

The Times

Golandsky Institute kicks off 10th annual piano festival

Ross Amico | The Times of Trenton

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The Golandsky Institute's 10th Annual International Piano Festival in Princeton will begin Sunday.

Classical and jazz artists will perform in the six-concert series, which will take place at McCarter Theatre Center and Richardson Auditorium in Alexander Hall, on the campus of Princeton University.

The festival will include recitals by Hong Kong's Rachel Cheung (Sunday), New Jersey-born Father Sean Duggan (Monday) and American violinist (born in Sydney, Australia) Miranda Cuckson with Ukrainian pianist Yegor Shevtsov (Tuesday), all at McCarter's Berlind Theatre.

A joint recital by Russian pianists Pavel Nersessian and Ilya Itin (Thursday), a recital by Itin alone (next Friday), and a concert by the Berklee Global Jazz Institute, with Italian saxophonist Marco Pignataro (next Saturday), will take place at Richardson Auditorium.

All concerts will begin at 8 p.m. There are no concerts planned for Wednesday, the date of the Philadelphia Orchestra's Princeton appearance (see main article).



Grammy Award-winning Princeton composer Steve Mackey's Sonata for Violin and Piano will be featured on the Cuckson-Shevstov program. Also heard will be sonatas by Bach, Beethoven and Debussy, along with the "Jazz Sonata" of 1922 by Trenton-born composer George Antheil.

Cheung will tackle keyboard works of Bach, Debussy, Chopin and Schumann, including Schumann's "Fantasy in C Major."

Father Duggan, a Benedictine monk, will bring his signature Bach along with Beethoven's "Hammerklavier" Sonata.

Nersession and Itin will perform works by Hindemith, Schubert and Prokofiev, including substantial selections from Prokofiev's "Cinderella Suite."

Itin's solo recital will feature Debussy's "Preludes, Book 2" and Liszt's Piano Sonata in B Minor.

The Golandsky Institute is the preeminent center for the Taubman Approach, which emphasizes natural movement and healthy technique to minimize pain and repetitive stress injury in musicians. The method was pioneered by Dorothy Taubman, who died on April 3 at the age of 95.

Edna Golandsky co-founded the Taubman Institute in 1976. Its success led to the establishment of her own institute in Princeton in 2003.

The piano festival coincides with the annual Golandsky Institute Summer Symposium. Orientation for the symposium will take place tomorrow night (registration begins at 2 p.m.), with symposium events beginning on Sunday morning.

Participants will attend lectures, master classes, technique clinics and other presentations, while taking part in private lessons, supervised practice time and interactive technique clinics. For more information, look online at golandskyinstitute.org.

Admission to the concerts is \$20. Tickets are available at mccarter.org or (609) 258-2787.