Shuang Zhu, clarinet
Aihua Zhang, violin
Wesley Skinner, cello
Robert Spring, clarinet
Zhou Jiang, piano

Guest Artist Series
Katzin Concert Hall | September 9, 2018 | 2:30 p.m.

Program

Trio for Clarinet, Cello, and Piano, Op. 11
  Allegro con brio
  Adagio
  Tema con variazioni

Contrasts for violin, clarinet and piano
  Verbunkos (Recruiting Dance)
  Pihenö (Relaxation)
  Sebes (Fast Dance)

Concertpiece for two clarinets and piano, opus 114, No. 2
  Presto
  Andante
  Allegretto grazioso

Ludwig von Beethoven
Bela Bartok
Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy
Biography

Shuang Zhu was born in Changsha City in the Hunan province of China. He graduated from Arizona State University with a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in May 2017. Zhu earned his Doctorate and Bachelor of Music degrees at ASU and attended the Hogeschool Gent in Belgium, graduating with a Master of Music degree in 2014. His clarinet mentors include Wu Chongnai, Zhang Peng, Jin Guangri, Tao Chunxiao, Joshua Gardner, Robert Spring and Eddy Vanoosthuyse.

Zhu's DMA research project is titled The Role of the Clarinet in China. This study not only discusses Chinese clarinet history, but it also introduces important historical events that influenced the development of the Chinese clarinet industry, including Chinese military bands, clarinet music, pedagogy, clarinet figures, and its future direction. An article taken from this research was featured on the cover of The Clarinet (Vol. 45 • No. 1), the official journal of the International Clarinet Association.

Zhu was hired as the Associate Professor of Clarinet at Hainan University in September of 2017, through a “high-level overseas talents” recruitment program sponsored by the Chinese government. He was recently appointed as the Deputy Director of International Exchange and Cooperation Office at the Hainan University College of Arts as well as Executive Director of the China Clarinet Association.

As an active clarinetist, he has played all over the world. Recently, Zhu was invited as a performing artist to attend several important international clarinet events, including the 2018 ClarinetFest in Belgium hosted by the International Clarinet Association, the 3rd International Clarinet Festival hosted by Beijing Central Conservatory of Music, and the 2018 China International Clarinet Festival hosted by the China Clarinet Association. In addition, Zhu is also a promoter of chamber music. In March 2018, he founded the Hainan University College of Arts International Chamber Music Festival and served as its Artistic Director.