



Ladies Musical Club
of Seattle

presents

Small Pieces | Big Statements

**A Talk on Chopin's Nationalistic Pieces by Dr. Larry Starr
with Musical Highlights and a Performance by Diana Gao**

2023 SUNDAY SALON SERIES

Congregational Church on Mercer Island

Sunday, March 5th, 2023

Doors at 2:45 ◆ Talk at 3:15



Introduction

Dr. Whitney Henderson

Talk: "Small Pieces | Big Statements"

Dr. Larry Starr

Examples and Excerpts

Diana Gao

Mazurkas Op. 17

Frédéric Chopin
(1810-1849)

No. 1 in B-flat major

No. 2 in E minor

No. 3 in A-flat major

No. 4 in A minor

Mazurkas Op. 24

No. 1 in G minor

No. 2 in C major

No. 3 in A-flat major

No. 4 in B-flat minor

Polonaise No. 6 in A-flat major, Op. 53

Diana Gao, piano

Q & A

Larry, Diana, and Attendees

ABOUT THE PRESENTERS



Larry Starr holds the title Professor Emeritus of American Music Studies at the University of Washington School of Music, where he taught for more than four decades. He retired from university teaching in 2018, but he continues to speak on music at the Seattle Symphony (pre-concert talks), the Women's University Club (Seattle), and now the Ladies' Musical Club. He has written books on Charles Ives's music, Aaron Copland's songs, George Gershwin's Broadway musicals, and most recently *Listening to Bob Dylan*, and is the co-author of a textbook on American popular music. Larry's

advisees have gone on to distinguished careers in teaching, research, and arts administration—a noteworthy recent example being Whitney Henderson, LMC's own Executive Director.

Diana Gao began studying the piano at age 4. She received a bachelor's degree in International Broadcasting Journalism and a Graduate Diploma in Finance and Investment from top universities in China. Then she moved to the US in 2013 and earned her MBA degree at the University of Washington (UW). She's now a Senior Marketing Manager at Microsoft. Although she has pursued a career outside of music, the piano has remained a significant mainstay in her life. For years, she has consistently cultivated her passion through regular lessons and performances. She is currently studying with Dr. Robin McCabe from the UW, and she's a prizewinner in many competitions, including Gold Medalist of the Seattle International Piano Competition, and First Prize in the "Golden Classical Music Awards" International Competition, which earned her a solo performance at the Carnegie Hall. She has also performed at the prestigious Piano Texas International Festival. Since 2020, she has presented annual fundraising recitals through the Microsoft Give campaign, raising thousands of dollars in support of local non-profit organizations. Those events reinforced her belief that music has the power to inspire change and make the world a better place.



For tickets to the May 7th Concert Talk on Chopin, go to bit.ly/SundaySalon2 or scan here:

Our Mission

Ladies Musical Club is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in Washington State whose mission is to foster classical music in the community through education, performance, and awards.

To support LMC's mission with a generous donation, go to lmcseattle.org/donate, or send your check to:

Ladies Musical Club
P.O. Box 94337
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