

ROCO CONNECTIONS

Site-specific collaborative chamber concerts



From Here, There, an Nowhere

Wednesday, March 22, 2023 • 7:00pm

Asia Society Texas Center • 1370 Southmore Blvd



Asia
Society

Curated by and featuring

Min-Jeong Koh, violin • **Bo Yon Koh,** piano



GENJI

A WORLD PREMIERE

FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 2023, 7:30 PM
SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 2023, 7:30 PM

CHOREOGRAPHER AND ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
NAO KUSUZAKI

COMPOSER/MUSICIAN
KAORU WATANABE

PRESENTING PARTNER
HOUSTON BALLET

Tickets at AsiaSociety.org/Genji

ASIA SOCIETY TEXAS

1370 SOUTHMORE BOULEVARD
HOUSTON, TX 77004
713.496.9901

ROCO CONNECTIONS

From Here, There, and Nowhere

Wednesday, March 22, 2023 • 7:00pm

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Min-Jeong Koh, violin • **Bo Yon Koh**, piano

Bright Sheng

(brahyt sheng)

Three Fantasies

I. Dream Song

---3 minutes---

Vijay Iyer

(vi-jhey ah-yer)

The Diamond

I. A Dream

---6 minutes---

Un-Yung La

(oon-yuhng la)

Sanjo

---15 minutes---

Chan Ka Nin

(chan ka nin)

Soulmate for Violin and Piano

---6 minutes---

Reena Esmail

(riy-nuh eh-smeyl)

When the Violin

---8 minutes---

Traditional Korean Tune

Arirang

---2 minutes---

Jung Sun Kang

(juhng suhn kheyng)

Star-Crossed

---4 minutes---

Kevin Lau

(keh-vin lah-oo)

If Life Were a Mirror

---14 minutes---

Concert sponsored in part by *Gretchen and Andrew McFarland*

Min-Jeong Koh, *violin*

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Musician Consortium:

*Lisa & Rex Wooldridge,
Ronald Joe Chair*
.....



Praised for her “simply unbeatable beauty of tone” (Berliner Zeitung), Min-Jeong Koh maintains a busy schedule as concert violinist, violist, and educator. As first violinist of the Cecilia String Quartet, Ms. Koh won First Prize at the Banff International String Quartet Competition, 2nd Prize at the Osaka International Music Competition, and the Prix de la Sacem at the Bordeaux String Quartet Competition. Their latest recording was chosen as Gramophone Magazine’s “Editor’s Choice”, “Top 10 Mendelssohn Recordings” and was nominated for a JUNO Award for Best Classical Album. With the ensemble, Ms. Koh has performed across Europe, Asia, and North America at such celebrated stages as London’s Wigmore Hall, Amsterdam’s Concertgebouw, Berlin Konzerthaus, Beethoven-haus, Prague’s Rudolfinum, Library of Congress, La Jolla Music Society, Stanford Live, among others. Ms. Koh’s performances and recordings can be heard on BBC Radio 3, Bayerischer Rundfunk, DeutschlandRadio, New York City’s WQXR, Public Radio International throughout the United States, and the Canadian Broadcasting Company.

A passionate educator, she is on faculty at The Glenn Gould School and The Taylor Academy at The Royal Conservatory of Music where she also co-directs the RCM Violin Symposium. Previously, she has served as Associate Professor of Violin at University of Oklahoma, Adjunct Professor at the University of Toronto, along with teaching posts at McGill University, San Diego State University, and Wilfrid Laurier University. A sought-after teacher, she has been invited as faculty to the Indiana University Summer String Academy, The Banff Centre, MISQA, Chamber Music at Port Milford, Innsbrook Institute, Madeline Island Chamber Music, and Austin Chamber Music Center.

In addition, she is passionate about the ways music can bind communities. Among her projects, she is co-founder of Xenia Concerts, a series dedicated to presenting concerts designed specifically for children on the autism spectrum, and has co-

curated concerts for Hanvoice, a series of performances to benefit North Korean refugees. She also performed at the San Francisco Women’s Jail, California School for the Blind, Monarch School for Homeless Youths, and Reflections Community School for at-risk youth, among many others. She is currently a member of the Houston-based ROCO, an innovative music ensemble that connects communities across multi-generations and breaks down barriers to make music accessible to all.

Min-Jeong Koh studied with Hyung-Sun Paik and Paul Kantor before joining The Taylor Academy (formerly the Young Artists Performance Academy) to study with Mayumi Seiler. She received her Bachelor of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of Toronto under the guidance of Scott St. John, Lorand Fenyves, and Erika Raum, Lucy Chapman at New England Conservatory, pedagogy with Mimi Zweig, and with Donald Weilerstein, which were made possible by the Canada Council for the Arts. Her chamber music mentors include André Roy and members of the Brentano, Schoenberg, St. Lawrence, and Ying Quartets.

Since 2009, she plays on a ca.1767 Joannes Baptista Guadagnini violin on loan from a generous benefactor, and a viola made in 2021 by Mark Schnurr.

Bo Yon Koh, *piano*

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Bo Yon Koh is a pianist who enjoys a versatile career as a musician, educator, and researcher. As a soloist, she has appeared with the National Academy Orchestra, the Royal Conservatory Orchestra, the Cathedral Bluffs Symphony Orchestra, and the Chinese Overseas Orchestra. As a chamber musician, she has



collaborated with many internationally recognized artists including her violinist sister, Min-Jeong Koh, violinist Conrad Chow, violist Richard Yongjae O’Neil, cellist Liza McLellan, and the members of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. She has participated in the Hart House Sunday Matinee series, TSO associates’ Five Small Concerts, Xenia Concerts, Music at Port Milford, and the Stratford Summer Music Festival.

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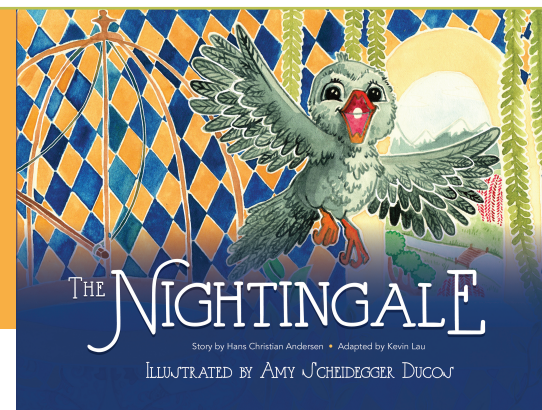
Dr. Koh is passionate about pedagogy, the arts and science of teaching, and strongly believes in the value of facilitating student-centered learning in her lessons. Her passion for innovative pedagogy has led to the birth of a community music school she now directs - Music InsideOut. Adding her unique expertise as a certified Solution-Focused Coach to her pedagogy, Dr. Koh strives to seize every opportunity to empower her students to become independent learners by equipping them with tools to regulate their learning when they are on their own. Dr. Koh frequently lectures at the University of Toronto and appears in workshops and conferences. Recently, she has presented in the Music Teachers National Association Conference, National Conference of Keyboard Pedagogy, Solution Focused World Conference, and Solution Focused Brief Therapy Association Conference.

Born in Seoul, Korea, Bo Yon Koh began her musical studies at the age of five. She continued her studies upon arriving in Canada in 1993 at the Royal Conservatory of Music with James Anagnoson. She has also studied with the late Marietta Orlov, Ka Kit Tam, Tong-Il Han, Linda Jiorle-Nagy, Jamie Parker, and Lydia Wong. Dr. Koh received her undergraduate degree from the Glenn Gould School, Master of Music from Boston University, and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in piano performance and pedagogy for her research in applying coaching as a pedagogical tool in advanced music education from the University of Toronto.

Special Thanks

to

ASIA SOCIETY TEXAS CENTER



Join ROCO

April 1, 2023 at 10:30 AM at the
Houston downtown public library for a live performance
of the book

The Nightingale,

based upon Hans Christian Andersen's tale,
with original illustrations and commissioned music!

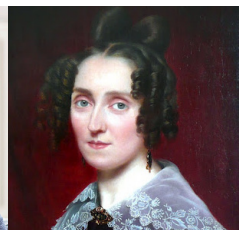
**The first 50 children will receive
a free copy of the book!**

The Nightingale is a piece for violin, clarinet, piano, and narrator that ROCO commissioned and premiered by Hong Kongese-Canadian composer **Kevin Lau**. Eight illustrations were also commissioned from **Amy Scheidegger Ducos** and were projected during the performance. The piece is based upon the delightful **Hans Christian Anderson** tale and has a duration of 17 minutes so creating a children's book was a logical next step for this fabulous work.

To learn more about this exciting
"next chapter" for ROCO go to:

<https://roco.org/the-nightingale-book/>
or scan the QR code.





grateful

SEASON 18



CALENDAR

■ Albert and Margaret Alkek Foundation **IN CONCERT SERIES**

■ **CONNECTIONS**

■ **UNCHAMBERED**

LS **LIVE STREAM**

■ **Nightingale Book Launch**

April 1, 2023 • 10:30am

Houston Public Library - Central Library

■ **Concertmaster Scott St. John & Friends**

LS Saturday, April 1, 2023 • 7:30pm • MATCH

■ **Future**

LS April 29, 2023 • 5:00pm • The Church of St. John the Divine

*“Laying down
a vibrant
and diverse
soundtrack for
an entire city.”*

Arts and Culture Texas



ROCO is a dynamic and innovative professional music ensemble that flexes from 1 to 40 players from all over the US and Canada, with guest conductors from around the world.

Performing intimate concerts in dozens of venues, ROCO's musicians do not just give concerts — they challenge preconceptions, create extraordinary experiences and foster new relationships with audiences through the language of music.