

3-27-2009

Student Recital

Efrain Solis
Chapman University

Brett Sprague
Chapman University

Miwa Sugiyama
Chapman University

Tony Cho
Chapman University

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22 year old **Miwa Sugiyama** was born in Tokyo and is in her fourth year at Chapman University, majoring in piano performance. She started her piano studies at age 4 and also studied music theory, ensemble, composition and arranging with Mrs. Rie Atarashi for nine years. Miwa came to the United States in 2002 and became a piano student of Mr. Edwin Deveny. She has studied with Dr. Joseph Matthews and Dr. Louise Thomas at Chapman University, and studied with Dr. Antoinette Perry at the Aspen Music Festival and School in summer 2007. In 2003 she was a winner in the Bach Festival as well as 1st place winner of the Japan Musicians Association Competition. In 2003 and 2004, she was a winner in the Southwestern Youth Music Festival, and she received the A-Muse scholarship award in 2005. In 2005, Miwa was awarded 1st prize in the Asia America Youth Orchestra's competition and the ensemble performed Miwa's winning composition.

Pianist **Tony Cho**, a native of South Korea, is an accomplished musician with extensive experience as a solo pianist, vocal/instrumental collaborator, and opera coach. His performances include concerts at Weill Recital Hall of Carnegie Hall in New York City, Meany Hall in Seattle, Harris Concert Hall in Aspen, and Doris Duke Theatre at Honolulu Academy of Arts in Hawaii. He has also been a guest artist in many music festivals, including the International Young Pianist Festival in Palos Verdes (El Festival Internacional de J'venes Pianistas) and the Italian Art Week Festival in Asuncion, Paraguay. As an opera coach, he has collaborated in main productions at such opera companies as Aspen Opera Theatre Center, Central City Opera, Hawaii Opera Theatre, Juilliard Opera Center, Virginia Opera, and the Opera Theatre of Lucca in Italy, working closely with such esteemed conductors as Robert Spano, Harry Bicket, George Manahan, Ed Spanjaard, Gary Thor Wedow, Kenneth Merrill, and Richard Bado. He has also served as music director of Virginia Opera's Spectrum Resident Artists, Hawaii Opera Theatre's Opera Residency, and Glimmerglass Opera's American Young Artists Concert Tour. He earned his Doctor of Musical Arts in Piano Performance from the University of Washington, where he was a graduate staff vocal accompanist; a Master's Degree from the University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music; and a Bachelor's Degree cum laude from Oklahoma State University with a minor in Organ and Spanish Literature. His principal teachers were Dr. Thomas Lanners, Frank Weinstock, Michael Chertock, and Craig Sheppard. A former member of music staff at the Juilliard School, Dr. Cho joined Chapman University as an Adjunct Faculty, where he serves as an opera coach.



presents a

Student Recital

Efrain Solis, baritone
Brett Sprague, tenor
Miwa Sugiyama, piano

with
Tony Cho, piano



Shigeru Kawai Concert Grand Piano

March 27, 2009 • 11:30 a.m.
Salmon Recital Hall, Conservatory of Music

Program

Frisch Zum Kampfe

Brett Sprague, tenor
Tony Cho, piano

W.A. Mozart
(1756-1791)

Nocturne in c minor, op. posth.

Miwa Sugiyama, piano

F. Chopin
(1810-1849)

Non più andrai
from *Le Nozze di Figaro*

Efrain Solis, baritone
Tony Cho, piano

W.A. Mozart

Capriccio in f minor

Miwa Sugiyama, piano

E. von Dohnányi
(1877-1960)

Efrain Solis, baritone, was born and raised in Orange County. He has performed a variety of roles including Simone in Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi*, Matthew in *La Divina*, and Gorgibus in *Signor Deluso* both by Thomas Pasatieri. Efrain has won several vocal competitions, most notably the Laila S. Conlin Vocal Competition, Friends of the Arts at the Cerritos for the Performing Arts Vocal Competition, and just recently was the only undergraduate in the finals of Y.E.S. Foundation for the Arts Vocal Competition taking Third Place. He is the recipient of the Fedderman Music Scholarship at Chapman University. This summer Efrain has been invited to sing the title role in Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* with Operafestival di Roma.

Brett B. Sprague is currently a Junior Vocal Performance major at the Chapman University Conservatory of Music. Before beginning his studies at Chapman, Brett performed and studied around the Tacoma, Washington area. There he performed Handel's *Messiah* with the Tacoma Symphony Orchestra as well as performing in many other solo recitals and concerts. As a student at Chapman University Brett has been a cast member of Opera Chapman productions for the past three years. His first role was Eisenstein in Johann Strauss' *Die Fledermaus* in the fall of 2007. Last spring he performed the role of Rinuccio in *Gianni Schicchi* by Giacomo Puccini, and this year he will be singing the role of Leon in *Signor Deluso* by modern American composer Thomas Pasatieri. He has also performed as a soloist in major works such as Mozart's *Mass in C*, as well as chamber works such as Bach's *Cantata No. 80*. Brett has studied with many musicians in America as well as Austria, spending the summer of 2008 near Innsbruck as a part of the Tyrolean Opera Program. In July 2009 he is scheduled to sing the role of Nemorino in Donizetti's *L'elisir d'amore* in Rome as part of the International Lyrical Academy, Italian Opera Program. He has given many recitals of art songs and plans to continue to perform in his remaining year at Chapman and into the future.