Texas A&M International University’s College of Arts and Sciences, department of Fine and Performing Arts is proud to present the TAMIU Steinway Series in its fourth season. The new year opened with a terrific recital by the internationally acclaimed Ilya Itin, and on March 12 will feature another internationally acclaimed pianist, Gregory Allen. Past artists include Ning An, Mary Grace Galvan-Carroll, Mieun Lee, the Long Duo, Frances Renzi, as well as TAMIU Associate Professor, Fritz C. Gechter.

The Series aims to enrich the Laredo community by offering classical piano music performed by both TAMIU piano faculty and guest pianists from around the world. Because of the generous gift of private donors, TAMIU possesses two beautiful Steinway grand pianos, one of them a Steinway B, and the other a nine-foot concert grand Steinway D. In addition to these fine instruments TAMIU also possesses 14 other Steinway products – Steinway pianos or Steinway-designed pianos – making it one of only two universities in Texas to be named an “All Steinway School.”

The Steinway Series is brought to you by many people. However, special thanks must be given to the Fernando A. Salinas Trust, under the leadership of Javier B. Santos, as well as the Series’ primary board members: Ann Neel, Hortence Offerle and Elia Ilda Espinosa.

With the opening of the Center for Fine and Performing Arts (CFPA) in 2003, the skyline of Laredo and Texas A&M International University changed forever. The CFPA is a place for cultural and artistic displays that showcase the University and Laredo to the rest of the world. It is an exciting time at TAMIU – filled with art exhibits and dance and musical performances – and we are especially excited to bring you the TAMIU Steinway Piano Recital Series!
Dr. Mary Grace Galván-Carroll

A native of Corpus Christi, Texas, Dr. Galván-Carroll earned a Doctor of Musical Arts in piano performance from the University of Miami, Coral Gables, under the tutelage of Yamaha Artist J. Robert Floyd. Her Master of Music in Piano Performance is from the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. A 1981 winner of the Kingsville Young Artist’s Competition, Dr. Carroll earned a bachelor’s degree in music from Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi (TAMU-CC). Music instructors/mentors include William Masselos, Thomas Mastroianni, Edward Newman, Marilyn Babel, Arlene Long and Joan Allison and Sonny Hill. She holds a place in Del Mar College’s Hall of Fame and is a Distinguished Alumnus of TAMU-CC. Prior to returning to Texas, Dr. Carroll held university teaching positions in Florida and Louisiana.

Since August 1994 Galván-Carroll has been the director of piano studies at the Laredo Independent School Districts’ Vidal M. Treviño School of Communications and Fine Arts. In addition to an active performing career both as soloist and collaborator, she maintains a private teaching studio and is an adjudicator for the National Guild of Piano Teachers and the Federation of Music Clubs. She also enjoys frequent collaborations with her distinguished colleagues at Laredo Community College (LCC) and Texas A&M International University. She has been featured in recitals at the Texas Jazz Festival, the Hazlerig Music Haus in Crestone, Colorado, Texas A&M University-Kingsville and LCC, and in Steinway Artists Series at both the University of Texas at Brownsville/Texas Southmost College and TAMU.

Galván-Carroll serves on the Board of Directors of the Laredo Theater Guild International (LIGI), formerly Laredo Musical Theatre International. Co-founded with Vernon Carroll and Sam Johnson in 2000, LTGI joins forces with other arts entities in Laredo throughout the year in an ongoing effort to promote fine arts through education. She also serves on the State Board of Directors of Texans for the Arts, the only non-profit advocacy group for the arts in Texas.

A published author and past member of the State Text Book Review Panel, she is a recipient of the Ford Motor Company Salute to Excellence in Education Award, and the Krusadas Kulturas Award for promoting the arts in Laredo. Her students have won numerous scholarships and awards, and attend or have attended colleges and universities across the United States. In retrospect, she finds it extremely rewarding that a significant number of VMT “Hanon Society” alumni choose music education and performance as career paths.
**Rebeca González de Anderson**

Born and raised in Nuevo Laredo, Rebeca González de Anderson started piano lessons at six with Emilia Zamora. She continued her studies with Maestro Sergio Peña in Nuevo Laredo who prepared her to attend a summer master class program at the St. Petersburg Conservatory in Russia the summer of 1994.

The following year under the guidance of Dr. Valeri Grokhovski at UT-San Antonio, Anderson attended the Rachmaninoff College of Music in Tambov, Russia. In 1995 she placed second at the third Annual International Chopin Competition in Corpus Christi, Texas organized by the Fryderyk Chopin Society of Texas.

In 2005 Anderson attended master classes with Dr. Spitzer at New Mexico State University and placed first at the “First Statewide Sergio I Peña Piano Competition” in Nuevo Laredo. She completed her undergraduate studies at the University of North Texas.

**Dr. Fritz C. Gechter**

A native of Seattle, Wash., pianist Dr. Gechter has appeared as both soloist and collaborative artist in the U.S. and abroad. He has appeared as soloist with ensembles around the country, including the Spokane Symphony Orchestra, the Omaha Municipal Orchestra, the Laredo Philharmonic Orchestra and the McAllen Symphonic Band. He is a gold medal winner of several piano concerto competitions, including the Spokane Allied Arts Festival and The University of Texas at Austin concerto competition. In 1996 he made his European debut collaborating with his wife, Suzanne Ramo (soprano), at Kloster Andechs, near Munich, Germany. In 2007 he performed in Taiwan on both campuses of Aletheia University. Gechter also appears regularly at the Hazlerig Music House Recital Series in Crestone, Colo.

Gechter is associate professor of music and piano at the TAMIU College of Arts and Sciences department of Fine and Performing Arts where he teaches applied piano, class piano and music theory. He also maintains a second piano studio at TAMIU as part of the TAMIU Young Artists Program for secondary school students. In October 2006 he helped launch TAMIU’s first piano recital series, the Steinway Series. That same month he was guest artist with the Laredo Philharmonic Orchestra playing Beethoven’s Piano Concerto No. 5, the Emperor. For the 2005/2006 academic year he was awarded Teacher of the Year by the TAMIU College of Arts and Sciences. In the summer of 2007 he led a group of students to Salzburg and Vienna, Austria for a month of study and exploration.

Gechter received his Bachelor of Music in piano performance from Central Washington University where he studied with Peter Gries and John Pickett. He received his Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts in piano performance from the University of Texas at Austin where he studied with Gregory Allen.
Dr. Mikolaj Gorecki

Dr. Gorecki studied composition at Academy of Music in Katowice, Poland, under Henryk Mikolaj Gorecki. He graduated in 1995 with a Master Degree with Distinction.

In 1996 he was granted a double scholarship by the Banff Centre for the Arts in Canada. From 1997 to 1998 he was teaching at Academy of Music in Katowice. In 2000 he received a Doctor of Music from School of Music at Indiana University in Bloomington, Ind., where he studied composition. From 2000 to 2001 Gorecki taught at McGill University in Montreal. Since 2002 he has lived in Laredo and teaches at Laredo Community College.

He received the first prize at the First Young Composers’ Competition in Bielsko-Biala, Poland (1988) and the third prize of the Chapter Critics at the second Forum of Young Composers in Krakow (1994). His compositions were performed at music centers and festivals such as: Lincoln Center, A. Fisher Hall in New York; ISCM World Music Days 2003 in Slovenia; De Ijsbreker Center in Amsterdam; Contemporary Music Days in Katowice and many others. Gorecki’s scores are published by PWM (Polish Music Publishers).

Dr. Susan Liu

Dr. Liu was born in Taiwan, Republic of China. She began playing piano at age seven and attended a musical conservatory from elementary until high school. While piano was her primary instrument, she also played the oboe, harp and a traditional Chinese instrument known as the Gu-Zheng.

She holds a Doctor of Musical Art in piano performance from the University of Texas at Austin and a master’s degree in piano performance from the University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign. She has taught and performed piano in the Austin, Houston and Dallas area for many years and her students received many high honors and praises in competitions. She is also an active adjudicator for various piano competitions.

Liu is currently a professor at Laredo Community College (LCC), where she received Honors Faculty and National NISOD-A Teaching and Leadership Excellence Award. Liu is also interested in digital audio/recording technology. She established a computer/electronic music lab at LCC.

She also composes for New Tang Dynasty Television and has written songs for many performances in its Chinese New Year Spectacular over the past several years, many of which have been performed in venues such as Radio City Music Hall.
All works performed are composed by Frédéric Chopin (1810–1849) unless otherwise noted.

Waltz in E-Flat Major, Op. Posthumous
Helmmy Chiang, student
TAMIU Young Artists Program

Waltz in A Minor, Op. Posthumous
Hansel Chiang, student
TAMIU Young Artists Program

Phantasietanz
by Robert Schumann (1810–1856)
Alma Rodríguez, student
Vidal M. Trevino School of Communications and Fine Arts

Prelude in B Minor Op.28, No.6
Eros Rangel, student
Dr. Mary Grace Galván-Carroll

Polonaise in G Minor, BI 1
Auguste Ramos, student
TAMIU Young Artists Program

Mazurka in A Minor, Op. 17, No. 4
Carlos Anthony Barrera, student
TAMIU

Impromptu No. 2 in F-Sharp Minor, Op. 36
Enrique Rangel, student
Dr. Mary Grace Galván-Carroll

Etude Op. 10, No. 3 in E Major,
Jieun Lee, student
Rebeca González de Anderson

Nocturne No. 2 in C-Sharp Minor
José Juarez
A student of Dr. Susan Liu at Laredo Community College

Mazurka in F, Op. 68, No. 3
Eros Rangel, student
Dr. Mary Grace Galván-Carroll
Waltz in C-Sharp Minor Op. 64, No. 2  
*Ernesto Sy, student*  
*Dr. Susan Liu, LCC*

Fantasie-Impromptu in C-Sharp Minor, Op. 66  
*Carolina Lozano, student*  
*TAMIU Young Pianists Program*

Etude in C Minor, Op. 10, No. 12 “Revolutionary”  
*Enrique Rangel, student*  
*Dr. Mary Grace Galván-Carroll*

Scherzo in B-Flat Minor, Op. 31  
*Szu-Ting Chou, student*  
*Dr. Fritz Gechter*

INTERMISSION

Prelude No. 21 in B-Flat Major  
Prelude No. 25 in C-Sharp Minor  
Prelude No. 26 in A-Flat Major  
*Dr. Mary Grace Galván-Carroll*

Mazurka in B Minor, Op. 33, No. 4  
*Fritz Gechter*

Berceuse, Op. 57  
Waltz in D-Flat Major, Op. 64, No. 1  
*Susan Liu*

Scherzo No. 3 in C-Sharp Minor, Op. 39  
*Mikolaj Gorecki*

Polonaise in A-Flat Major, Op 53  
*Rebeca González de Anderson*

Etude in C-Sharp Minor, Op. 25, No. 7  
Etude in A-Flat Major, Op. 25, No. 1 “Aeolian Harp”  
*Dr. Mary Grace Galván-Carroll*
Our Donors

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