
Summer Sundays

PRESENTS

A Classic Experience



June 2, 2024 | 3:00 p.m.
Bethany Lutheran Church | Sanctuary
76 W Crystal Lake Ave

“The Salley Garden” FROM *Three Irish Folksong Settings* | John Corigliano (b. 1938)

Ayesha Casie Chetty, soprano | Cynara Pierzina, flute

A note from the composer: “In 1982, I composed Pied Piper Fantasy for flute and orchestra, a piece with stage action, inspired by the virtuosity of James Galway on the flute and the tin whistle. That was a fairy-tale work, bubbling with the humorous, sometimes sardonic personality of Mr. Galway himself. Six years later, I tried to explore the more poetic side of Irish flute music in these settings of folk or folk-like texts by W.B. Yeats, Padraic Colum and an anonymous author. The tenor Robert White and the flutist Lisa Hansen gave the first performance in New York's Town Hall on June 18, 1988.” – John Corigliano

Toccatà in d, BWV 538 | J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

Aaron Knodle, organ

The **Toccatà and Fugue in D minor, BWV 538**, is often referred to by the nickname “Dorian”, a reference to the fact that the piece is written without a key signature (a notation that implies the Dorian mode). The toccatà is nearly monothematic and opens with a motoric sixteenth note motif that continues almost uninterrupted to the end of the piece. It also includes unusually elaborate concertato effects and has notated manual changes, an unusual practice at the time as well as in Bach's organ output. The work was likely composed in Weimar between 1708 and 1717, during which time Bach wrote most of his organ works.

Town Light | Yuko Uébayashi (b. 1958)

Cynara Pierzina, flute | Ellie Pierzina, flute | Ayesha Casie Chetty, piano

Born in Kyoto, Japan, composer **Yuko Uébayashi** has lived in Paris since 1998, and in Luberon, in the South of France, since 2018. Her works have been performed around the world and many of her compositions were inspired by connections with other musicians.

Three Preludes | George Gershwin (1898–1937)

Ayesha Casie Chetty, piano

Three Preludes is a collection of short piano pieces by George Gershwin (born Jacob Gershwine), which were first performed by the composer at the Roosevelt Hotel in New York City in 1926. Each prelude is an example of early-20th-century American classical music, as influenced by jazz. Gershwin originally planned to compose 24 preludes called *The Melting Pot* for this group of works. The number was reduced to seven in manuscript form, and then reduced to six in public performance, and further decreased to three when first published in 1926. Two of the remaining preludes not published were rearranged for solo violin and piano and published as *Short Story*. Of the other two, the *Prelude in G* was eliminated by the publisher because somewhat similar music had already appeared in Gershwin's *Concerto in F*. The other was excluded for unknown reasons.

Flute Concertino in D Major, Op. 107 | Cécile Chaminade (1857–1944)

Cynara Pierzina, flute | Aaron Knodle, organ

Cécile Louise Stéphanie Chaminade was a French composer and pianist. In 1913, she became the first female composer to be awarded the Légion d'Honneur (the highest French order of merit, both military and civil). The **Flute Concertino in D major, Op. 107** was composed in 1902. It was originally written for flute and piano, but Chaminade later arranged it for flute and orchestra. The piece remains a standard and popular part of flute repertoire. It was voted #85 in a 2012 survey of the best French classical music by the Australian radio station ABC Classic FM. The piece also remains one of Chaminade's only works in contemporary repertoire.

Cancion de Cuna | Samuel Zyman (b. 1956)

Ellie Pierzina, flute | Ayesha Casie Chetty, piano

Samuel Zyman was born in Mexico City, Mexico and has been on faculty at The Juilliard School since 1987. Zyman received his M.D. from National Autonomous University of Mexico and his master's and doctoral degrees in composition from Juilliard. Composed in 2019, "**Cancion de Cuna**" ("Cradle Song" or "Lullaby" in Spanish) recalls the lullabies of Zyman's youth in Mexico, combining the gentle beauty of motherhood and the folk traditions of his home into a poignant lullaby.

The Bird Song | Michael Davis (b. 1957)

Aaron Knodle, tenor | Ellie Pierzina, flute | Ayesha Casie Chetty, piano

Michael Davis is an award-winning flutist and composer in the Twin Cities, Minnesota area. He specializes in instruments of bamboo, glass, and cedar as well as the modern silver flute. A note from the composer on today's work: "**The Bird Song** presents serious classical flutists and flute lovers with a rare opportunity to laugh at themselves. We [flutists] are often challenged with technically demanding excerpts that require us to imitate birds, and this piece uses quotes from the symphonic literature (or perhaps "misquote" is a more accurate term) to relentlessly drive that point home. The rapid tonguing passages are inspired by the flute solo from Saint-Saens' *Carnival of the Animals*. Every flutist will recognize the infamous "flute lick" from Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf*. Also included are bits of Ravel's *Daphnis and Chloe* and a quirky distortion of the *Prelude to an Afternoon of a Faun* by Debussy." – Michael Davis

Meet today's artists

Dr. Ayesha Casie Chetty is a social scientist whose primary research interests lie at the intersection of race, gender, and culture. She currently works as a researcher at M+R, doing audience research and message testing for a range of progressive nonprofits around the U.S., and is the collaborative pianist at Bethany Lutheran Church. Ayesha holds a PhD in sociology from the University of Cincinnati and is a classically trained pianist and singer holding an Associate and Licentiate in piano performance from Trinity College London.

Dr. Aaron Knodle is Director of Worship and Music at Bethany Lutheran Church where he plays the church's Clarence Agnes Carlson Memorial organ, and conducts the Bethany Choir and Bell Canto Ringers. Aaron has degrees in organ performance, music education, sacred music, and choral conducting from Luther College, Boston University, and the University of Cincinnati – College-Conservatory of Music.

Cynara Pierzina, flutist, is the founder and Executive Director of Encore Music Academy, a not-for-profit community music school serving McHenry County and the surrounding region. She also teaches flute and coaches chamber ensembles at Encore. Cynara has performed with the Lake Forest Symphony, Park Ridge Civic Orchestra, University of Chicago summer opera orchestra, and Minstrels chamber ensemble. She received her bachelor's degree from Augustana College and master's degree from DePaul University, both in flute performance.

Ellie Pierzina just completed her third year at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign (UIUC) where she studies music education with flute as her primary instrument and is a UIUC Smith full-tuition scholarship recipient. While at school, Ellie is active in the Marching Illini, serves as president of Illini Student Musicals, and is a brother of Kappa Kappa Psi. This summer, she will be playing with the Wheaton Municipal Band. She studies flute with Dr. Jonathon Keeble and Hideko Amano.

Thank you for joining us today!

Today's free-will donation will be directly donated to **New Directions Addiction Recovery Services**. New Directions, located in Woodstock, is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to support the process of recovery from Substance Use Disorders.

Please, come back and join us for future Summer Sundays concerts, all at 3:00 p.m. and all at Bethany!

- **June 30:** Broadway (with a twist)!
- **August 4:** A Journey through American Folk Music

Additional summer activities at Bethany

Vacation Bible School (VBS): Camp Firelight

- VBS is a place to make new friends, play creative games, and have surprising adventures safely. Students join in mixed-age groups and rotate through stations to learn more about the Good News.
- June 17–21 from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- 4 years-old – 5th grade
- Use the QR to register or go to our website:
www.bethanylc.com



Musical Theatre Camp: The Wizard of Oz (Youth Edition)

- **Part placements:** June 10–12, 3:00–7:00 p.m. (each day)
- **Camp:** July 7–13
- **Performances:** July 12 & 13
- 6 years-old – 12th grade
- Use the QR to register or go to our website:
www.bethanylc.com



A huge thank-you goes out to...

- The staff and volunteers at Bethany Lutheran Church!
- Today's performing artists as well as their friends, family, and partners!
- All of you! *Musicking* is a collective process that involves everyone. Thank you!