

GCSU Department of Music

Guest Artist Recital

**“Kaleidoscope: A Piano Journey from
Classical to Modern, Latin & Tango Jazz”**

Dr. Yoshiko Arahata, piano

Monday, January 26, 2026,
7:30 p.m.

Max Noah Recital Hall

and live streamed on facebook.com/GCMusicDepartment



Fantasy in C Major, Hob. XVII: 4

Franz Joseph Haydn
(1732-1809)

Prelude and Fugue in C Major

Henry Martin
(b. 1950)

Impromptu (2016)

Yoshiko Arahata

Fantasy in B Minor, Op. 28

Alexander Scriabin
(1872-1915)

Ashitaka and San

Joe Hisaishi
(b. 1950)

Merry-Go-Round of Life

J. Hisaishi
arr. Y. Arahata

Suite in Re

- I. Presto
- II. Giocoso
- III. Espressivo
- IV. Cantabile
- V. Malinconico

Ricardo Castillo
(1894-1966)

El Vals de Santo Domingo

Rafael “Bullumba” Landestoy
(1925-2018)

Don Agustín Bardi

Horacio Salgán
(1916-2016)

Murga del Amanecer

Pablo Ziegler
(b. 1944)

Preludio/Danzarín

Pablo Estigarribia/Julián Plaza
(b. 1985)/(1928-2003)

Program Note

Impromptu (2016)

Impromptu is built upon an original twelve-tone row derived from permutations of a three-note motive. The twelve pitches introduced in their full, consecutive form at the beginning, serve as the foundation for the entire composition.

I first composed this row in 2008 as the basis for *Ballade*, an atonal jazz piece written during a course with Dariusz Terefenko, whose deep insights and thoughtful guidance have continually inspired my creative path. I was intrigued by the twelve-tone row's expressive potential. Years later, I felt compelled to explore it further—this time in a through-composed setting, free from the structural framework of a lead sheet. The piece embraces the concept of “developing variation,” a term coined by Arnold Schoenberg, who pioneered the twelve-tone technique and atonal music. Much like Beethoven’s use of the iconic four-note motive in his Symphony No. 5, this work explores the generative power of a single musical idea.

Impromptu unfolds as a psychological and emotional journey—through normalcy, tension, collapse, acceptance, and ultimately, hope. The three-note motive recurs throughout, both melodically and harmonically, and shapes the music’s narrative. In the spirit of quantum physicists who uncover underlying order within disorder, *Impromptu* seeks to reveal elements of elegance within chaos. — Yoshiko Arahata

Biography

Praised for “possess[ing] an exacting facility at the keyboard, playing with a vibrancy not often heard” (Rochester CITY Newspaper), Yamaha Artist **Yoshiko Arahata** is a versatile pianist, improvisor, composer, and educator. As a soloist, she has performed across the US, Asia, Europe, and Latin America, including at Carnegie Hall, and was named a fellow of the prestigious Gilmore International Piano Festival. Her concerto appearances range from works by Bach and Beethoven to Wolfgang Rihm, György Ligeti, Steve Reich, and Aaron Jay Kernis. A sought-after collaborative pianist and chamber musician, Arahata has performed with Charles Castleman, Robin Scott, Jerry Hou, Gábor Varga, Jessica Ann Best, principal musicians from Toronto, Pittsburgh, and Rochester Philharmonic Orchestras, and artists at Garth Newel Chamber Music Festival.

This season’s engagements include residencies across the United States, Germany, Colombia, and Mexico. Her wide-ranging research and pedagogical contributions have been featured on global platforms such as Frances Clark Center Piano Inspires, National Conference of Keyboard Pedagogy, International Keyboard Collaborative Arts Society, International Society for Improvised Music, Asian Classical Music Initiatives, College Music Society, Music Teachers National Association, SHE: Women in Music Festival, and North Texas Piano Symposium.

In addition, Arahata is an active composer, improviser, and cross-disciplinary collaborator. Her composition for *Odyssea* (2023), a 30-minute dance-on-film produced in collaboration with Quicksilver Dance Company, has been showcased at Fringe Festivals in Scotland, UK, New York, New Zealand, and won the 2024 Toronto IndieFilmmakers Festival Award and 2025 Oneota Film Festival award.

Arahata is Assistant Professor of Piano and Collaborative Piano at New Mexico State University, where she develops a new collaborative piano curriculum. She also serves on the Creative Music Making committee of the National Conference of Keyboard Pedagogy, and is active as a masterclass teacher, adjudicator, and lecturer. Past appointments include Visiting Assistant Professor at Indiana University Bloomington and over five collegiate and community music teaching roles across upstate New York and Chicago—including at the Eastman School of Music, where she received the Excellence in Teaching Assistant Award. During the summer, she teaches “The Pianist’s Guide to Dance Accompaniment” that fosters keyboard versatility and has been teaching at Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp since 2014.

Arahata holds Doctor of Musical Arts and Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance from the Eastman School of Music, Master of Music from Northwestern University, and Bachelor of Science in Brain and Cognitive Sciences from the University of Rochester. Her principal teachers include renowned pianists Barry Snyder, Alan Chow, Enrico Elisi, and Dariusz Terefenko.

Please complete our concert survey
with the QR Code.
Thank you.



Guest Artist and Faculty Recital
Caroline Cooke, soprano
Cassie Pierson, piano
Wednesday, Feb. 4, 7:30 p.m.
Max Noah Recital Hall

Guest Artist and Faculty Recital
Samuel Ginger and
Hue Jang, piano
Monday, Feb. 9, 7:30 p.m.
Max Noah Recital Hall

Valentine’s Day Rendezvous
Max Noah Singers
Jennifer Flory, director
Saturday, Feb. 14, 7:30 p.m.
Magnolia Ballroom

FRIENDS OF MUSIC

TO JOIN – VISIT: [HTTPS://GIVE.GCSU.EDU/G/DEPARTMENT-OF-MUSIC/](https://give.gcsu.edu/g/DEPARTMENT-OF-MUSIC/)
OR EMAIL: MUSIC@GCSU.EDU OR WRITE A CHECK TO GCSU FOUNDATION,
INC. FOR “MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS” OR “MUSIC DEPARTMENT” AND MAIL TO:
GCSU MUSIC DEPARTMENT, CBX 66, MILLEDGEVILLE, GA 31061



Allied Arts
Betty C. Baugh
Jackie Bell
Lawrence & Susan Boss

Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Boyle
George & Polly Echols
Lee Echols
Kenny Franks

Gorzelany Family
Elizabeth Weldon McCollum
Family of LTG Max Noah

Mrs. Eliza G. Nesmith
Maidana K. Nunn
Doyle Ransom
Tom & Sandra Rosseter

Charlotte H. Bearden
David & Micki Carr
President Cathy Cox and
Mr. Mark Dehler
Jeffrey M. Daniel

The Episcopal Church of the
Redeemer
Jennifer Gorzelany
Judith Greer
Nancy

William & Becky Humphrey
Margaret S. Judkins
Stan & Marilyn McMahan
Mary Elizabeth Phillips

Family of Fielding Whipple
J. Noland & Leah White
Jim Willoughby
Patricia P. Zimmermann

Melanie L. DeVore
Frances B. Florencourt:
IMO Gertrude Treanor
Jennifer Flory

Keith & Simin Hall
Sherry & Robert Henry
David H. Johnson
Jenny & Larry Moore

Newnan FUMC
Don & Sheryl Parker
Douglas & Kyle Rick

Luis Samper
Stephen M. Stewart
Cliff & Gina Towner
Walker United Methodist Church

Weronica Ankarörn
Walter M. Bowman Jr.
Suzanne P. Courtney
Dr. and Mrs. Jim Craig, Jr.
Ana Edwards (IMO
Dimples Kelly Edwards)

James & Tricia Etheridge
Barbara Funke
Nancy E. Jay
Jane & Joe Mangum
Milledgeville Baldwin County

Doris Moody
Diane Myers
Kay Newman
Darla Pyke

Kenneth & Diane Saladin: (IMO
Clyde Tipton)
Sara A. Simcox
Kristine F. Smith
Harriett L. Whipple
George & Rhonda P. Wood

Paul Accettura
Roger & Carol Austin family
Gayle Christensen Avant
Peggy Bartolotta
Joanne C. Battle
Cynthia C. Beal
Rosemary Begemann
Sue Bennett

Karen Berman: in honor
of Dr. Bradley Sowell
Marcia Brelsford
Janice T. Callaway
Shirley G. Day
Larry & Sharon Edwards
Robert Erst
Jane & Joe Flaherty
Thom & Heather Galloway
Lamar & Ruth Garrard
Gerald & Elaine Grady

Michael & Sylvia Graham
James & Lupe S. Guyton
Bryan Emmon Hall
Jimmy Hemphill
Steve & Lynne Jordan
Christopher A. Karow
David & Laura Leach
Ellen Markwalter
Lori & Albert McGalliard
Richard & Arlene Mueller
Dianna Odum

Ricky & Chris O’Steen
Joy & Barry Pendry (IMO
Rostam Radamez Hall)
Kate & Roy Phillips
Dan Smith (IMO Rostam
Radamez Hall)
Irene M. Staik
Robert Tanner
Craig Turner
Katie G. Whipple
Virginia Wilkerson
Robin & Susan Wright

Owen Anderson
Harlan Archer
Mark G. Bailey
Barb Bateman
Chip & Nancy Bell
Amanda Blackwell
Lisa & Dan Chase
Bernice J. Cooper
Doyle Davidson
Anresa M. Davis
Dana Dolan

Denise Elam
Claire & Stephen Faison
Gladys T. Gates
Jonathan & Julie Harwell
Torence Holmes
Barbara Houze
Catherine M. Howell
Evan R. Karanovich
Youngmi Kim
Gary Lawrence
Sandra Lessl

Susan B. Lewis
Roxanne & Paul Marcellino
Patricia and Richard McCoy
Shawn McDowell
Lynn McEachin
Dr. And Mrs. Alfred J. Mead
Richard & Wanda Millians
Renee & William Mosley
Musica Vocale
Aubrey E. Myers
Kayla R. Otim

Paul Rawls
Amanda Respess
John Shoemaker
Karen & Mike Schmidt
Betty B. and Rod Shearouse
James R. Smith
Karen & Ricky Spivey
Elizabeth Strawn
Jan B. Taylor
Amedeo & Monica Tritto
Anna E. Whiteside
Susan Wucher

Impresario (\$5000+)

Maestro (\$2500-499)

Brett & Sarah Miller family

Virtuoso (\$1000-2499)

William & Becky Humphrey
Margaret S. Judkins
Stan & Marilyn McMahan
Mary Elizabeth Phillips

Artist (\$500-999)

Newnan FUMC
Don & Sheryl Parker
Douglas & Kyle Rick

Patron (\$250-499)

Doris Moody
Diane Myers
Kay Newman
Darla Pyke

Sustainer (\$100-249)

Kenneth & Diane Saladin: (IMO
Clyde Tipton)
Sara A. Simcox
Kristine F. Smith
Harriett L. Whipple
George & Rhonda P. Wood

Friend (\$25-99)