

FREE UNDERGROUND CONCERTS

Duo NaKaNaKa

with flutist Hiromi Tabata



Monday, March 2, 2026

Nancy & Ed Jackman Performance Centre

60 minutes, no intermission

PROGRAM

Maurice Ravel

Ma Mère l'Oye

Pavane de la Belle au bois dormant

Petit Poucet

Laideronnette, Impératrice des Pagodes

Le Jardin Féerique

W. A. Mozart

Sonate für Klavier zu vier Händen kv. 521

Miho Watarai

Children's Songs in Kyoto

Lullaby of Takeda

Maru-Take-Ebisu

Maurice Ravel

La Valse

CAST



Formed in 2016 under the mentorship of **Christian Ivaldi** in Paris, the duo is known for its subtle ensemble and fluid musicality. With performances across Japan, Europe, and beyond, they traverse a wide-ranging repertoire — from the classical pillars of their formation to creative encounters with contemporary composers. Through ongoing dialogue and shared artistic journeys, they continue to explore the unseen landscapes and possibilities that lie within music.

CAST



Yoko Nakamoto

Born in Kyoto, **Yoko Nakamoto** began playing the piano at the age of five. Graduated from the Doshisha Junior and Senior High School and the Keyboard Instruments Course, Department of Music, Faculty of Liberal Arts at the Doshisha Women's College of Liberal Arts. Moved to France after completing a specialized course at the Shokeikai of the same faculty. Graduated from the piano course and the chamber music course at the Conservatoire à rayonnement départemental de Créteil and the accompaniment course at the Conservatoire à

rayonnement départemental de Créteil and the accompaniment course at the Conservatoire à Rayonnement Régional de Rueil-Malmaison at the top of the class by unanimous consent of all the judges.

Studied piano under **Teruko Ito**, **Toshiyuki Fukumoto**, **Laurent Cabasso** and **Jacqueline Bourgès-Maunoury**; chamber music under **Pascal Robault** and **Hélène Devilleneuve**; and accompaniment under **Angéline Pondepeyre**. In the field of vocal accompaniment, completed a class taught by **Françoise Tillard** at the Conservatoire Hector Berlioz with honours. Participated in a masterclass by **Dalton Baldwin** at Académie Internationale d'Été de Nice. Continues to study diligently, regularly taking lessons from **Christian Ivaldi** since 2014.

In addition to solo recitals, a wide range of performances both in Europe and around Japan—including chamber music concerts in various formats, ensembles with vocalists, accompaniment for choruses, and collaborations with stage actors—have received high acclaim. In the field of music education, teaches as a professor at conservatoires in the Paris region. Recognized for the wealth of experience in the field, received a Diplôme d'État (state diploma) for both piano and accompaniment. Also actively collaborates with contemporary composers such as **Miho Watarai**, **Ryosuke Karaki**, and **Céliéri Haruhata**, presenting their works both in concerts and recordings as well as in educational projects.

CAST



Arika Abe

Born in Osaka, **Arika Abe** began playing piano at the age of four. Graduated from the Doshisha Girls' Junior and Senior High School and the Keyboard Instruments Course, Department of Music, Faculty of Liberal Arts at the Doshisha Women's College of Liberal Arts. Participated in the Kusatsu International Summer Music Festival while still in college. Studied under Edith Picht-Axenfeld and Josef Páleníček, and participated in concerts held at the end of the courses. Moved to Europe after performing in the Nara Prefecture New Artists Concert, Osaka Gakuyu

Association's Concert by Nominated Artists and other events in Japan. Entered the piano performance course at the Austrian National University of Music and Performing Arts Graz (KUG). Received the First Diploma and graduated from the piano performance course. Entered the piano-vocal accompaniment master's course at the graduate school of KUG. Passed the audition for the 1st Pacific Music Festival around this time and was invited as a scholarship student. Studied under Leonard Bernstein as one of his last students and performed chamber music and other programs with members of the London Symphony Orchestra.

While in graduate school, participated as a répétiteur for vocal accompaniment at concerts and various opera productions. Also became active as a cembalist after being recognized in a basso continuo (figured bass) class. Returned to Japan after completing the Second Diploma (Magister degree) course. Held solo recitals in Graz, France (Saint-Malo), Kyoto and Nara. Appeared in numerous performances as a collaborative pianist with vocalists, choruses, string players and wind instrument players.

Participated in various concerts, particularly in the area of classical song, not only as a specialist of German lied but also as an accompanist for French mélodie and appeared in regular concerts held by La Société Mélodie Française de Kyoto and other events. In the area of chamber music, performed in quintets with the New Budapest String Quartet and the Prometheus Quartet of Germany.

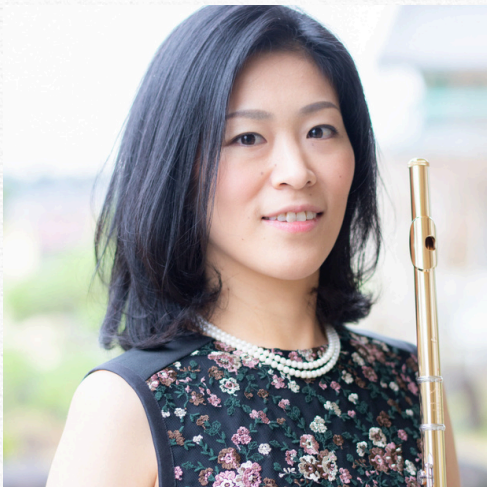
CAST



As a soloist, performed piano concertos with Graz teachers' college Orchestra, Osaka Chamber Orchestra, Nara Philharmonic Orchestra and others. Performed in France in 2014 as a member of the soprano, flute and piano trio "Kyotrico."

Completed the masterclasses of Walter Klien, Christian Ivaldi, Kemal Gekić, Anthony Spiri and Dalton Baldwin. Studied piano under Reiko Koshimizu, Susumu Kasahara, Kyoko Kosemura and Akiko Sato, and vocal accompaniment under Gerhard Zeller. Also studied the cembalo under Franz Zebinger and the fortepiano under Patrick Cohen.

Member of the Nara Prefecture Music Arts Association and La Société Mélodie Française de Kyoto. Part-time instructor at École JEUGIA, Shiga Junior College and Kansai Women's College. Presides over the piano salon "Atelier Artika" established in Ikoma, Nara, in March 2016.



Hiromi Tabata

After completing high school education at the music department of Osaka Prefectural Yuhigaoka High School, **Hiromi Tabata** majored in instrumental music at the faculty of Music of Kobe College. After graduation, she further trained in Vienna and Germany. She took lessons with A. Nicolet and W. Schulz at the Kusatsu Summer International Music Academy. In 2014, she performed with the Kansai Philharmonic Orchestra and has held recitals ever since. She mainly performs solo, but also performs in a variety of ensembles, such as with the marimba,

violin, and koto (traditional Japanese harp). She is also actively coaching younger students who may eventually follow in her footsteps. She is currently an instructor at the Muramatsu Flute Lesson Centre in Japan.

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Monday, March 9, at 6 pm: Silver Thread

Join Toronto's newest professional choral ensemble, Silver Thread, for a program which spans from Renaissance to Contemporary. With music by **Benjamin Britten**, **Andrew Balfour**, and **Rosephanye Powell**, this concert will also feature the works of young Toronto-based composers.

Monday, April 13, at 6 pm: Two Piano Trios, 4 Hands

Pianists **Vivian Chen** and **Noam Dekalo** with violinist **Julia Mirzoev** and cellist **Peter Eom** share a masterful chamber music program. Featuring trios by **Mendelssohn** and **Debussy**, along with a lively Hamelin tango for four hands, this concert promises virtuosic interplay, rich textures, and an evening of unforgettable musical conversation.