

The Adamanter

Please join us for the fifth online Adamant recital.
Saturday, January 23, 7:30pm Eastern time
**PLEASE CHECK YOUR TIME ZONE

[Click Here](#) for Zoom link

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.
- The program will begin at 7:30. Please join by 7:15 to say hello before the program starts.



Recently, Yvonne Lang passed away. She had been a student under Menahem Pressler at Adamant. Please consider donating, in her memory, to the Menahem Pressler scholarship fund, which she supported.

[Click Here](#)

And then click on the yellow donate tab.

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The Adamant Music School
Fifth Online Recital
Saturday, January 23, 7:30pm Eastern time

Program

Humoreske

Robert Schumann
1810-1856

- I. *Einfach - Sehr rasch und leicht*
- II. *Hastig*
- III. *Einfach und zart - Intermezzo*

Noah Alden Hardaway

Ballade No. 1 in G minor, Op. 23

Fryderyk Chopin
1810-1849

Jesse Morris

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Vallée des Cloches
Jeux d'eau

Maurice Ravel
1875-1937

Mathilde Handelsman

Études-Tableaux, Op. 39

Sergei Rachmaninoff
1873-1943

- 1. C minor *Allegro Agitato*
- 3. F-sharp minor *Allegro Molto*
- 8. D minor *Allegro Moderato*

Cello Sonata in G minor, Op. 19

Rachmaninoff
arr. Arcadi Volodos

III. *Andante*

Yaoyao Zhou

Performer Biographies



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 has led to frequent reengagements.

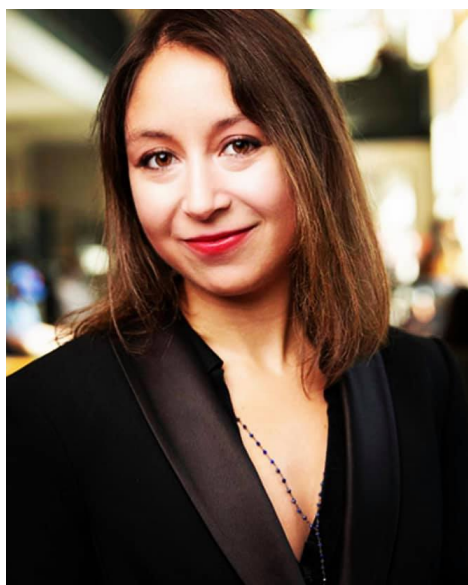
No stranger to sprawling projects, Noah received a grant to direct and perform in the Virginia premiere of Schnittke / Kandinsky’s *Der gelbe Klang*, a pathbreaking theatrical work for contemporary ensemble and dancers. Noah was a radio host and interviewer for weekly classical broadcasts on KTRU, and he also heads the Project Committee at the Adamant Music School and works for tonebase, Inc.

Noah has studied intensively with Moscow Conservatory artists Vadym Kholodenko, Sergei Glavatskih, and Pavel Nersessian, and his senior thesis is the first English-language exploration of Vera Gornostaeva’s transformational approach to the art of teaching. Noah graduated magna cum laude from Rice University with Distinction in Research and Creative Works and is currently pursuing a master’s degree at Shenandoah University in the studio of John O’Conor.

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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.



Praised as an imaginative and refined performer with unusual interpretations, for “her calm technical control, immediate sense of balance” as well as “extraordinary vigor, flawless musicality” (*Dernières Nouvelles d’Alsace*, 2013), French pianist **Mathilde Handelsman** has performed as a soloist and chamber musician throughout Europe and the United States. Recent and upcoming festival appearances include the Tanglewood Music Center, Sarasota Music Festival, Wissembourg International Music Festival, Porto Pianofest, Ferrara International Music Festival, and Pianofest in the Hamptons.

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Highlights from the 2019-2020 concert season featured her appearance alongside pianist Nicolas Namoradze at the inauguration of the Tanglewood Learning Institute in a highly acclaimed two-piano performance. This season, Dr. Handelsman celebrated the 250th anniversary of Beethoven, through several performances including a solo recital at the “Beethoven 250” concert series of Nicholls University in Louisiana. Recent solo recital appearances as a guest artist include the University of Maryland, the Frost School of Music in Miami, Southern Methodist University, University of Texas-Arlington, and Lynn University.

In 2020, record label Sheva Collection released Dr. Handelsman’s début solo album, *“Images,”* featuring the complete works of Claude Debussy from 1903 to 1907. A collaborative album devoted to new commissions for woodwinds and piano by Roger Boutry will be released in 2021. Additionally, Dr. Handelsman’s work as a poet includes two published volumes in French, *Pré-sage* (2016) and *L’Absurde Génie des fleurs* (2017).

Mathilde Handelsman was born in Paris to a family of musicians and painters. She started the piano with her mother at age four and was admitted a few years later to the pre-college division of the Conservatoire de Paris (CRR) which led her to perform in prestigious venues including Opéra Bastille and a concert under Seiji Ozawa. She has won prizes at national and international piano competitions in France including Concours International d’Ile-de-France, Concours de Chatou, Claude Kahn and U.F.A.M. In 2009, she was awarded the 1st prize at the Young Artists Competition of Alès.

Dr. Handelsman holds degrees (B.M., M.M., Doctor of Musical Arts) from Indiana University-Bloomington, Académie Supérieure de Musique de Strasbourg, and Shenandoah Conservatory. Her principal teachers are Menahem Pressler, John O’Conor, and Laurent Cabasso. She has also received guidance and mentorship from Emanuel Ax, Garrick Ohlsson, Peter Serkin, Stephen Drury, and Jeffrey Kahane.

Since 2020, Dr. Mathilde Handelsman holds the position of Resident Artist at the University of New Hampshire where she teaches applied and collaborative piano. In her free time, she enjoys beach walks on the New England coast, cooking (and eating) French food, and watching old movies.

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“She is already an important player and people will soon discover that.”

---Menahem Pressler

“She has all the qualities to be a great star. She is an absolutely amazing child.”

--- Sergei Babayan

“We thought we were listening to Steinway Spiro piano playing records of old masters, then we saw this little girl at the piano. She had phenomenal facility and good taste.”

--- Gary Graffman

“A musical talent rarely encountered. Yaoyao’s potential is unlimited.”

—Haochen Zhang

Yaoyao’s music journey is truly a journey of love and curiosity for music. Born and raised in a farming family, Yaoyao started learning music on an electric keyboard. It was her impressive progress and determination that left her mother with no choice but to take her to the Shanghai Conservatory Precollege to study music intensely at age eight.

Since her arrival to New York more than two years ago at age 11, she has won Juilliard audition, New York City top competitions, performed alongside Juilliard and Curtis piano faculties at Carnegie Hall and was featured in *Young Artists Showcase* by WQXR. All, with

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her newly generated repertoire of several recital programs. She was also the youngest participant at the 2019 Oxford Piano Festival and Juilliard’s Prokofiev 3rd Piano Concerto Competition last year where she became the alternative winner. Orpheus Classical named Yaoyao its 2020 CD Artist, sponsoring her first CD of 24 Chopin Etudes. In addition to attending Juilliard Pre-College as a scholarship student, Yaoyao is the student of Dr. June Xiao, Mr. Pressler’s former doctoral student from Shanghai/NYC. Yaoyao also studied with Mr. Pressler at Admant, Oxford and Musical Mundi during summer 2019.

Due to Coronavirus, Yaoyao’s New York debut recital at Rockefeller University, radio interview with Robert Sherman at WQXR and numerous recitals in the tri-state area, have been postponed to a later date. Besides expanding her repertoire, Yaoyao is a top student at her school and enjoys improvisation, composition, writing and basketball. She also hopes to play rock music again soon with her drums. at her school and enjoys improvisation, composition, writing and basketball. She also hopes to play rock music again soon with her drums.