1905 - 1986)  
arr. Melody Bober

Huiping Cai, Yi-Wen Chang, E-Na Song, Oleksandra Yurchenko

Stars and Stripes Forever

John Philip Sousa  
(1854 - 1932)  
arr. Mack Wilberg

Doleen Hood, Willie LaFavor, E-Na Song, Oleksandra Yurchenko

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 **WXXI Classical** FM, 91.5 with host Mona Seghatoleslami

## UPCOMING CONCERTS AT HOCHSTEIN

### SATURDAY MAY 16

\*Finals of the 2026 Joseph Eduardo Emerging Artist Competition  
Rochester Oratorio Society  
Performance Hall, 7:30PM

### SUNDAY MAY 17

\*RPO OrKIDstra  
Mother Goose with the Rochester City Ballet  
Performance Hall, 2:00PM

### FRIDAY MAY 29

Honors Convocation  
Performance Hall, 7:00PM

\*indicates ticketed external rental event

# PERFORMERS

Collaborative pianist and educator **Jamilya Arzanesh** has over 25 years of performance experience across educational, community, and faith-based settings. She holds Bachelor and Master degrees in Piano Performance and Music Education from the Turkmen National Conservatory. After relocating to the United States, she earned a Master of Science in Secondary Education from the University of Rochester and holds New York State Professional Teaching Certifications in both Music and English for Speakers of Other Languages. In addition to teaching at Hochstein, Mrs. Arzanesh has maintained a private piano studio, working with students from diverse backgrounds and skill levels. An active collaborative pianist, she has supported school, amateur, and professional musicians in a variety of settings, bringing sensitivity and versatility to a wide range of repertoire, and currently serves at Mountain Rise United Church of Christ in Fairport. In addition to her musical career, Mrs. Arzanesh is pursuing a degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling at the University of Rochester, reflecting her commitment to supporting individuals through artistic and human-centered practices.

A faculty member of The Hochstein School since 1986, pianist **Paula Rodney Bobb** has regularly performed on the *Live from Hochstein* and *Spotlight on Faculty* concert series, in addition to a variety of other venues. She earned her Masters Degree from the New England Conservatory of Music, and a Bachelors Degree from the University of Pittsburgh, studying with Natalie Phillips and Patricia Zander. She was a winner of the Pittsburgh Concert Society, accompanist at the Pennsylvania Opera Festival, and performed numerous opera scenes under the auspices of Young Audiences, Inc. At Hochstein, Ms. Bobb is a former co-chair of the piano department and was the 2011 recipient of the Faculty Service Award. She has served as chief instigator in performances of PDQ Bach's works, and in 2012 performed as a soloist on toy piano with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra on their popular OrKIDStra series. Paula is co-founder of the voice, flute, and piano trio, Gossamer Edge.

**Bethany Brinson** is a Ph.D. candidate and instructor in musicology at the Eastman School of Music. Her research interest is sound art installations, with her continuing research encompassing soundscape composition, acoustic ecology, and songbirds' song-learning processes. She regularly presents her work at regional and national conferences. Prior to coming to Eastman she studied at Indiana University, where she double-majored in mathematics and piano performance along with a minor in French. Bethany also currently serves as a collaborative pianist at Nazareth University and is a member of the piano faculty at The Hochstein School. Also a composer, she has written for a variety of ensembles as well as film scoring and electronics. Outside of music, Bethany enjoys bird-watching, running, and drawing.

## PERFORMERS

Chinese pianist **Huiping Cai** has been praised for her dignified and mature approach, noted for her lyricism, nuanced musicality, and formidable technique. Cai made her orchestral solo debut at age fifteen with the Shenzhen Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Guoyong Zhang. Since then, she has appeared as a soloist with the Evergreen Symphony Orchestra, Vancouver Metropolitan Orchestra, and Jalisco Philharmonic Orchestra, and has performed under the batons of Andreas Delfs and David Effron. In 2023, she made her Carnegie Hall debut at Stern Auditorium/Perelman Stage, performing Liszt's Piano Concerto No. 1 with the Orchestra of St. Luke's, as part of her First Prize and Audience Award win at the New York Franz Liszt International Piano Competition. Her solo performances have been broadcast on major classical radio stations including Philadelphia's WRTI 90.1, Florida's WSMR 89.1, and Chicago's WFMT 98.7 Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concerts.

Pianist **Yi-Wen Chang** received her bachelor and doctoral degrees from the Eastman School of Music and her master's degree from The Juilliard School. An active concert pianist, Chang has performed in solo and collaborative settings in the United States and abroad, with her performances frequently featured on WXXI broadcasts. She can also be heard on the album *Reflections*, a collaboration with Hochstein violin faculty member Pia Liptak, released by Centaur Records. In 2015, she launched the *Then and Now* concert series to explore the dialogue between traditional and contemporary repertoire and to revive the 19th-century tradition of the composer-pianist. In addition to her performance career, Chang is a dedicated pedagogue, having served as an adjudicator for numerous local and international piano competitions. Chang currently serves as Co-Chair of the Piano Department at The Hochstein School, and additionally teaches at Nazareth University, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, and SUNY Geneseo.

**Doleen Hood** earned her Bachelor of Music degree from the D'Angelo School of Music and a Master of Music from the Cleveland Institute of Music, where she was an Accompanying Fellow and recipient of the Gwendolyn Koldofsky Award. Her work as a pianist, coach, and chamber musician has included roles at the Heifetz Institute, Dale Warland Singers, Annapolis and Baltimore Operas, Paul Hill Chorale and Washington Singers, and the Eastman School and Peabody Institute. Prior to joining the Hochstein School in 1999, Ms. Hood held faculty positions at the MacPhail School, Crown College, and Bethel College. At Hochstein she was honored with the Faculty Service Award and has served as a Dean. Ms. Hood's pedagogy focuses on beginning and adult students as well as chamber music. She is also an active collaborative pianist in the greater Rochester area and performs regularly on the *Spotlight on Faculty* and *Live from Hochstein* concert series.

# PERFORMERS

Pianist **Willie La Favor** holds Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from Jacksonville University and the New England Conservatory, and a Doctor of Music degree from Indiana University. He formerly served on the faculty of Indiana Wesleyan University and the Young Pianist's Program at Indiana University, and has served as an accompanist at Butler and DePauw Universities. Dr. La Favor has also performed extensively as a recital accompanist, including as a guest artist in Chautauqua's Lenna Hall, live on WXXI public radio, and on Hochstein's *Spotlight on Faculty* concert series. He currently serves as Director of Music at Messiah Lutheran Church in Greece, piano faculty at The Hochstein School, and as an accompanist for The Harley School, Nazareth College, and The Hochstein School. Among his many honors are First Place in the National Beethoven Piano Sonata Festival, and Runner-up in the MTNA National Collegiate Artists Chamber Music Competition in 1990 together with his wife, clarinetist Debbie Grohman.

Pianist **Gary Palmer** holds a Master of Music in Piano Performance and a Ph.D. in Music Education from the Eastman School of Music, where his dissertation topic was the history and mission of The Hochstein School. He also holds a Bachelor of Science in Applied Music from Nazareth University. Palmer's performance career includes solo performances with the Greece Symphony Orchestra, the Elmira Symphony and Choral Society, the Greater Rochester Women's Philharmonic, and at various college campuses and other venues throughout New York State. Palmer was awarded a National Citation from the Points of Light Foundation, the Eastman School's first Jack L. Frank Community Service Award, The Hochstein School's Faculty Service Award, and a 2015 Special Citation from the New York State Music Teachers Association in recognition of his contributions to NYSMTA and dedication to the music community.

Collaborative pianist and educator **Julie Runion** currently serves as a collaborative pianist at The Hochstein School and the Eastman Community Music School, and as a choir accompanist for Gates Chili central Schools. She recently retired after serving over 20 years on the faculty at Roberts Wesleyan University. As a performer, she has worked extensively with both student and professional musicians, with a special focus on wind and vocal repertoire. Her performances include appearances at the Piccolo Spoleto Festival in Charleston, WXXI's *Live from Hochstein* series, the Friends of Music series at St. Paul's Cathedral in Buffalo, and with the Rochester Morning Musicale Society. Julie has served on the faculty of the Csehy Summer School of Music in Philadelphia and continues to maintain a private piano studio in her home. Her teachers include Joseph Werner, Scott Price, John Kenneth Adams, Dolores Gadevsky, and Sylvia Glickman. She and her husband, Eric, have three children, all of whom are musicians.

## PERFORMERS

Pianist **Dr. E-Na Song** is a distinguished musician whose career encompasses performance, collaboration, pedagogy, and arts administration. An active pianist, she is dedicated to presenting diverse repertoire with thoughtful programming and expressive artistry, regularly performing on the *Live from Hochstein* and *Spotlight on Faculty* concert series. Dr. Song has recently presented the programs *French Works: Color and Character*, in collaboration with clarinetist Carl Galland, *World Serenade: An Evening of Musical Voyage*, and *Celebration of Dance: Beethoven, Kodály, Liszt, and Albright*. The latter program was also presented in Savannah, Georgia and Edwardsville, Illinois. Dr. Song serves on the piano faculty at the Rochester Institute of Technology, Roberts Wesleyan University, and The Hochstein School, and is a collaborative pianist at Nazareth University, SUNY Geneseo, and the Eastman Community Music School. She is also Associate Director of the Rebecca Penneys Piano Festival. Dr. Song earned her degrees from Seoul National University and the Eastman School of Music, studying with HyungBae Kim and Rebecca Penneys.

Ukrainian pianist **Oleksandra Yurchenko** holds a Master of Music degree from the Lviv Conservatory, where she later served as a staff accompanist and professor of collaborative piano, and was awarded the prestigious Performers Certificate. Oleksandra has performed as a soloist and collaborative pianist across North America and Europe, performing with renowned artists and accompanying including Tomash Konieczny, Maria Bayko, and Volodymyr Ihnatenko. She has accompanied numerous international competitions where she received the Prestigious Certificate in recognition of Best Collaborative Pianist in Europe. She was a collaborative pianist for master classes with Dr. Christian Elssner from the Dresden Music Academy. Oleksandra joined the faculty of The Hochstein School in 2006, and two years later at the Eastman School of Music. She also works as a pianist at Webster United Church of Christ, and is active as a collaborative pianist in the greater Rochester area and performs regularly on the Hochstein *Spotlight on Faculty* concert series. Since 2016, she also has had her own studio of piano students.

*Hochstein programs are made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.  
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**Council on  
the Arts**



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To learn more about The Hochstein School, visit our website at [www.hochstein.org](http://www.hochstein.org).  
For information on how to support Hochstein, please contact Gwen Green, Director of Development, at [development@hochstein.org](mailto:development@hochstein.org) or 585.454.4403 x223.

## 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 SEASON

*Live from Hochstein returns on Wednesday October 14th, 2026.*

## 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.