
A Bit of History ...

Excerpts from donation letter sent by Arthur Harris, 2013

My father came from a very musical family. His father, Aaron Harris, played with John Phillip Sousa, taught music in the public schools and gave private lessons as well. Aaron also wrote several instructional books for musicians. Both my father, Stanley, and his brother, Robert, were exposed to music during their entire lifetimes. My father's favorite instrument was the piano. I always remember that he had a piano in the house. When my father was young (teens or so), he began playing the piano for financial gain. While the places he played were indicative of that time, and the "shows" were described as "girly," he really enjoyed the piano. (He got caught by the police only once when they raided the show...). At eighteen years old he had a job playing for the silent movies. Throughout his life, his piano playing was his most sought after pleasure. When he was under stress, he turned to the piano to help relieve the stress.

My father and grandfather made every effort to introduce me to music. I tried the violin, piano, trumpet, slide trombone, and even the drums. I gave it a good effort, but finally, my grandfather Aaron convinced my father to stop trying, for I apparently had NO ability in the musical field.

My father, born in 1911 in Lynn, Massachusetts, began working in Littleton, New Hampshire in the early 1960s, and soon the family moved to Franconia, New Hampshire. I celebrated my bar mitzvah in the Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation Synagogue. I believe that this is when my father's affiliation with the BHC started. However, I had little Jewish education and my attendance at worship was sparse. I really believe that a better Jewish education as a child would have benefitted me. So, I believe in helping with the education in the Beit Sefer program (children's religious school).

My father really loved Bethlehem and enjoyed living in the area. After he passed, I had the piano and no ability to play. I did not want to sell the piano because it really was my father's most valued possession. I had the idea that perhaps the BHC might be able to use the piano. Sure enough, the BHC was able and willing to accept the piano and make it produce music again.

For me, the piano being in the Bethlehem area and being used for such good purposes is a very satisfying accomplishment. I sincerely cannot think of a better use of the piano and a better way to care for what was my father's most valued possession. I can easily imagine the sound of the piano and the kids singing. I believe my father would approve of this arrangement. I feel as though my father has "come home" with the piano now in Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation Synagogue.

I feel that honoring and remembering past family members is very important. For both myself and my father, I believe the BHC has done a wonderful thing accepting the piano and giving it a home and its voice.



Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation

presents

Acclaimed Young Artists

Lulu Chang and Richard Fu

A Piano Duo

***To Celebrate the Inauguration
of the
Harris Family Piano***

Friday, August 23, 2013

5:30 p.m.

Artists

Lulu Chang is a native of College Station, TX. She began playing the piano at age three and made her orchestral debut at age ten with the Clear Lake Symphony Orchestra. She has since performed and competed at numerous venues across Texas and the nation, most recently performing Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No.1 with the Brazos Valley Symphony Orchestra in 2012 after being named the grand prize winner for all instruments.

At Dartmouth, Chang is pursuing a music and government double major, with a minor in women's and gender studies. In addition to her studies, Chang engages in a variety of campus activities. She will graduate in 2015.



Richard Fu was born in Shanghai and grew up in Los Angeles. A music and history major, Fu attended Dartmouth's music foreign study program twice, once in Vienna and once in London. In addition to playing various keyboard parts for the Dartmouth Symphony Orchestra (DSO) and the Dartmouth College Wind Ensemble, Fu performed Beethoven's Piano Concerto No.4 in G major, Op.58 with the DSO and a movement of Chopin's Piano Concerto No.1 in E minor, Op.11 with the Dartmouth Chamber Orchestra.

This summer, Fu participated in the Kent/Blossom Music Festival with the Cleveland Orchestra. He is currently working as the Hopkins Center's classical music student relations advisor and is applying to graduate programs in music.

Program

Piano Sonata No. 21 in C Major, Op. 53, "Waldstein"
Ludwig van Beethoven
I. Allegro con brio

Lulu Chang

Petite Suite
- Claude Debussy
I. En bateau
II. Cortège
III. Menuet
IV. Ballet

Lulu Chang & Richard Fu

15 Minute Intermission

Fantasie in C, Op. 17
- Robert Schumann
Durchaus fantastisch und leidenschaftlich vorzutragen; Im Legenden-TonMässig. Durchaus energisch Langsam getragen. Durchweg leise zu halten.

Richard Fu

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