

COMPASS

COMMUNITY ONLINE MEDITATION PERFORMANCE AND SALON SERIES

PROGRAM

Johann Sebastian Bach
Invention No. 4 BWV 775
Shinichiro Inaji - Piano

Making New Ruins
AKaiser - Poet

Johann Sebastian Bach
Sarabande from the 2nd Cello Suite
Kirk Ferguson - Trombone

Modest Mussorgsky/Maurice Ravel
Bydlo from Pictures at an Exhibition
Kirk Ferguson - Euphonium

The Harp Shell
AKaiser - Poet

Referendum
AKaiser - Poet

Johann Sebastian Bach
Prelude & Fugue F minor BWV 881
Mari Hwang - Piano

Edward Elgar
Nimrod from Enigma Variations
Louis Yungling - Piano

Teatro Flamenco
Beethoven's Piano
AKaiser - Poet

Astronaut, or Blues Singer
AKaiser - Poet

Gabriel Fauré
Pièces Brèves pour Piano Op84 No. 5
Louis Yungling - Piano

Leonard Bernstein
Elegy for Mippy II for solo trombone
Kirk Ferguson - Trombone

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Kirk Ferguson

Kirk Ferguson was named Assistant Principal Trombonist of the Milwaukee Symphony in September, 2011. Prior to joining the MSO, he served as Principal Trombonist with the Spokane Symphony, Co-Principal Trombonist with the Malaysian Philharmonic and Associate Principal Trombonist with the Honolulu Symphony. He is also a former member of the River City Brass Band in Pittsburgh, PA. Kirk has performed with the Seattle Symphony, Pittsburgh Symphony, Akron Symphony, Wheeling Symphony, Lincoln Center Festival and Clarion Brass Choir. He is a member of the Chicago Trombone Consort.



Kirk is currently adjunct professor of low brass at Wisconsin Lutheran College and an Associate Teacher with the Art of the Practicing Institute. He received his Masters degree from The Juilliard School and his Bachelors degree from Duquesne University.

Kirk began studying meditation in graduate school. He is currently a student and practitioner in the Shambhala Buddhist tradition. He serves as Interim Chair of the Governing Council at the Milwaukee Shambhala Center and also holds a teaching role as a Shambhala Guide. Kirk is a native of Punxsutawney, PA. He currently lives

in Mequon, WI with his wife Mary and their two dogs, Frank and Annie. Kirk is proud to be a Yamaha Performing Artist.

Mari Hwang

A multifaceted NYC-based musician Mari Hwang has performed across the U.S. as a pianist, harpsichordist, and conductor.



Ms. Hwang has collaborated in world premieres with composers including Pedro Ramos, Brian Haller, and James Stepleton. She has frequently performed for psychiatric patients at New York-Presbyterian Hospital, a concert series in Brooklyn Heights, "Bach in the Heights," as a harpsichordist, and Uptown Ballet Academy in Inwood, since the school's second Spring Annual Recital. And recently participated in Transformative Piano Masterclass Series led by Madeline Bruser, the author of "The Art of Practicing." Additionally, she has appeared on The Voice of America about entrepreneurship in classical music.

Previously, Ms. Hwang was a staff accompanist at Suzuki Music School in Westport, CT, and a pianist for the Association to Benefit Children's music program at Cassidy's Place in the Upper East Side and Echo Park Graham School in Harlem. Ms. Hwang moved from a sunny suburb of Los Angeles to attend Manhattan School of Music, where she studied with the late Mr. Zenon Fishbein and received a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance. Currently she is a collaborative pianist at Manhattan School of Music Precollege Division and has a private teaching studio.

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Shinichiro Inaji

Born in Kyoto Japan and living in NY with husband and a dog, working as Graphic Designer / Translator. Shin loves piano and has been learning on his own since he was child, and finally started the long-sought piano lesson under teacher & friend Louis Yungling in Brooklyn since 2018.



He is thrilled and very happy to be a part of the first Compass Concert with Kirk, Mari, AKaiser and Louis, and exploring what types of benefits we can share with people through the music online in this very unique time in the world. He is thankful so much to Louis for all his efforts and creativity for producing this event!

AKaiser

AKaiser is the Pushcart Prize nominated author of <glint>, co-winner of the inaugural Milk and Cake Book Prize. Her work has placed as finalist for awards such as the North American Review James Hearst Poetry Prize, Dogwood: A Journal of Poetry & Prose Poetry Prize and the Eggtooth Editions Chapbook Prize. Poems and photos can also be found in Harbor Review, Lavender Review, Mudfish, NewSquare, and The Rumpus.



She is currently translating André Breton's Nadja, the collected works of Catalan poet Anna Gual, and writing the biography and translating the writings of the first Iberian translator of Whitman, into Catalan, transatlantic urbanista, Cebrià Montoliu.

In February, she was Fellow at the ATLAS Translation Workshop (Arles) and in April, she curated and participated in two events for the Sant Jordi 2020 – virtual! – Festival. These videos, including her reading of Horse Behavior, the subject of her essay, The layered life of a poem, and translated into several languages, can be viewed at: <https://www.santjordinyc.org/live>

Photo credit: Beowulf Sheehan

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Louis Yungling

Louis teaches private piano lessons online (and hopefully soon again in person in Brooklyn Heights). He graduated high school from the Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan and studied piano at Arizona State University. In 2005 and 2006 he produced and performed in The Dreams Fulfilled concerts, two benefit concerts at Weill Recital Hall in Carnegie Hall to raise money for The High School for Leadership & Public Service and the Globe Institute of Technology respectively. His 4 years of study with New York piano teacher and author of The Art of Practicing, Madeline Bruser, led him to refine his teaching approach to be completely student-centered and supported by his own meditation practice. He is a practitioner in the Shambhala Buddhist tradition.



Tonight's concert is the fruition of seeds planted almost nine years ago by my teacher Madeline Bruser. Working with her I was able to shed unwanted habits and play with more ease and freedom, and her use of meditation and contemplative exercises inspired me to begin my own meditation practice. Madeline's commitment to helping musicians inspires me every day. In fact, it was from her that I first heard the idea that audiences could meditate together before a concert.

I am deeply grateful to Madeline for helping me become the musician I always wanted to be, and for helping me find my heart and purpose as a teacher.

To our guests tonight I say "Thank you for joining us tonight", I am thrilled to share this journey with you. And I'm particularly indebted to these very talented, generous and courageous artists without whom this would not be possible. Thank you Shin, Kirk, Mari and AKaiser.