

# Wu Tzai Jou

## Violin Senior Recital

Fauré | Ysaÿe | Ravel

2025 4:20PM

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May 6th

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Concert Hall

Pianist | Cherie Khor







## Tsai-Jou Wu (Violinist)



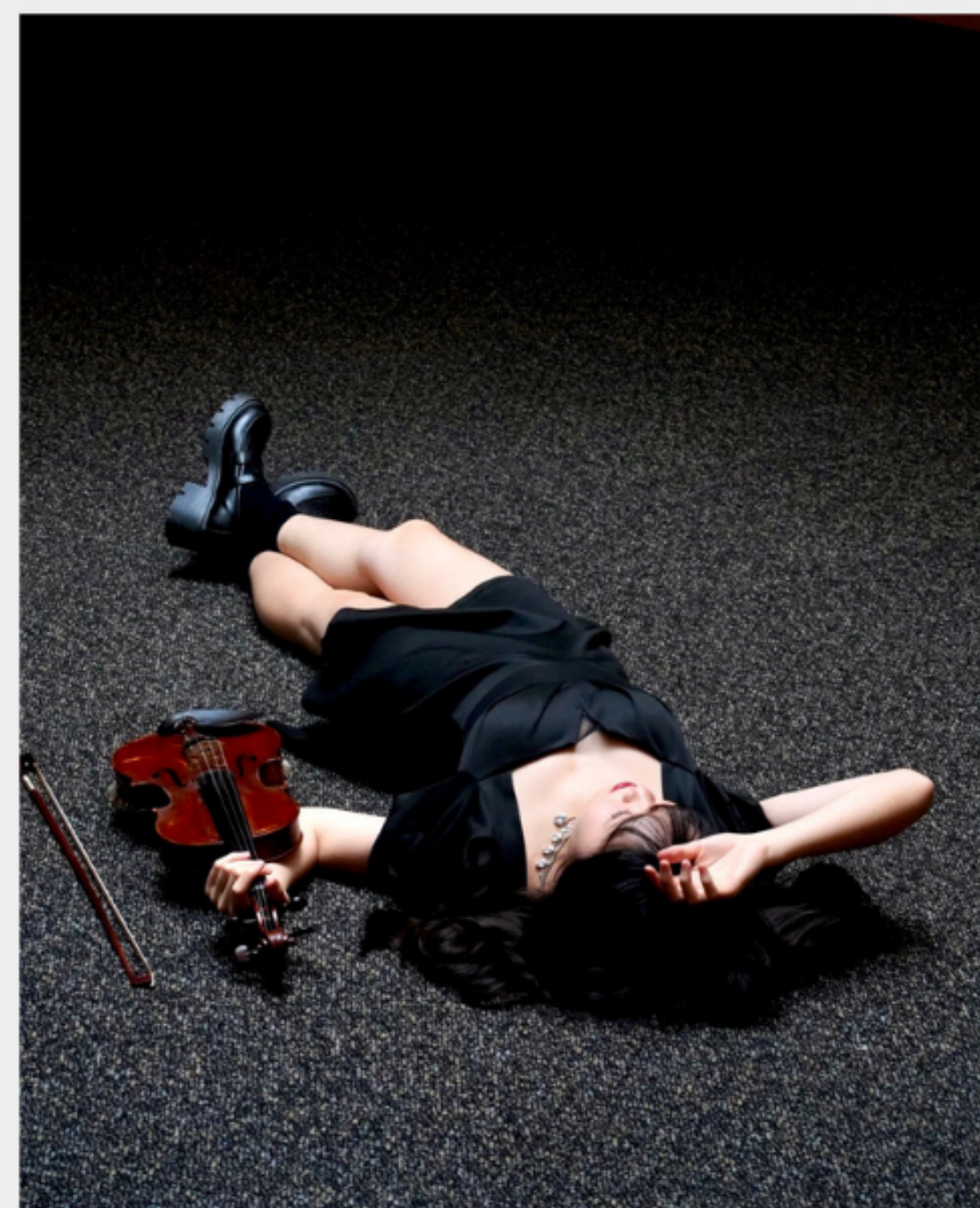
She has collaborated with Red Dot Baroque and the German-Nordic Youth Philharmonic, serving as concertmaster for RondoFest and assistant principal in her conservatory orchestra.

She has participated in masterclasses with renowned musicians such as Richard Lin, Christoph Schickedanz, Simone Bernardini, Koichiro Harada, and members of the Stradivari, Verona, and Miro Quartets.

Born in 2002 in Taiwan, Tsai-Jou Wu is an exchange student at the Royal Conservatoire The Hague and is currently pursuing a Bachelor's degree at the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music.

She has won First Prize at The North International Music Competition, the National Student Music Competition for Orchestra, and the Concerto Competition of Taichung Second Senior High School.

As an active performer, she has played as a soloist, orchestra and chamber musician in concerts across Asia and Europe, including performances at the Berlin Philharmonic Hall, Tianjin Juilliard School, and Northwestern University Summer Festival.



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# PROGRAM NOTES

Gabriel Fauré (1845–1924)

## Violin Sonata No. 1 in A Major, Op. 13

Premiered in 1877, this sonata is one of Fauré's early masterpieces, showcasing his gift for lyricism and harmonic innovation. The first movement, **Allegro molto**, opens with a soaring violin melody over rippling piano accompaniment, setting the tone for an expressive and passionate work. The second movement, **Andante**, offers a moment of introspection with its delicate and flowing melodies. The third movement, **Scherzo: Allegro vivo**, is light and playful, providing contrast before the exuberant final **Allegro quasi presto**, which brings the piece to a radiant conclusion. This sonata exemplifies Fauré's elegant, song-like writing and rich harmonic language.

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Eugène Ysaÿe (1858–1931)

## Violin Sonata No. 3 in D Minor, "Ballade"

Written in 1923 as part of a set of six solo violin sonatas, each dedicated to a different violinist, the **Third Sonata** is dedicated to the Romanian violinist Georges Enescu. Unlike the other sonatas in the set, it consists of a single movement, blending virtuosic demands with deeply expressive passages. The opening is mysterious and improvisatory, gradually building into a powerful, declamatory theme. Ysaÿe seamlessly weaves lyrical melodies with moments of fiery intensity, creating a dramatic monologue for the solo violin. The sonata demands technical brilliance, featuring rapid runs, double stops, and striking dynamic contrasts.

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Maurice Ravel (1875–1937)

## Tzigane

Composed in 1924, Tzigane is Ravel's homage to the fiery virtuosity of Hungarian Gypsy music. The piece begins with an extended solo cadenza, rich in exotic harmonies and expressive slides, demanding exceptional control from the violinist. The piano (or orchestral) accompaniment enters later, intensifying the piece's rhythmic drive and transforming it into a dazzling, whirlwind dance. With its brilliant passagework, improvisatory flair, and dramatic pacing, Tzigane stands as one of the most exhilarating showpieces in the violin repertoire, capturing the spirit of Hungarian folk music through Ravel's impressionistic lens.

