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INSTITUTE OF MUSIC

2025-26
SEASON

CONCERT SERIES



About the Cleveland Institute of Music

The Cleveland Institute of Music empowers the world's most talented classical music students to fulfill their dreams and potential. Its alumni command hallowed stages across the globe as soloists, opera leads, chamber musicians, and ensemble members; compose meaningful, award-winning music; produce Grammy Award-winning recordings; and are highly sought-after teaching artists, administrators, and thought leaders. CIM's faculty likewise hail from around the country and across the world, giving students "The CIM Advantage" as they embark on professional careers. The school's increasingly diverse collegiate and pre-college student bodies benefit from access to world-renowned visiting artists and abundant performance and outreach opportunities, and from the rich curriculum offered by CIM's partner, Case Western Reserve University. A leader among its peers, CIM is the largest presenter of free performances, masterclasses, and community concerts in the Midwest, hosting hundreds of events each year on campus and at locations regionwide, including Severance Music Center. Explore cim.edu to learn more.



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CLEVELAND
INSTITUTE OF MUSIC

CIM ORCHESTRA

Friday, April 27, 2026

7:30pm | Kulas Hall

CIM Orchestra

Tito Muñoz, conductor

Davis Fischer, baritone, student artist

Kiana Lilly, soprano, student artist

Morgan Potts, mezzo-soprano, student artist

Hanyue Zhang, soprano, student artist

Jingdian Zhou, tenor, student artist

Jerod Impichchaachaaha'
Tate (MM '00)
(b. 1968)

Woodland Songs (2025)
Fani' (Squirrel)
Bakbak (Woodpecker)
Issi' (Deer)
Nani' (Fish)
Shawi' (Raccoon)

Jingdian Zhou, tenor

Kiana Lilly, soprano

Morgan Potts, mezzo-soprano

Davis Fischer, baritone

Hanyue Zhang, soprano

Intermission

Gustav Mahler
(1860–1911)

Symphony No. I in D Major, “Titan”

Langsam, schleppend

Kräftig, bewegt, doch nicht zu schnell

Feierlich und gemessen, ohne zu

schleppen

Stürmisch bewegt

SONG TRANSLATIONS

Fani' (Squirrel)

I welcome you, Loksi'.

I am Squirrel.

I will teach you the manner in which to listen, see, and go along quickly.

Because you go along quickly, you will be safe from them.

Bakbak (Woodpecker)

Loksi, fly!

Look at the world.

You can see all the world and what will happen here.

I will teach you the manner in which you build your new home.

You will be safe from them.

Issi' (Deer)

Loksi, come.

You will be gentle. You will be kind to them.

When I sow you, you will know that you are beautiful.

You will go along, walking in goodness.

Nani' (Fish)

Loksi', let's swim!

Let's play in the water.

You should get a boat.

I will teach you the manner in which you can go along in the water in a boat.

Shawi' (Raccoon)

You will sneak up on them like me.

You will be intelligent like me.

I will teach you the manner in which you might survive.

You shall never be afraid of the dark.

CIM ORCHESTRA

FIRST VIOLIN

Jeremy Foster, concertmaster
Washington, DC

Ella Golden, assistant
concertmaster
Bartlett, TN

Joshua Chan
Whampoa Garden, Hong Kong

Olivia Gill
Holladay, UT

Sean Ellis
Phoenix, AZ

Yilin Li
Cleveland, OH

Blake Armstrong
Norfolk, VA

Hiroka Matsumoto
Yokohama, Japan

John-Paul Hernandez
Farmville, NC

Alisa Berenshtein
River Vale, NJ

Evita Harryson Fiorentino
Brescia, Italy

Mariel Bochner
Littleton, CO

SECOND VIOLIN

Ellie Kennedy, principal
New Braunfels, TX

Timothy Pinkerton, assistant
principal
Bemidji, MN

Rhianna Lingle
Monument, CO

Tsung Han Hsieh
Taipei, Taiwan

Sue Kim
Seongnam-Si, South Korea

Eivissa Pla Sorolla
Valencia, Spain

Abbey Fontana
Naples, FL

Felix Chen
Montreal, Canada

Tzu-Chi Lan
Taipei, Taiwan

Meiyu Wu
Beijing, China

Yu-Chi Tsui
Taipei, Taiwan

Asher Milman
Portland, OR

Paula Sastre
Collado Villalba, Spain

VIOLA

Gordan Liu, principal
Hong Kong

Aubrey Williamson, assistant
principal
Austin, TX

Josh Felser
Denver, CO

Victoria Goettel
Westlake, OH

D'aci Knight
Cuyahoga Falls, OH

Maren Savino
Nanuet, NY

Katie Snelling
St. Louis, MO

Nilli Tayidi
Maineville, OH

Grace Leonard
Murrells Inlet, SC
Wyatt Fox
Naples, FL

CELLO

Andrea Wang, principal
Pleasanton, CA
Wan-Hsin Lin, assistant principal
Taichung, Taiwan
Simone Pierpaoli
Rockville, MD
Megan Kamysz
Fruitport, MI
Fiona Tsang
San Jose, CA
Xiao Ma
Luoyang, China
Adam Brann
Vernon Hills, IL
Zack Geller
Katonah, NY
Samuel Richards
Auburn, WA
Charice Tung
Taoyuan City, Taiwan
Yu-Hui Yang
Melbourne, Australia
Andrew Schneider
Columbus, OH

DOUBLE BASS

Alex Carroll, principal
St. Charles, IL
Jason Chen, assistant principal
Taoyuan City, Taiwan
Matthew Morgan
Dallas, TX
Robinson Family Presidential Scholar

Jake Weichert
Traverse City, MI
Calder Carey
Austin, TX
Halden Aistrup
Sudbury, MA
Shih-Chi Luo
Taichung, Taiwan
John Foley
West Chester, PA

FLUTE

Hope Calhoun
Schertz, TX
Jake McQuaid #
North Canton, OH
Josh Peiffer
Southbury, CT
Lara Tsibelman ^
Manhasset, NY

PICCOLO

Madelyn Zeller
Hamilton, OH

OBOE

Sara Brown
Manchaca, TX
Hudson Hackley #
Pittsburgh, PA
Sebastian Kelzenberg
Tacoma, WA
Erin Yun ^
Danville, CA

ENGLISH HORN

Sebastian Kelzenberg
Tacoma, WA

CLARINET

George Cardozo
Carrollton, TX

David Chang ^
Valencia, CA

Anton Dmitrik
Toronto, Canada

Gina Huang
Hsinchu, Taiwan

Chanhyeok Park #
Goyang-Si, South Korea

E-FLAT CLARINET

Tao Ke
Calgary, Canada

BASS CLARINET

George Cardozo
Carrollton, TX

BASSOON

Lucas Black ^
Auburn, GA

Jiaming Liu #
Beijing, China

Tyler Tan
Lakeland, FL

CONTRABASSOON

Tyler Tan
Lakeland, FL

HORN

Jacob Bodnar
Wooster, OH

Ethan Hahn
Indialantic, FL

Joey Joyce #
Kensington, MD

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Orland Park, IL

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Lafayette, CO

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Macomb, MI

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Fishers, IN

TROMBONE

Shiv Love ^
Fairfax, VA

Clay Mason #
Hoschton, GA

Jerry Min
Urbana, IL

TUBA

Adam Lindsey
Humble, TX

HARP

Kailani Dunn
Travelers Rest, SC

TIMPANI

Mitchell Beckmann #
Wildwood, MO
Seb Sheldrick
Faro, Portugal
Ruben Shonik ^
Sea Cliff, NY

PERCUSSION

Mitchell Beckmann
Wildwood, MO
Jacob Chang
Winfield, IL
Hwaneek Pak
Columbia, MD
Seb Sheldrick
Faro, Portugal
Ruben Shonik
Sea Cliff, NY

principal on Tate
^ principal on Mahler

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Praised for his versatility, technical clarity, and keen musical insight, **Tito Muñoz** is internationally recognized as one of the most gifted conductors of his generation. Following his 10-year tenure as the Virginia G. Piper Music Director of The Phoenix Symphony, which concluded in the 2023-24 season, he continues his association with the orchestra as Artistic Partner. In the 2025-26 season, he also takes up the role of Interim Principal Conductor at the Cleveland Institute of Music, becoming a guest member of its orchestral studies faculty.

Muñoz previously served as music director of the Opéra National de Lorraine in France, and earlier held assistant conductor positions with The Cleveland Orchestra, Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, and Aspen Music Festival.

He has appeared with many of North America's leading orchestras, including those of Atlanta, Baltimore, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dallas, Detroit, Houston, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Minnesota, New York, and Utah, as well as the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, National Symphony Orchestra, and Orchestra of St. Luke's – making his Carnegie Hall debut with the latter in a sold-out performance of Orff's *Carmina Burana* in February 2024. Maintaining a strong international conducting

presence, Muñoz has also worked with the Frankfurt Radio Symphony, SWR Symphonieorchester, Deutsche Radio Philharmonie Saarbrücken, Mahler Chamber Orchestra, Orchestre National d'Île de France, Lucerne Festival Contemporary Orchestra, Lausanne Chamber Orchestra, Orchestre Philharmonique de Strasbourg, BBC Symphony Orchestra, BBC Scottish Symphony, Royal Philharmonic (London), Ulster Orchestra, Danish National Chamber Orchestra, Luxembourg Philharmonic, Orchestra of the Music Makers Singapore, Auckland Philharmonia, Sydney Symphony, Adelaide Symphony, São Paulo State Symphony, Opéra Orchestre National Montpellier, and Opéra de Rennes.

The 2025-26 season includes debuts with the New Jersey Symphony, Nashville Symphony, Antwerp Symphony, Jena Philharmonie, Nürnberger Symphoniker, and Komische Oper Berlin, alongside return appearances with SWR Symphonieorchester and the New York Philharmonic.

A committed advocate for contemporary music, Muñoz has championed composers of our time through commissions, premieres, and recordings. He has conducted important premieres of works by Christopher Cerrone, Kenneth Fuchs, Dai Fujikura, Michael Hersch, Adam Schoenberg, Mauricio Sotelo, and Francisco Coll. His close collaboration with Hersch has included world premieres of *On the Threshold of Winter* (Brooklyn Academy of Music, 2014), Violin Concerto with Patricia Kopatchinskaja and the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra (2015), *I hope we get a chance to visit soon* (Ojai and Aldeburgh Festivals), *the script of storms* (BBC Symphony Orchestra, London), and *And We, each* (2024). In March 2025, Muñoz led the American Composers Orchestra in premieres by Tomàs Peire Serrate, Clarice Assad, and Edmar Castañeda at Carnegie Hall, receiving glowing reviews: “Brilliantly led by conductor Tito Muñoz, the concert felt like the center of a social triangle of concerts, parties, and going to church” (Boyd, 2025).

A passionate educator, Muñoz is a regular guest at many of North America's leading educational institutions, summer festivals, and youth orchestras. He has led performances at the Eastman School of Music, Aspen Music Festival, Boston University Tanglewood Institute, Cleveland Institute of Music, Indiana University, Kent/Blossom Music Festival, Music Academy of the West, New England Conservatory, New World Symphony, Oberlin Conservatory, Royal Conservatory of Music (Toronto), University of Texas at Austin, and National

Repertory Orchestra, as well as a nine-city tour with the St. Olaf College Orchestra.

Born in Queens, New York, Muñoz began his musical training as a violinist in the city's public schools. He later studied at the LaGuardia High School of the Performing Arts, Juilliard School's Music Advancement Program, and the Manhattan School of Music Pre-College Division. He continued violin studies with Daniel Phillips at Queens College (CUNY) before turning to conducting at the American Academy of Conducting at Aspen, working with David Zinman and Murry Sidlin. He won the Aspen Music Festival's 2005 Robert J. Harth Conductor Prize and 2006 Aspen Conducting Prize, serving as the festival's assistant conductor in 2007 and later returning as a guest conductor.

Muñoz made his professional conducting debut in 2006 with the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center, invited by Leonard Slatkin as a participant of the National Conducting Institute. That same year, he made his Cleveland Orchestra debut at the Blossom Music Festival. He was awarded the 2009 Mendelssohn Scholarship sponsored by Kurt Masur and the Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy Foundation in Leipzig, and was a prizewinner in the 2010 Sir Georg Solti International Conducting Competition in Frankfurt.

~ ~ ~

Davis Fischer, a lyric baritone from Filer, Idaho, is a graduate student at CIM studying with Clifford Billions. Currently pursuing a Master of Music in vocal performance, he has recently appeared as Leporello in Mozart's *Don Giovanni* and as the title roles in Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi* and Judith Weir's *Blonde Eckbert* with CIM Opera Theater.

Notable professional performances include playing the role of Earl Mann for Chagrin Arts' production of Scott Davenport Richards' *Blind Injustice*, and performing as a soloist in Dvořák's Mass in D Major for The Church of the Covenant.

Outside of music, Fischer received a bachelor's degree in pre-medicine biology and played football for The College of Idaho.

~ ~ ~

Kiana Lilly is a soprano from New York City currently completing her Graduate Diploma in vocal performance, under the tutelage of

Mary Schiller. In the fall, she sang the role of Suor Angelica in the CIM Opera Theater double bill production of Puccini's *Suor Angelica* and *Gianni Schicchi*. During the 2025 season, she performed the roles of Donna Anna in Mozart's *Don Giovanni* and Almera in Nico Muhly's *Dark Sisters* with CIM Opera Theater. In 2024, she appeared as Susannah in Carlisle Floyd's *Susannah* at the Harrower Summer Opera Workshop, Older Alyce in Tom Cipullo's *Glory Denied*, and Madame Lidoine in Poulenc's *Dialogues des Carmélites*. Other operatic engagements include La Mort in Ravel's *Le Rossignol* and La Maman in Stravinsky's *L'enfant et les sortilèges*, both with CIM Opera Theater. Lilly is the 2025 Indiana District Winner of the Metropolitan Opera Laffont Competition, the 2023 first prize winner of the Tuesday Musical Association competition, and the 2022 first prize recipient in the Advanced Classical Division and Richard Miller Award from the Ohio Chapter of the National Association of Teachers of Singing.

~ ~ ~

Mezzo-soprano **Morgan Potts** is currently pursuing her Master of Music in voice performance at CIM, where she studies with Mary Schiller. She is recognized for her vivid stage presence, emotional depth, and compelling musical storytelling. Audiences and colleagues alike have praised her ability to fully inhabit a wide range of characters, as well as her agility and insight in contemporary repertoire.

Potts made her professional debut as Young Edward Vernon/Ensemble 2 in *Blind Injustice* by Scott Davenport Richards, presented by Chagrin Arts. Her 2025 season highlights include her performances of Zita in Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi*, Meg in Verdi's *Falstaff*, and Presendia in Nico Muhly's *Dark Sisters*. Other notable roles include Hérison de Porc-Épic in Chabrier's *L'Étoile*, Elisetta in Cimarosa's *Il Matrimonio Segreto*, Prince Orlofsky in Strauss' *Die Fledermaus*, Cherubino in Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Sherlock Holmes in Hans Bridger Heruth's *A Certain Madness*, and Hänsel in Humperdinck's *Hänsel und Gretel*.

Potts has enriched her training through young artist programs such as Texas Music Festival (2022), Frost School of Music's Summer in Salzburg (2023), Opera Seme (2024), and Harrower Opera Workshop (2025). She holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Kennesaw State University.

From a young age, Potts used music as a powerful emotional outlet—what began as a childhood passion has evolved into a profound artistic

calling. Today, she is driven by a deep sense of gratitude for the opportunity to breathe life into music and connect with audiences through each performance.

~ ~ ~

Hanyue Zhang is a Chinese soprano who relocated from Denver to Cleveland in fall 2025. Her work bridges lyrical sensitivity and dramatic intensity. She is currently pursuing a Graduate Diploma at CIM under the mentorship of Dina Kuznetsova. She holds a Master of Music degree from the Lamont School of Music at the University of Denver.

This summer, she will perform Donna Elvira in *Don Giovanni* at the Prague Summer Nights Young Artists Music Festival in the Czech Republic. Her recent roles include the title role in *Suor Angelica* at the Newman Center for the Performing Arts and First Lady in *Die Zauberflöte* in Vienna. She recently appeared as the Witch in *Hänsel und Gretel* at Kulas Hall.

Zhang has worked with esteemed conductors and vocal artists including Sarah Nouri, Carla Dirlikov, Stefano de Peppo, and Jeremy Aye. She has won the fifth role in the 2025 Denver Lyric Opera Guild Competition. Her artistry reflects both her Chinese heritage and her expanding international career.

~ ~ ~

Tenor **Jingdian Zhou** is a first-year Graduate Diploma student at CIM, studying with Clifford Billions. Zhou's stage credits include Ruzhou Zhang in *Yi An* (China Conservatory of Music), Ruggiero in *Alcina* (CIM), Younger Thompson in *Glory Denied* (CIM), Alfredo in *Die Fledermaus* (CIM), and Don Ottavio in *Don Giovanni* (CIM). This season he performed Rinuccio in *Gianni Schicchi* at CIM. He completed his bachelor's degree at Central Conservatory of Music and his master's degree at CIM.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, April 19

4pm | Mixon Hall

Composition Department Recital

Featuring new works by CIM student composers.

Friday, April 24

7:30pm | Mixon Hall

Intensive Duo Concert

Sunday, April 26

2pm | Kulas Hall

Monday, April 27

7:30pm | Mixon Hall

Brass & Woodwind Ensembles Concerts

Tuesday, April 28

7:30pm | Mixon Hall

Advanced Piano Trio Program Concert

Wednesday, April 29

7:30pm | Mixon Hall

Advanced String Quartet Program Concert

Thursday, April 30

Friday, May 1

Saturday, May 2

7:30pm | Mixon Hall

String & Piano Ensembles Concerts

Monday, May 4

7:30pm | Mixon Hall

Percussion Ensemble Concert

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