

# *"China Stories"*

## LIU LIU, PIANO

Thursday October 15, 2026  
Hatch Recital Hall  
11:30 AM



Eastman School of Music

## PROGRAM

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| The Great Wall in Four Seasons (2026) | Yue Jia<br>(b. 1983) |
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*World Premiere*

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| March of Peace | Yuanren Zhao<br>(1892-1982) |
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| In That Distant Land (1947) | Sang Tong<br>(1923-2011) |
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| Yellow River Piano Concerto (1969)<br>II. Ode to the Yellow River<br>IV. Defend the Yellow River | Chengzong Yin, Wanghua Chu,<br>Zhuang Liu, Lihong Sheng<br>(b. 1941, b. 1941, 1932-2011, 1926-2022) |
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| Story of Spring (2009) | Zhang Zhao<br>(b. 1964) |
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| Capriccio based on the theme of<br>"A Glass of Mellow Wine" (2016) | Jiang Wantong<br>(b. 1957) |
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| The Song of Harvest (2021) | Qianyi Zhang<br>(b. 1959)<br>arr. Luxin An |
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*World Premiere*

Ruoyu Ni, guest piano

## MEET THE ARTIST

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As a pianist and music educator, **Liu Liu** completed all of her higher education at the prestigious Eastman School of Music in the United States, where she obtained a Doctor of Musical Arts in Piano Performance, a Master of Music in Piano Performance and Music Education, and a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance in sequence. Her studies at Eastman were supervised by Professor Douglas Humphreys and Professor Fernando Lairez.



Professor Liu returned to China in 2012, and is currently Professor and Doctoral Supervisor at the Piano Department of the China Conservatory of Music. Prior to this appointment, she served as Professor, Doctoral Supervisor, and Deputy Chair of the Music Department at the School of Arts, Renmin University of China, as well as Secretary-General of the Aesthetic Education Research Association of the Beijing Society of Higher Education. In 2017, she was awarded the title of "Beijing Outstanding Young Talents" in recognition of her remarkable professional achievements and contributions to the field.

As an awardee of numerous national and international piano competitions, Professor Liu has performed at many prestigious venues around the world, including Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, the National Centre for the Performing Arts, Beijing Concert Hall, etc. In recent years, she has dedicated herself to promoting contemporary Chinese music. Upholding the vision of "telling Chinese stories through musical language", she has collaborated with outstanding musicians and ensembles from both China and abroad, and premiered and recorded a large number of contemporary Chinese piano works. The orchestras she has collaborated with include Shenzhen Symphony Orchestra, Tianjin Symphony Orchestra, Changsha Symphony Orchestra, Wuhan Philharmonic Orchestra, Chengdu Symphony Orchestra, Harbin Symphony Orchestra, Jilin Symphony Orchestra, Changying Film Orchestra, Tianjin Song and Dance Theatre Symphony Orchestra, and Southern Illinois Symphony Orchestra (USA).

Professor Liu has also earned remarkable achievements in academic research. Since returning to China to take up a teaching position in 2012, she has published three academic monographs and six CD albums. She has secured

## MEET THE ARTIST

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approval for and presided over five national research projects, compiled and translated more than 20 piano textbooks, and authored over 20 high-level papers published in core academic journals. Her work has appeared in the *Journal of the Central Conservatory of Music*, the *Journal of Renmin University of China*, *Archives Study*, *People's Music*, as well as *People's Daily* and *Guangming Daily*. In particular, her 2015 paper was accepted for publication in *Psychology of Music*, the world's leading journal in the field of music psychology, marking a historic breakthrough: she is the first Chinese scholar to publish in this journal as the first author. By integrating artistic performance with academic inquiry, she continues to expand the global influence of Chinese music research.

*We acknowledge with respect the Seneca Nation, known as the "Great Hill People" and "Keepers of the Wester Door" of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy. We take this opportunity to thank the people whose ancestral lands the Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester currently occupies in Rochester, NY.*

## UPCOMING EASTMAN SERIES CONCERTS

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Tickets for all series concerts can be purchased at [EastmanTheatre.org](http://EastmanTheatre.org)

### EASTMAN PRESENTS – KILBOURN CONCERT SERIES

#### **Chanticleer: Our American Journey**

Sunday October 25, 2026 at 3:00 PM

Kilbourn Hall

The GRAMMY Award-winning male a capella ensemble **Chanticleer**, deemed “breathtaking in its accuracy of intonation, purity of blend, of color, and swagger of style” by *The Boston Globe*, celebrates 250 years of the United States with a program ranging from spirituals to *Shenandoah* and from Irving Berlin’s *Blue Skies* to bluegrass. A touchingly beautiful and thoroughly enjoyable choral voyage through American musical history.

### EASTMAN PRESENTS – EASTMAN-RANLET SERIES

#### **Ying Quartet: Billy Childs and String Quartet Creativity**

Sunday, November 8, 2026 at 3:00 PM

Hatch Recital Hall

Eastman’s beloved quartet-in-residence, the **Ying Quartet**, returns to the Kilbourn stage with two programs designed to delight. Fall features jazz pianist Billy Childs’ *Variation on a Rondo* paired with Mozart’s *K. 465* and Brahms’ *String Quartet in C minor, Op. 51, No. 1*. Spring showcases masterpieces from Mendelssohn, Schumann, and Britten.

### EASTMAN PRESENTS – KODAK HALL SERIES

#### **Chris Thile and Aoife O’Donovan: Wassail**

Friday, December 4, 2026 at 7:30 PM

Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre

Celebrate the holiday season in bluegrass style with GRAMMY Award-winning singer-songwriter **Aoife O’Donovan**. (Crooked Still, I’m With Her, A Prairie Home Companion) and MacArthur Fellow and mandolinist **Chris Thile** (Punch Brothers, Nickel Creek, Live from Here) as they illuminate treasured holiday songs with spellbinding harmonies and joyful musicality. Featuring fresh arrangements of beloved classics, lively stories, and good cheer in abundance, *Wassail!* is a warm invitation to gather, sing, and revel in the glow of the holidays.



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