The Adamanter

Please join us for the third online Adamant recital. Saturday, October 31st, 7:30pm Eastern time
**PLEASE CHECK YOUR TIME ZONE**

Audience Instructions

• Please invite all of your friends and family to this recital. While there will be a request to donate to the school, there is no admission charge.
• If you do not already have the Zoom software installed on your computer, visit zoom.us. Click on “Sign Up, It’s Free” and follow the instructions.
• Update your Zoom software. When you have opened Zoom, click on the “zoom.us” pull down menu, and click on “check for updates”. Zoom has recently made changes that improve audio quality for music.
• Click here: https://su.zoom.us/j/97605312017 on Saturday, October 31st, after 7pm Eastern time. The program will begin at 7:30, but it’s fun to see “who’s here” and say hello.

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Please consider donating to the Adamant Music School. The usual admission fee for our concerts is $20; any amount would make a strong statement about your support for the school.

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And then click on the yellow donate tab.
The Adamant Music School
Saturday, October 31st, 7:30pm

Program

Chromatic Fantasy and Fugue, BWV 903
Johann Sebastian Bach
1685-1750

Jesse Morris

Nocturne in E Major, Op. 32 No. 1
Frédéric Chopin
1810-1849

Richard Sogg

Preludes, Op. 32
Sergei Rachmaninoff
1873-1943

2. B-flat minor
10. B minor
9. A Major
6. F minor

Steve Wasko
Fantasy in C Major, Op. 17

3. Langsam getragen. Durchweg leise zu halten

Marina Mitsuta

Sonata No. 2 in D Minor, Op. 14

iii. Andante
iv. Vivace - Moderato - Vivace

Noah Alden Hardaway

Sonata No. 30 in E Major, Op. 109

i. Vivace ma non troppo - Adagio espressivo

Jessica Yam
Three Pieces

Jean Sibelius
1865-1957

Elegiaco, Op. 76 No. 10
Capricietto, Op. 76 No. 12
Le Sapin, Op. 75 No. 5

Tzufeng Liu

Frédéric Chopin
1863-1931

Étude for the Left Hand in A-flat major, Op. 36

Elias-Axel Pettersson
Performer Biographies

Jesse Morris is 17 years old and from Seattle, Washington. He began his piano studies at the age of 5 and started studying with Willard Schultz at 7 years old. Jesse has won awards in multiple Seattle and Washington State competitions and festivals. Jesse participated in the Seattle Piano Institute from 2016-17 and has attended the Adamant Traditional Session for the last two years from 2018-19, studying with Gwen Beamish and Matthew Manwarren. Jesse is a senior in high school studying at Edmonds Woodway HS, where he has played piano and celeste for the orchestra and individual performers and has written compositions for the International Baccalaureate Music course. In his free time, Jesse enjoys producing music, swimming, playing chess, and watching the Seattle Seahawks.

Richard (aka Dick) Sogg, age 90, has been playing the piano since he started lessons at age 6. He has had many illustrious teachers including at the Cleveland Institute of Music with Beryl Rubinstein, and Arthur Loesser. While living in San Francisco during the Second World War, he was fortunate to study with the director of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, Ada Clement, who sponsored his debut recital at age 13. And, since 1980, he has been a student of Menahem Pressler.

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Steve Wasko. A native of Philadelphia, I worked for the Federal Government for 34 years, living in various parts of the nation, including the Washington DC area for 17 years, before retiring to South Carolina in 2009. Piano and music composition have always been my avocations. In 2015, auditioned and was accepted for the graduate music curriculum at Winthrop University in Rock Hill, SC. I studied with Dr. Matthew Manwarren and earned my Master’s Degree in Music Performance for the piano in May 2018. In addition to live performances and recitals in a variety of venues, including assisted living facilities, I served as accompanist to a local church for five years as well as professional vocalists and instrumentalists. Today, I practice daily on works by Chopin, Rachmaninoff, Prokofiev and my own compositions. In addition, I enjoy working with computer audio including Digital Audio Workstations, electronic music programming and video editing. My wife of 36 years, Jeaneen, and I enjoy travelling and collecting antiques and hosting dinner parties for our friends in the local area, including Matthew Manwarren. 2020 has been a busy year for me as composer, having completed a three-movement work for piano and cello in June and, most recently, an overture for piano and wind instruments in September. Videos of my compositions, dating back to 2008, can be found on my personal YouTube channel and include orchestral, choral, chamber and electronic works.
Marina Mitsuta, a native of Japan, received her Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degree in Piano Performance at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, where she was a student of Thomas Yee. She participated in Elaine Greenfield’s class at the Adamant Music School in 2010 and 2012. During her studies at UH Manoa, she actively participated in music festivals in Italy and Luxembourg, in Europe, and had won at the 2015 Maccagno Piano Days Festival and Competition in Italy. Most recently, she has studied with Michael Sheppard in Maryland.

Hailed as “ter-RIF-ic!” by Sir Richard Rodney Bennett, pianist Noah Alden Hardaway is forging a multifaceted career as far afield as Sardinia, Spain, and Lithuania, as well as Canada and the United States. He is a regular on the festival circuit, including Art of the Piano in Cincinnati and two summers at the Aspen Music Festival and School, where he performed as soloist with the Aspen Sinfonia Concertante. Enthusiastic reception for his concert appearances have led to frequent reengagements.

No stranger to sprawling projects, Noah received a grant to direct and perform in the Virginia premiere of Schnittke/Kandinsky’s Der gelbe Klang, a pathbreaking theatrical work for contemporary ensemble and dancers. Noah was a radio host and interviewer for weekly classical broadcasts on KTRU, and he also heads the Project Committee at the Adamant Music School and works for tonebase, Inc.
Pianist **Jessica J. Yam** is active as a soloist, chamber artist, pedagogue, and director of various artistic organizations. She is Artistic Director of Arizona Piano Institute which hosts a premier Summer Festival and Concerto Competition yearly with artists of global renown. She has won numerous accolades including the Chopin Foundation of the United States Scholarship as one of two national recipients of her generation and performed as guest artist with orchestras like the New England Philharmonic, Young People’s Symphony, Baltimore Symphony, and others. She has taught at various institutions including Arizona State University, Southwestern College, and throughout the Maricopa Community Colleges in Arizona, as well as many other schools. Dr. Yam received her training at New England Conservatory, Eastman School of Music, San Francisco Conservatory of Music, and Arizona State University under Faina Kofman, Douglas Humpherys, Yoshikazu Nagai, and Robert Hamilton. She joined the faculty at Adamant Music School in 2019 and resides and maintains a private piano studio in Tempe, AZ.

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**Tzufeng Liu**, Adamanter, participated in the 2009-2011 John O’Connor’s masterclasses. She taught at Johnson C. Smith University at Charlotte, NC, and currently resides in Albuquerque, NM. She shares her lovely home with her husband, son, a dog and two hens.
Hailed for his “rhythmic integrity, singing tone quality, and refinement” (Clavier), Swedish-American pianist **Elias-Axel Pettersson** is a Mason & Hamlin Concert Artist. He has garnered international prizes and has been heard on national radio through KHFM and KUNM. Pettersson has collaborated with violinists Krzysztof Zimowsk, David Felberg, and Guillaume Tardif, violist Henk Guittart, Cantor Josh Perlman, and tenor Michiel Schrey. In 2008, Pettersson formed Duo Giocoso with French violinist Roland Arnassalon; in 2017, he formed Æterna Sirius with pianist Jessica Yam. Pettersson premiered Petroglyph for Piano (2011), a piece written for and dedicated to him by New Mexican composer Michael Mauldin, and performed in a recording of Gabriel Madden’s La Herse (2009), featuring a rare Sauter 1/16-microtonal piano. Pettersson has three albums on the Axel Records label, featuring works ranging from Bach and Beethoven to Janáček and Vine. He has also cultivated a loyal online following through his website and YouTube channel.

Pettersson is a frequent performer, lecturer, and masterclass teacher throughout the USA, Canada, and Sweden, and is known for being a conscientious, patient, and motivational guide with a methodical, yet holistic and creative approach. He has been a jury member for regional and national competitions. In 2015, he founded Southwest Piano Festival in New Mexico, and in 2018, he joined the Arizona Piano Institute Board of Directors, where he spearheads their annual piano competition. He studied with Paul Stewart, Sergei Babayan, Larissa Dedova, Douglas Humpherys, and Maribeth Gunning; he also played for André Watts, Jean-Bernard Pommier, Arnauld Cohen, Pavel Nersessian, Dina Joffe, and the Guarneri String Quartet. Pettersson holds a doctorate from the Université de Montréal. He currently teaches at Arizona School for the Arts and Rosie’s House. He joined the Adamant faculty in 2019.

[www.eapettersson.com](http://www.eapettersson.com)
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