



COLLEGE OF MUSIC

University of North Texas
College of Music

Guest Artist Recital | Saturday, April 26, 2025 | 8:00 p.m. | Recital Hall

Dennis Parker, cello

Lina Morita, piano

Sonata in D Major, Op. 6 No. 6 (1737) Pietro Locatelli
Allegro (1696–1750)
Adagio arr. Alfredo Piatti
Allegro

Sonata for Violin and Piano (1917) Claude Debussy
Allegro vivo (1862–1918)
Intermède: Fantasque et léger arr. Dennis Parker
Finale: Très anime

Violin Sonata No. 2 in A Major, Op. 100 (1886) Johannes Brahms
Allegro amabile (1833–1897)
Andante tranquillo arr. Laszlo Varga
Allegretto grazioso (quasi Andante)

Sambatango (c. 1977) Walter Burle Marx
(1902–1990)

*Program six hundred eighty-nine of the 2024–2025 season
Photography and videography are prohibited*

Biographies

Cellist **Dennis Parker** was born in New York City and began his cello studies at the age of six. He received his early training with Channing Robbins of the Juilliard School, and later earned degrees from Indiana University and Yale University, where he worked with Janos Starker and Aldo Parisot, respectively.

Since 1988, Parker has served as Professor of Cello and String Chamber Music at the Louisiana State University School of Music. A former member of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Parker has also served as Principal Cellist of the Porto Alegre Symphony Orchestra in Porto Alegre, Brazil. In 2003 he recorded to DVD the first complete performance of David Popper's "High School of Cello Playing" and authored of the accompanying manual, "Popper Manifesto."

Inspired by a variety of musical activity, Parker appears frequently as soloist, recitalist, collaborator, and guest professor at universities and festivals worldwide. He is actively involved in the expansion of the existing cello repertoire, and has transcribed many important works for his instrument: *Mozart on Cello?* presents Mozart's *Sinfonia Concertante for Violin and Viola, K364*, and Mozart's *A Major Violin Concerto, K219*, , Brahms's *Viola Sonata in E Flat Major*, *Violin Sonata in A Major*, Georges Enesco's *Violin Sonata No. 3 in A minor*, Francis Poulenc's *Flute Sonata*, to name but a few.

Recently released on Youtube is his transcription of Vivaldi's *Four Long Seasons -VIVALDI VIRALE_ Double-Masked*, which is the only complete video recording/performance exclusively played on cellos.

Parker has also released CDs with the Centaur label: *Cello Matters* features crossover music for cello and piano by Liduino Pitombeira, Daniel Schnyder, David Baker, and Astor Piazzolla; *Uplifting Discoveries from a Generation Lost* is a recording of chamber music by composers who perished in the Holocaust (Erwin Schulhoff, Gideon Klein, Viktor Ullmann and Hans Krasa). Other recent recordings include *Volume 1 of Stolen Sonatas*, with pianist Jennifer Hayghe, with his own transcriptions of Debussy's *Sonata for Violin*, Poulenc's *Sonata for Flute*, and Enesco's *Sonata No.3 for Violin*, *The Lone Cello*, featuring solo cello works by Scott Howard Eggert (*Uccello*), George Crumb, Viktor Kalabis, and György Ligeti, and the complete cello works of Walter Burle Marx, his *Concerto (1983)*, *Sambatango for cello and piano*, *Divertimento a Tre for flute, oboe and cello*, and the *Casanova Fantasy Variations for Three Celli*.

When not playing cello, Parker, an avid woodworker and sculptor, creates objects that extend his musical expression and complement the delicate act of performance with the risky business of maneuvering wood through various cutting and shaping devices. You can see his work at www.dennisparkerland.com, on Instagram: [Dennisparkercelloetc](https://www.instagram.com/dennisparkercelloetc). He lives in Baton Rouge, Louisiana with his wife, artist Jacqueline Dee Parker www.jacquelinedeeparker.com, and their oversized Shepherd/Lab, Leda.

Japanese-Brazilian pianist **Lina Morita** made her Carnegie Hall debut in 2013. Her international career has taken her throughout the U.S., Brazil, Mexico, Spain, France, and the Czech Republic. Most recently, she has been invited to present concerts at Sala Blas Galindo at Centro Nacional de Artes, Mexico City; Capilla de la Biblioteca Miguel Lerdo de Tejada, Mexico City; Auditorio Alfredo Kraus in Gran Canaria, Spain; Casa Sors in Barcelona, Spain; Salão Leopoldo Miguez in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; and in Mexico City (UNAM, Museo Mural Diego Rivera and at La Escuela de Musica "Vida y Movimiento" del Centro Cultural Ollin Yoliztli). Other venues in which she has performed include II Festival Eleazar de Carvalho, IX Festival de Música de Santa Catarina in Brazil, the Bertramka Museum in Prague, the Music Center at Strathmore in Maryland, Atlas Performing Arts Center in Washington DC, the Connoisseur Series at the University of Southern Mississippi. In August and September of 2024, she will be performing solo recitals as an invited guest pianist for the Ponce Project Foundation in Mexico City and Houston, TX.

As a performer and pedagogue, Lina Morita has performed recitals and taught master classes at colleges and universities throughout the United States and abroad and has collaborated with renowned musicians such as flutists Ransom Wilson, Susan Milan, Ian Clarke, Jim Walker, clarinetists Mark Nuccio, Robert Spring and cellist Dennis Parker. As a concerto soloist, Morita performed Mozart's "Jeunehomme" Concerto and the Chopin's F Minor Concerto with the Ars Nova Chamber Orchestra in Washington D.C. and Virginia. Other soloist appearances include Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* and Beethoven's Concerto No. 4 with the Lake Charles Symphony in Louisiana and the Washington Sinfonietta in Washington DC. She has released CDs with soprano Carol Lines on Centaur Records and with cellist Dennis Parker on Nucello Recordings. The latest CD, *Landscapes*, with guitarist Jay Kacherski released by Frameworks Records in the Fall of 2022 has been deemed "an impressive album both in music and performances" by Soundboard Magazine, and that "Kacherski and Morita are both virtuosos and play exceptionally well together".

Lina Morita received the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Piano Performance and Literature from the Eastman School of Music; the Master of Music degree from Rice University; and the Bachelor of Music degree from Indiana University. Her primary studies have been with Nelita True, Robert Roux, Edmund Battersby, and Michel Block. Morita is currently a Professor of Piano at McNeese State University in Lake Charles, Louisiana.