

VENTURACOLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF PERFORMING ARTS

LAUREL PROJECT

**FACULTY & GUEST ARTIST
CONCERT SERIES**

MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 11, 7:30 PM

ZEPURE TRIO

FIRE DANCE



Ovanes Arakelyan, piano
Chika Inoue, saxophone
Maksim Velichkin, cello

Ventura
COLLEGE

VC PERFORMING
ARTS CENTER
YUNKER AUDITORIUM
4700 LOMA VISTA RD
VENTURA, CA 93003

LAUREL PROJECT PRESENTS:

ZE PURE TRIO FIRE DANCE

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2023 / 7:30 PM
VENTURA COLLEGE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
HELEN YUNKER AUDITORIUM

PROGRAM

Libertango.....A. Piazzolla (1921-1992)

Waltz No. 2 from Suite No. 1 in A minor..... D. Shostakovich
(1906-1975)

Lezginka from Gayane Ballet.....A. Khachaturian
Romance from Masquerade Suite (1903-1978)

Dance of Rose Maidens from Gayane Ballet

Sabre Dance from Gayane Ballet

The Year of Love.....A. Babajanian
Songs of Love (1921-1983)
Beauty Queen

Krunk (Crane).....Komitas (1869-1935)

Tsakhgats Baleni (Cherry Blossoms).....K. Avetisyan (1926-1996)

Ov Sirun Sirun (Oh Pretty Pretty).....H. Manaseryan (b. 1941)

Nocturne in B Major.....A. Babajanian (1921-1983)

Danza Rituel del Fuego.....M. De Falla (1876-1946)

Csárdász.....V. Monti (1868-1922)

*Tsakhgats Baleni and Ov Sirun Sirun arranged by Leon Thomassian
All other pieces arranged by Ovanes Arakelyan*

SPECIAL THANKS

Jennifer Kalfsbeek-Goetz
Brent Wilson
Jamie Birkett
Maggie Donahue
Simanu Faasua
Brian Hotchkin
David Howarth
Alanm Magana Gonzalez
Janeene NagaokaJake
Phillips
Tyson Southoff
Laura Solis
Vanessa Stotler
Jeanne Tanner

SUPPORT

If you would like to help support programs like these, please consider making a donation to the VC Foundation Music Fund. Gifts in any amount are a vital part of promoting Ventura's homegrown talent. You can donate online, or via text message (text "VCMusic" to 41444).



ARTIST BIOS



Ovanes Arakelyan began his musical studies in Armenia, and later in Russia. He moved to the United States and pursued his studies in Southern California earning a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Southern California, with intensive training in the class of Professor Daniel Pollack. In 2007 he moved to Fresno, CA and established a music school there while pursuing his Master's degree as a full time student at California State University, Fresno where he also taught an introductory piano course as a Teaching Associate. After obtaining his MA, he moved back to Los Angeles where he obtained a Doctorate Degree in Musical Arts in 2015 from Claremont Graduate University under the tutelage of Dr. Stewart Gordon. At CGU he conducted original research on the piano music of Armenian composers.

Dr. Arakelyan has had numerous performances throughout the United States and abroad, reaching concert stages, such as Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion and the Ford Amphitheatre, among many California colleges presenting various lecture recitals. From 2004-2007 he concertized with his sister, Gianeh Arakelyan. They were invited to perform at the 39th Gala Concert with the American Youth Symphony at the esteemed Dorothy Chandler Pavilion in the Los Angeles Music Center, performing the "Carnival of the Animals" by C. Saint-Saens on two pianos, directed by Maestro Alexander Tregger. In 2006 the duo was selected to perform at the Weil Recital Hall in New York's Carnegie Hall in the Musical Armenia concert organized by the Armenian Prelacy of New York. In 2004, they released an album dedicated to the Centennial Anniversary of Aram Khachaturian. The album was broadcast on classical radio stations in Portland, Oregon and in Las Vegas, NV.

From Fall, 2016 he has been teaching numerous classes at Glendale Community College, including class piano, keyboard harmony, applied and chamber music. In January 2019 he organized the first music competition for High School seniors at Glendale Community College, which brought together many talented young musicians from the community to compete, perform and receive masterclasses from GCC professors. From 2020 he began teaching at Venutra College and Oxnard College, where he has taught class and applied piano, music fundamentals, understanding music and dance for the elementary instructor and rock history.

His most recent projects include an album entitled "Oblivion," featuring the tangos of Astor Piazzolla, which is available tonight in the lobby. He also founded tonight's ZePure Trio, with numerous concerts scheduled in the near future.

ARTIST BIOS



Concert saxophonist, **Chika Inoue** has been praised by The Los Angeles Times with "beautiful tone, acute sensitivity and virtuosic technique." Al Schmitt, 20-time Grammy winning recording engineer and producer acclaimed "Most delicate tone I have heard throughout my career." James Conlon, music director of LA Opera has congratulated with "beautiful sound." She appears regularly as a saxophonist in the Los Angeles Philharmonic. She has received numerous performance awards in competitions, lavishing praise as a soloist and chamber musician. Chika has extensive concert touring in North America, Europe, and Asia with admiration and performed at soloist at Granada Music Festival in Spain, Faenza

International Saxophone Festival in Italy, Astoria Music Festival, Yamaha Saxophone Festival in Japan, International China Clarinet, and Saxophone Music Festival in China and many more. Additional performances include appearances with the Pacific Symphony, Fresno Philharmonic, Santa Monica Symphony, Brooklyn Chamber Orchestra, Culver City Chamber Orchestra, California Opera, and Hollywood Bowl Orchestra.

Her current projects include Chika & Scott, a classical guitar and saxophone duo with guitar virtuoso Scott Morris. The duo made its debut recording album, "Unfettered" under Samek Music Label, recorded at the legendary Capital Records "Studio A" in Hollywood with producer Niko Bolas and recording engineer Al Schmitt. Also, Chika has been concertizing duo recitals with master pianist Mikiko Yamaguchi in Japan.

A native of Osaka, Japan, Chika spent most of her youth in Frankfurt, Germany and San Diego, California. Chika received her Bachelors degree in Saxophone and Music Education from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), Masters degree from California State University, Fresno, and completed her academic education with a Doctorate in Musical Arts from the University of Southern California. In much demand as a master teacher, she is lecturing internationally at schools, colleges, and universities. She is currently on faculty at the California State University, Dominguez Hills.

Chika is Conn-Selmer Performing Artist endorsed by Henri Selmer Paris saxophones, as well as Vandoren, Key Leaves and IefreQue performing artists. She is committed to sharing classical saxophone music and its diverse capabilities across the spectrum of music with audiences worldwide. She is based in both Los Angeles, California, U.S.A and Kyoto, Japan.



Maksim Velichkin is a cellist, pianist, and harpsichordist who has been active as a soloist, chamber musician, and orchestra artist among an international circle featuring venerable conductors and headlining classical stars. He has worked with James Levine, Kurt Masur, Charles Dutoit, Yuri Temirkanov, Wolfgang Sawallish, Herbert Blomstedt, Christoph von Dohnanyi, Maxim Vengerov, Yuri Bashmet, Bobby McFerrin, Joshua Bell, Dmitry Bashkirov, Andras Schiff, Martha Argerich, Lynn Harrell, Misha Maisky, Frans Helmerson as well as many others. Moreover, as an improviser and interpreter of contemporary and popular music Maksim's performance and recording career includes credits with Stevie Wonder, Chick Corea, Billy Childs, Burt Bacharach, Bobby McFerrin, Dwight Trible, Bitter:Sweet, Chris Botti, Josh Groban, Red Elvises, Bernadette Peters, Natalie Cole, Alan Silvestri, and many others.

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 7:30 PM

Laurel Project:
Fortuna Wind Quintet

THURS-SUN. OCTOBER 19 – 22, 7:30 PM

VCPA Musical Theatre:
A Gentleman's Guide to Love & Murder