



COLLEGE OF MUSIC

University of North Texas
College of Music

Candidate Recital | Thursday, February 15, 2024 | 4:00 pm | Recital Hall

Liza Stepanova, piano

from *Partita No. 4 in D Major*,

BWV 828 (c. 1728) Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)
I. Overture

from *The Way North* (2017) Reinaldo Moya (b. 1984)
VIII. Rain Outside the Church

from *Sonata in C Major*,

Hob. XVI:50 (c. 1794) Joseph Haydn (1733–1809)
I. Allegro

from *The Life of Flowers*, Opus 19 (1904) Dora Pejačević (1885–1923)
VI. Red Carnations

from *Kreisleriana*, Opus 16 (1838) Robert Schumann (1810–1856)
I. Äußerst bewegt
II. Sehr innig und nicht zu rasch

from *Three Movements from*

Petrushka (1921) Igor Stravinsky (1882–1971)
III. The Shrovetide Fair

MASTERCLASS

Ballade No. 4 in F minor, Opus 52 (1842) Frédéric Chopin (1810–1849)
Zhaohan Wang, piano

from *Concerto No. 2 in*

G minor, Opus 22 (1868) Camille Saint-Saëns (1835–1921)
I. Andante sostenuto

Xin Cui, piano • Gustavo Romero, collaborative piano

*Four hundred eighty-fourth program of the 2023–2024 season
Photography and videography are prohibited*

about our guest artist

Praised by *The New York Times* for her “thoughtful musicality” and “fleet-fingered panache,” **Liza Stepanova** is in demand as a soloist, collaborator, and educator. In 2018, Stepanova released her debut solo album *Tones & Colors: Music and Visual Art*, recorded in New York City with Grammy-winning producer Adam Abeshouse and featuring music from Bach to Ligeti that was inspired by visual art. In the fall of 2020, she was named *Musical America Worldwide's* “New Artist of the Month,” a rare distinction celebrating her work and particularly the impact of her CD *E Pluribus Unum* (NAVONA Records) celebrating contemporary American composers with an immigrant background. The CD, which features a commission and three world-premiere recordings, received universal acclaim with reviews in the top three British classical music journals: *Gramophone*, *BBC Music Magazine*, and *International Piano*, as well as *The Whole Note* in Canada and *Piano Magazine* in the United States.

Stepanova has performed extensively in Europe, most recently as a soloist with the Southwest-German Philharmonic and in chamber music performances at the Berlin Museum of Musical Instruments and Belgrade's Kolarac Hall. In the United States, she has appeared in Weill and Zankel recital halls at Carnegie; Alice Tully Hall, Merkin and Steinway halls in New York City; at the Kennedy Center and The Smithsonian in Washington, D.C.; and live on WQXR New York, WFMT Chicago, and WETA Washington. Stepanova has twice been a soloist with the Juilliard Orchestra led by James DePreist and Nicholas McGegan and was a top prizewinner at the Liszt-Garrison, Juilliard Concerto, Steinway, and Ettlingen competitions.

As a member of the Lysander Piano Trio, Stepanova won the Concert Artists Guild International Competition and received top prizes at the Coleman and Fischhoff chamber music competitions. Liza Stepanova studied art song collaboration with Wolfram Rieger in Berlin and was invited by the late Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau to perform in several of his masterclasses including the Hugo-Wolf-Tage festival in Austria. Since 2010, Stepanova has been on the faculty at SongFest at The Colburn School in Los Angeles and also served as the festival's Associate Artistic Director and Piano Program Director for two years. Stepanova received her DMA from The Juilliard School with a Richard F. French Award for outstanding doctoral work. Previously a graduate of the Hanns Eisler Academy in Berlin, Germany, she studied with Joseph Kalichstein, Seymour Lipkin, Jerome Lowenthal, and George Sava, and performed in masterclasses for Alfred Brendel, Daniel Barenboim and Andrés Schiff. Following teaching positions at The Juilliard School and Smith College, she is currently a tenured associate professor of piano and piano area chair at the University of Georgia, Hugh Hodgson School of Music.

