

B C P A C



Bucks County Performing Arts Center, Inc.
(formerly Lower Makefield Society for Performing Arts)

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PRESS RELEASE

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BUCKS COUNTY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER (BCPAC) PRESENTS UNUSUAL MUSICAL ARTISTRY

-----Yardley, PA, October 1, 2007

The Bucks County Performing Arts Center moves ahead with its second concert of the season, one that surely promises to make the “highlight” reels for all good music lovers. It’s certainly not unusual to have Bach, Mozart and Chopin on a classical music program, but to have their great keyboard works performed on a solo *marimba* is really something to see and hear. Pius Cheung, Marimba Artist and Composer, will do just that on Saturday evening, October 27th, at 7:30 P.M. in the historic Yardley Community Center.

The marimba is akin to the xylophone, but with its resonating tubes pitched an octave lower. The larger marimbas have a four-octave range, and, overall, the marimba is a warmer more multi-dimensional and expressive instrument than the xylophone. In addition to the towering Bach “*Goldberg Variations*”, a Mozart *Sonata*, and a Chopin *Ballade*, you will be treated to works by Mr. Cheung himself and the Japanese composer Keiko Abe.

Described as “Absolutely Incredible” by PAS Percussive Notes Magazine, Pius Cheung has captured audiences around the world with performances of his own compositions and arrangements of music by the classical masters.

The Chinese-Canadian marimbist began his musical journey on the piano at age 5 and the marimba at age 9. In his teenage years, Pius performed extensively on national tours throughout Canada, and was a marimba soloist at the World Music Forum 1999 representing Canada. At age 17, he entered the prestigious Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia. During his studies there, Pius was awarded 1st prize at the Philadelphia Orchestra’s Albert Greenfield Concerto Competition, which led to his U. S. concerto debut with the Philadelphia Orchestra at the Kimmel Center. Since then, he has been actively performing internationally on tours to many countries, including Russia, Australia, Holland, Mexico, China, Canada, and the U. S.

In July 2006, Mr. Cheung’s CD album of J. S. Bach’s Complete “*Goldberg Variations*” was released. It is the first ever recording of this Bach monument on marimba. Since its release, the album has received rave reviews and has been aired frequently on CBC Radio Canada, and National Public Radio US.

As a composer, Pius was awarded 1st prize winner of Classical Marimba League 2007 Composition Competition for his ‘Three Preludes’. He has written numerous works for the

marimba, including a set of five Musical Moments, Marimba Concerto with String Orchestra, Sonata No. 1 "Vitanata", Ballade for Eriko Daimo, and a collection of smaller pieces including Etudes, Nocturnes, and Preludes. His music is published by the Connecticut Hills Music Publishing Company and MPC Music Publishing.

Pius is a Yamaha Performing Artist and Vic Firth endorser. He received his Bachelor of Music from the Curtis Institute of Music, and his Artist Diploma from The Boston Conservatory.

Tickets are available for \$12, \$10 (seniors), \$8 (students) and \$5 for children under five. Subscription packages are also being offered this year at even further reduced prices. Tickets are available by contacting the BCPAC office, online at their website (www.bcpac.org) or at the Yardley Community Center prior to each concert.

BCPAC is a registered non-profit organization based in Lower Makefield Township. Its mission is the creation of community through the arts.

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“Building Community Through the Arts”

The Bucks County Performing Arts Center is a registered charitable organization. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained directly from BCPAC or from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.