

4-23-2019

## Concert: Ithaca College Sinfonietta

Kin Szeto

Andrew J. Kim

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### Recommended Citation

Szeto, Kin and Kim, Andrew J., "Concert: Ithaca College Sinfonietta" (2019). *All Concert & Recital Programs*. 5443.  
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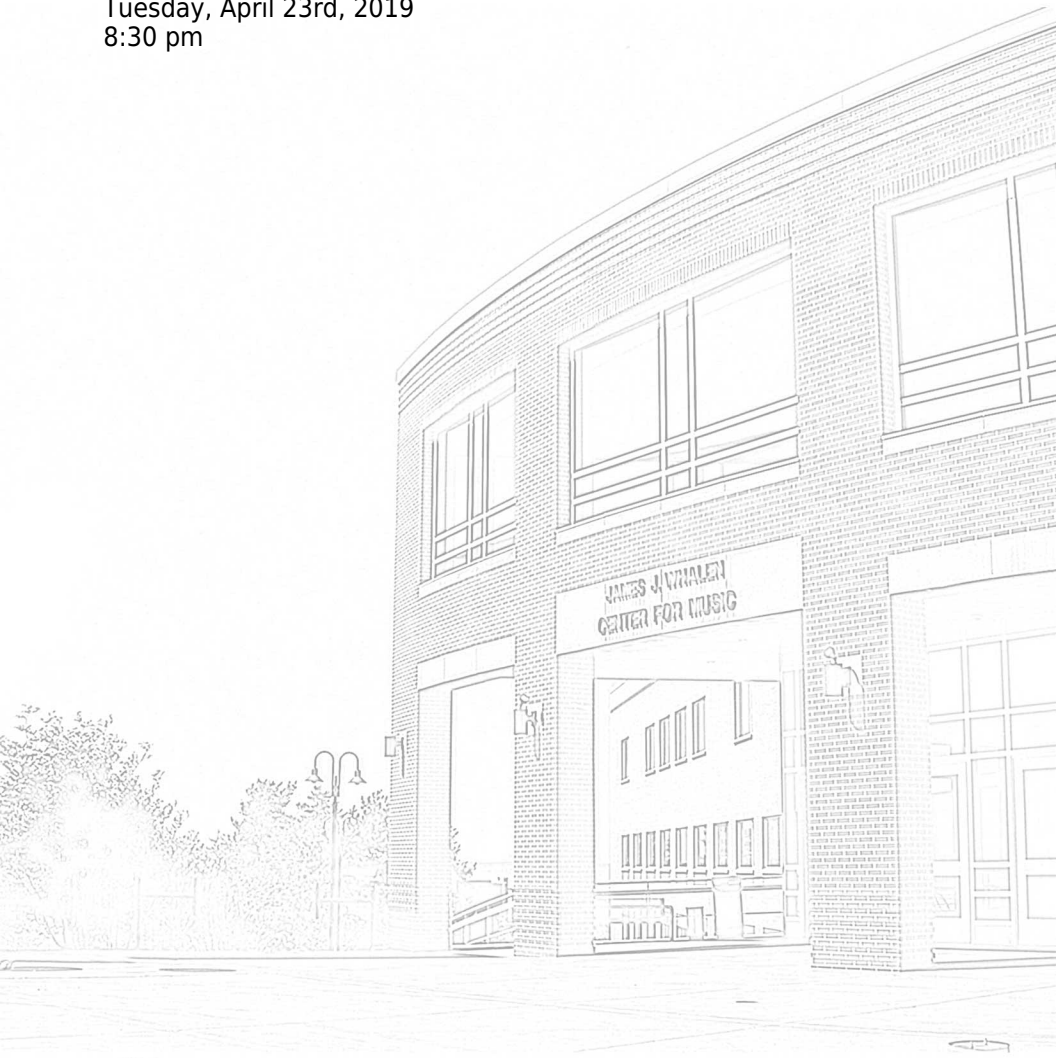
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# Ithaca College Sinfonietta

Octavio Más-Arocas, director of orchestras

Kin Szeto and Andrew J. Kim, conductors

Ford Hall  
Tuesday, April 23rd, 2019  
8:30 pm



**ITHACA COLLEGE**

School of Music

# Program

Pelléas et Mélisande, op. 46

I. At the Castle Gate

IV. A Spring in the Park

VI. Pastorale

VII. Mélisande at the Spinning Wheel

VIII. Entr'act

IX. The Death of Mélisande

*Kin Szeto, conductor*

Jean Sibelius  
(1865-1957)

Symphonic Dances, op. 64

III. Allegro giocoso

II. Allegretto grazioso

I. Allegro moderato e marcato

*Andrew J. Kim, conductor*

Edvard Grieg  
(1843-1907)

# Program Notes

## Sibelius: *Pelléas et Mélisande*

Jean Sibelius composed *Pelléas et Mélisande* in 1905 as incidental music for Maurice Maeterlinck's 1892 play with the same title. Originally written in ten parts, Sibelius later rearranged it into a nine-movement suite version, which became one of his most popular concert works.

*Pelléas et Mélisande* is about the dramatic love affair of Mélisande. The story opens in a nearby forest by the castle of King Arkel, where Mélisande is found by Golaud (the grandson of Arkel). They soon marry, but Mélisande does not have a happy life there. She coincidentally meets Pelléas (younger brother of Golaud) and falls in love with him. Upon discovering this, Golaud kills Pelléas in a fit of anger and jealousy. Mélisande tries to escape, yet, is found before too long. Eventually, she returns to the castle and dies shortly afterwards, ostensibly because of losing her beloved.

The premiere of this masterpiece happened at the Swedish Theatre in Helsinki on 17 March 1905, conducted by the composer himself. Tonight, we will be performing selections from the concert suite version.

## Grieg: *Symphonic Dances*

Edvard Grieg, arguably the most well-known Norwegian composer, wrote the *Symphonic Dances* based on earlier mountain folk melodies collected by Ludvig Mathias Lindemann. While the form of the dances remain simple ternary, he captures a lot of musical interest through his diverse use of the orchestra, from the piercing and brilliant piccolo to thundering basses and tuba, and the rhythmic energy he creates by offbeat accents and constantly driving pulse.

The third movement, which we will perform first, is a spring dance based on two playful themes, first played by the oboe. Grieg then uses the orchestral colors to present the themes in many different ways, from basses creating a heavier sound to a lighter version that uses viola pizzicatos. The second movement contrasts a lyrical, slower melody to a more playful melody bearing similarities with that of the third movement. The first movement, our finale, is a grandiose and energetic mountain dance that involved leaping, which culminates to a fast dash to the end.

# Biographies

## Kin Szeto

Kin Szeto is a versatile young conductor from Hong Kong. He is currently pursuing his Master's degree in Orchestral Conducting at Ithaca College, NY, with a full scholarship under the mentorship of Professor Octavio Más-Arocas. During his residency in NY, Szeto actively hold the positions of music director, guest conductor, and cover conductor of varies orchestra including Ithaca College Sinfonietta, Ithaca College Contemporary Music Ensemble, Cornell Symphony Orchestra, Cornell Chamber Orchestra, and Cornell Open Orchestra. His conducting also appears in Europe, such as the collaboration with the Bohuslav Martinu Philharmonic Orchestra in Czech Republic. In addition, Szeto recently guest conducted the Orchestra of the Southern Finger Lakes on a full production of Igor Stravinsky's L'Histoire du Soldat in a short notice with great reception. He is also the assistant conductor for the Ithaca College Orchestras and graduate assistant of conducting classes.

Last summer, Szeto was selected to participate in the renowned Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music conducting workshop with Cristian Macelaru. He was also chosen as one of the conductors at the inaugural season of Music in the Alps International Music Festival with Kenneth Kiesler. His other conducting mentors include maestros Larry Rachleff and Donald Schleicher. Szeto is also a professional performer of traditional Chinese music. He earned a Bachelor's degree at the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, double majoring in Erhu and Gaohu, and was a member of the world-famous Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra. As an active soloist, Szeto has been often invited to perform world-wide. He recently won the Ithaca College concerto competition, the first time for a non-western instrument in the long history of the college.

Born and raised in Hong Kong, Kin Szeto is a recipient of several scholarships including the Hong Kong Scholarship for Excellence awarded by the Hong Kong Government. With his supreme performance in the industry, he was given the title "Hong Kong Elite". Drawing upon his experience with both Chinese music and Western music, Szeto distinguishes himself as a multifaceted musician with a distinct and extraordinary musicality.

## **Andrew J. Kim**

Andrew J. Kim is a first-year graduate conductor at Ithaca College. Under the tutelage Professor Octavio Más-Arocas, Andrew serves as the assistant conductor of IC Chamber and Symphony Orchestra and as the co-principal conductor of IC Sinfonietta. Before coming to Ithaca, he studied Music and English Literature at Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania, where he served as the assistant conductor to the College Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, Chorus, and Garnet Singers. His previous teachers include Andrew Hauze, Joseph Gregorio, Gary Gress, and Matthew Caretti.

As an orchestral conductor, Andrew has performed with distinguished artists such as David Kim, the concertmaster of the Philadelphia Orchestra, Jasper String Quartet, and Chamber Orchestra First Editions . As a choral conductor, he won the annual undergraduate conducting competition hosted by the Pennsylvania chapter of American Choral Directors Association and participated in a masterclass with the legendary pedagogue Jerry Blackstone at the Eastern Division conference. Other masterclass teachers include Markand Thakar, Maurice Peress, and Roomful of Teeth. He is deeply grateful for all the excellent guidance and mentorship he has received so far in his life as a musician.

# Ithaca College Sinfonietta

## **Violin I**

Lydia Loiselle  
Robin Sarica  
Ellen Harris  
Timothy Ryan Parham  
Emily Scicchitano  
Cassie Harrison

## **Violin II**

Jenna Abrahamsen  
Josie Manucha  
Michael Yeung  
Simone Cartales  
Zac Cohen  
Kathryn Andersen  
Caroline Ryan

## **Viola**

Masakazu Yasumoto  
Emma Anderson  
Catherine DeLessio  
Aidan Nelson  
Alora Foster

## **Cello**

Jenna Linsalata  
Aine Holland  
Zachary Raphael  
Sydney Joyce  
Emma Scheneman

## **Contrabass**

Daniel Dowling  
Joseph Smith  
Johanna Snyder

## **Flute**

Myah Frank  
Louis Bavaro  
Rachel Cory

## **Oboe**

Kathleen Cadorette  
Kaitlyn Schneider

## **Clarinet**

Raffaele Nicoletta  
Elizabeth McCann  
Alyshia Korba  
Becky Lindquist

## **Bassoon**

Alec Dorris  
Eden Treado

## **Horn**

Kayla Schuster  
Sarah Pulver  
Christian DeFreese  
Mark Melchionna

## **Trumpet**

Maxwell Bakalos  
Shaun Rimkunas

## **Trombone**

Andrea Dollinger  
Matthew Flores  
Johanna Wiley

## **Tuba**

Marisa Thomas

## **Percussion**

Daniel Mailloux  
Dan Syvret

## **Piano**

Sungmin Kim

# Upcoming Events

**May 5th, 2019 at 4pm - Ithaca College Orchestras with Choir  
in Ford Hall**

L. v. Beethoven: Egmont Overture, Op. 84

L. Bernstein: Chichester Psalms  
with Ithaca College Choir

S. Prokofiev, Symphony No. 5 in B-flat Major, Op. 100

Octavio Más-Arcoas, music director and conductor

Janet Galván, director of Choir

Kin Szeto, conductor