



COLLEGE OF MUSIC

University of North Texas College of Music

Guest Artist Recital | Thursday, February 9, 2023 | 8:00 pm | Voertman Hall

Marcin Parys & Yuka Mikato Piano Duo

Sonata in F Major, Opus 32 (c. 1887) Antonio Diabelli (1781–1858)

- I. Adagio - Allegro
- II. Andante cantabile
- III. Rondo (Allegretto)

Fantasy in F minor, D. 940 (1828) Franz Schubert (1797–1828)

--Intermission--

Introduction, Theme et Cinq Variations
sur un air national de Moore (1826) Frédéric Chopin (1810–1849)

The Carnival of the Animals (1886) Camille Saint-Saëns (1835–1921)

1. Introduction and Royal March of the Lion
2. Hens and Roosters
3. Swift Animals
4. Tortoises
5. The Elephant
6. Kangaroos
7. Aquarium
8. Personages with Long Ears
9. The Cuckoo in the Depths of the Woods
10. Aviary
11. Pianists
12. Fossils
13. The Swan
14. Finale

about our guest artists

Marcin Parys is a world-renowned Polish pianist who has won more than thirty international competitions. Yuka Mikata is a Japanese pianist trained in both Japan and Russia. In the United States she is particularly recognized as the creative force behind multiple competitions and special performances. They met in Texas in 2020 as invitees to judge the XIV Sonatina and Sonata International Youth Piano Competition. Marcin brings his dynamic musicality while Yuka's tender tonal expression complements him perfectly to create an intoxicating blend of passion and sensibility. After forming the **Marcin and Yuka Piano Duo** in 2022, the two released their debut album *Fire and Water*, which included works by Chopin, Schubert, and Saint-Saëns. Since then, they have performed at numerous recitals throughout Texas, delivering emotionally captivating performances that appeal to all audiences. Together, their artistry provides a uniquely enriching experience that can be felt through their soulful performances.

Dr. Marcin Parys is a celebrated concert pianist and recording artist renowned for his impressive technique, captivating musicality, and sincere passion for classical music. He has performed across Europe, Israel, and North America to enthusiastic audiences, and has been hailed as one of the most talented interpreters of Chopin's works. Since his first performance at the age of 9 he has taken part in over 30 competitions worldwide and has won prestigious awards such as the 2015 IBLA GRAND PRIZE Competition in Ragusa-Ibla, Sicily, Italy, 2012 20th International Chopin Piano Competition in Corpus Christi, TX and 2010 Piano Division at The Naftzger Instrumentalists Competition. His success is also highlighted by his youth achievements including the 2000 National Piano Competition in Krakow (Poland), 1996 2nd prize winner of International Piano Competition in Koszyce (Slovakia), and 1994 2nd prize winner of The Polish National Piano Competition "Janina Garscia" in Stalowa Wola. Since 2017, he has been an adjunct piano professor at Southwestern Adventist University in Keene, Texas, further cementing his impact on the world of music. From New York to Paris to London, Dr. Parys continues to be one of today's most acclaimed solo and collaborative musicians and pianists. Parys has flourished as a musician and consistently wows audiences with his stunning performances.

Pianist **Yuka Mikata** is a passionate and highly esteemed performer, composer, and music educator from Japan and the United States. She was raised in Kyoto and studied at Osaka Music College and Kyoto City University of Arts in Japan. Although her major is in piano performance, she also studied music psychology and child development through music. She continued her piano education under Professor Pavel Egorov at St. Petersburg Conservatory named after N.A. Rimsky-Korsakov. In 2015 she was invited to give a masterclass at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley in Edinburg marking the beginning of her expansive career in classical music. Over the following years, Yuka has participated in numerous performances both as a soloist and a collaborative musician. She has been invited to judge at the Sonatina and Sonata International Youth Piano Competition, International Chopin Piano Competition in Corpus Christi, TX, NOVYI International Music Competition and GUILD Audition of American College of Musicians. As for media, she has been a part of classical music programs on the radio, television, and newspaper. Yuka has passion for all beautiful and elegant creations from all over the world and her dream is to spread the experience of classical music to future generations and show that cultivating one's musical skill is a valuable treasure that lasts a lifetime.