



Cello Master Class with Rafael Figueroa

Monday, October 9, 2023
2023-2024 Season



Welcome to the 2023-2024 season. Lynn Conservatory of Music takes great pleasure in sharing with you the extraordinary talent of our students who have been mentored by our world-renowned faculty. We believe that you will be inspired and elevated by the excellence of their performances.

We at the Lynn Conservatory of Music deeply appreciate your ongoing support as it ensures our place among the premier conservatories of the world. We hope your enjoyment of each musical experience at this Conservatory will be rewarding and memorable.

Sincerely,
Jon Robertson
Dean of the Lynn Conservatory of Music

There are a number of ways by which you can help us fulfill our mission:

Friends of the Conservatory of Music

You can join donors like the ones listed in supporting scholarships by becoming a member of the Friends of the Conservatory of Music. Giving levels range from \$50-\$2,500+ and can be made by check, credit card, securities, or approved gifts in kind. Contact Lisa Miller at 561-237-7745 for more information or make your gift online today at Give.Lynn.Edu/Support-Music.

Friends of the Conservatory donors enjoy opportunities such as purchasing tickets for the upcoming season before the general public and are invited to special events reserved for donors.

The Leadership Society of Lynn University

The Leadership Society is the premier annual giving society for donors who are committed to ensuring a standard of excellence at Lynn for all students. Leadership Society donors make an annual gift of \$2,500 or more and have the option of directing their gift to support the Conservatory of Music. Leadership Society donors receive invitations to exclusive events throughout the year that offer opportunities to engage with other Leadership Society donors and university administrators.

Planned Giving

Planned gifts provide important support for the future of Lynn University, its colleges and programs. Your legacy lives on at Lynn University in perpetuity - various options include, but are not limited to, bequests by will, charitable gift annuities and life insurance.

Your contribution to the Conservatory is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. For additional information, please contact Lisa Miller at 561-237-7745.

Cello Master Class with Rafael Figueroa

Monday, October 9, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.

Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall

Please silence or turn off all electronic devices, including
cell phones, beepers, and watch alarms.
Unauthorized recording or photography is strictly prohibited.

Program

Cello Concerto in E minor, op. 85
IV. *Allegro - Allegro ma non troppo*

Edward Elgar
(1857-1934)

Joel Osinga, cello
Yu-Hsuan Feng, piano

Cello Concerto in B minor, op. 104
I. *Allegro*

Antonín Dvořák
(1841-1904)

Niloufar Mirzanabi Khani, cello
Dr. Sheng-Yuan Kuan, piano

Cello Concerto in B minor, op. 104
II. *Adagio ma non troppo*
III. *Finale. Allegro moderato*

Antonín Dvořák
(1841-1904)

Jon Cruz, cello
Dr. Sheng-Yuan Kuan, piano

Artist Biography



Rafael Figueroa

Principal cellist with the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra since 1995, Rafael Figueroa performs as a soloist and chamber musician throughout the United States, Europe, South and Central America and Japan. He is the winner of many distinguished competitions and awards including the First Prize at the Gregor Piatigorsky Competition in Boston which comprised performing, master class teaching and chamber music, the Bronze

Medal at the International Pablo Casals Competition in Budapest, and the Concerto Competition at the Third American Cello Congress.

Rafael has been a frequent soloist with the Casals Festival in Puerto Rico as well as the Casals Hall Festival in Tokyo, The Pacific Music Festival in Japan, Aspen Music Festival, Marlboro Music Festival, the “Musique et vin au Clos Vougeot” Festival in Burgundy, France, the Verbier Music Festival in Switzerland, and the Lemi Festival in Finland.

His solo work with the Met Orchestra can be heard and seen worldwide at the popular Met HD broadcasts to movie theaters over several continents as well as the legendary Met radio broadcasts on Saturday afternoons, and at the Met Orchestra Carnegie Hall Series. Rafael is heard frequently at the Met Chamber Ensemble Series at Weill and Zankel Halls where he has performed a large range of repertory starting from the baroque and extending to world premieres of works by the leading contemporary composers. A highlight of such concerts was his performance of the Brahms Songs with the legendary diva Jessye Norman and Maestro James Levine at Carnegie Hall during one of the three epic recitals titled The Song Book in 2001.

Mr. Figueroa has appeared in recitals at the Kennedy Center, The Library of Congress, Merkin Hall, Jordan Hall, and nationwide on National Public Radio. In 2003 Rafael made his Carnegie Hall solo debut performing the Brahms Double Concerto with Concertmaster David Chan and the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra under James

Levine to critical acclaim. Mr. Figueroa and Mr. Chan can be heard in their critically acclaimed CD of music for violin and cello which includes the Duo by Zoltan Kodaly and the Sonata by Maurice Ravel.

Rafael completed his studies under the legendary Janos Starker and Gary Hoffman at the Indiana University School of Music where, upon graduation, he became a member of the cello faculty. His first cello teacher was Adolfo Odnoposoff, a former student of Emmanuel Feuerman and later Joaquin Vidaechea, a former student of Pablo Casals. Mr Figueroa currently serves in the faculty of The Mannes School at the New School in New York City. He performs on a cello by Roger / Max Millant, Paris 1937.

Student Biographies



Joel Osinga

Originally hailing from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, cellist Joel Osinga made his orchestral debut at fifteen. He would further perform as a soloist for the Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra, Brookfield East Chamber Orchestra and the Wisconsin Philharmonic as winner of the

Shining Stars Competition. He primarily studied under Peter Thomas of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, who saw that Joel had a passion for orchestral performance. Joel joined the Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra at nine years old, and over the course of nine years would serve as Principal Cellist in various Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra ensembles.

In the Spring of 2023, Joel graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Cello Performance from Boston University. His primary instructor was Professor Michael Reynolds, and worked extensively with Professors Mihail Jojatu and Hyun-Ji Kwon. While in Boston, Joel would act as Principal Cellist for the Boston University Symphony Orchestra and Boston University Chamber Orchestra. He would also perform as the basso continuo in a production of Alcina, premiere works by composer Thomas Adam Billings and receive the Clare Hodgson Meeker Fellowship.

Joel has participated in many masterclasses with renown cellists such as Tamas Varga, Dmitry Kouzov, Norman Fischer, Zladimir Fung and Natasha Brofsky. In recent summers, Joel has attended the Vivace Music Festival, Green Mountain Chamber Music Festival, Aria International Summer Academy and The Complete Cellist Workshop. There, Joel would study with Professors Steven Doane, Stefan Kartman, Mihai Tetel and Melissa Kraut respectively. This summer, Joel attended the Kent Blossom Chamber Music Festival with Professor Richard Weiss, where he performed Sibelius Symphony No. 2 with The Cleveland Orchestra and as a featured artist in their Recital Concert Series.

Now based in the Boca Raton area, Joel is pursuing his Master's degree from Lynn University under the instruction of Professor David Cole and is a substitute member with the Palm Beach Opera.



Niloufar Mirzanabi Khani

Iranian cellist, Niloufar Mirzanabi Khani, was born in 2001. She graduated from the Tehran Music School in 2019 and has a high school diploma degree in cello performance. She started studying the cello at age 13 as a student of Professor Karim Ghorbani and Mr.

Annar Etaati. During her studies in Tehran, she participated in several competitions and festivals including the National Youth Music Festival of Iran, where she was awarded first prize in cello performance in 2018 and second prize the year before.

She has also performed as a kanun player at the Renaissance International Contest Festival in Armenia where she was awarded third prize in kanun performance. After her performance, she was invited to study at Comitas Conservatory in Yerevan. She has participated in several masterclasses with cellists Peter Wiley, David Finckel and Wu Han, Zlatomir Fung, Mathias Johansen, Neal Carry, John Harbison, and Giovanni Ricciardi. Furthermore, she has attended Eastern Music Festival as a full-scholarship recipient and Studied with Julian Schwarz in 2022. From 2016 to 2019 she has been a member of Shargh Chamber Orchestra and principal cellist of Tehran Music School. Currently, she is a member of South Florida Symphony, and she has also played with Palm Beach Symphony

Orchestra and Charleston Symphony. Furthermore, she is part of the Boulanger String Quartet, who were awarded second prize in the Lyric Chamber Competition at Lynn Conservatory.

She is a recipient of Ruth Nelson Kraft Foundation Scholarship, and currently studying Bachelor of Music degree program in cello performance at the Lynn University Conservatory of Music as a student of Professor David Cole.



Jon Cruz

Born in the city of Sancti Spíritus, Cuba, Jon Cruz began cello studies at age eight and entered the National Music School in Havana at age 15, where he appeared as a soloist in cello concerto of St. Saëns and Elgar. He earned his Bachelor of Music degree from the Universidad de las Artes in Cuba. Jon's extensive performance experience includes the Gran Teatro de la Habana Orchestra, the Irene

Rodriguez Flamenco Dance Company, the Liceo Mozartiano de La Habana Orchestra, and the Cuban European Youth Academy Projec. Jon was honored to participate in the Mozart and Mambo Tour with the Berlin Philharmonic's Sarah Willis, where he performed on stages including the Kurhaus Wiesbaden, Konzerthaus Berlin, and the Elbphilharmonie in Hamburg. He has received cello lessons with Christoph Daniel, Thomas Kaufmann, and performed in masterclasses with Karlos Rodriguez, Willem Stam, Ludwig Quandt and Johannes Mosser. Jon is currently a Professional Performance Certificate student at Lynn, in the studio of David Cole.

Upcoming Events

Live at Lynn features concerts and performances by Lynn University's Conservatory of Music, drama students and special guests who stage dozens of productions annually, including classical and pop music, Broadway favorites, variety shows and more. See the schedule at lynn.edu/liveatlynn.

Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall is located inside the de Hoernle International Center.

October 2023

“Passion and Peace” featuring Cellist Jameson Platte and Pianist Lisa Leonard

Sunday, October 22, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.

Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall

Free

November 2023

Philharmonia No. 3

Saturday, November 4, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, November 5, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.

Keith C. and Elaine Johnson Wold Performing Arts Center

\$35 - \$50

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