



**YST** Yong Siew Toh  
**Conservatory**  
*of Music*

**YAO LIANG-YU**  
**VIOLIN JUNIOR RECITAL**

**PIANIST: CHERIE KHOR**

**TCHAIKOVSKY**  
**VIOLIN CONCERTO OP. 35**

**NOV. 25, 2020**

**2:30 P.M.**

**YST CONCERT HALL/  
LIVESTREAM on  
YST YouTube Channel**

25 November | Wednesday

*Yao Liang-Yu*

*Violin Recital*

Cherie Khor, *piano*

## **PROGRAMME**

PYOTR ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY  
Violin Concerto in D Major, Op. 35  
I. Allegro moderato  
II. Conzonetta  
III. Finale

## About The Performer

**Liang-Yu** picked up the violin at the age of 5, and she is currently pursuing her music studies under Mr. Zuo Jun, the head of strings in Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music. Liangyu has been a violinist dedicating in solo performance, orchestra, and chamber music. Liangyu previously studied with Chia-Miao Chung and Su-Lan Hsu before studying in YST. At the age of twelve, she won the second prize of National Taiwan Student Competition in Tainan. She was awarded the outstanding prize in the 12th Academy of Taiwan Strings Violin Competition in 2017. In the same year, she was selected to participate in Singapore International Violin Festival, where she studied with violinists such as Takashi Shimizu, Nam Yun Kim, Vilmos Szabadi and Tong Wei Dong. In the following year, she won the concerto competition of TNGS, and has performed Wieniawski's violin concerto no.1 with the orchestra in June. She has also attended masterclasses conducted by Cho-Liang Lin, Nam Yun Kim, Bin Huang, Paul Huang and Benny Kim, etc. Since 2014, Liangyu has been exploring her further study in chamber music field. She won the first prize and second prize of Taiwan National Competition in the category of String Quartet in 2016 and 2017. She was awarded first prize in piano trio category in the following year with her piano trio group. As an active orchestral musician, she was selected to participate in National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra Festival Orchestra conducted by world-class violinist, Cho-Liang Lin in 2016 and 2017. She has been the concertmaster of TNGS orchestra in both 2017 and 2018. In the following year, she travelled to China with YST and performed a concert with Hangzhou Philharmonic Orchestra. In 2020, she has been accepted to participate in Sarasota Music Festival in Florida, the United States of America. The Covid-19 pandemic has not stopped Liangyu's involvement as a musician as she continues to perform in concerts such as the noon recitals and soundbites in YST. Also, she gives concerts for the Asian Civilisations Museum lunchtime series, all of which were live streamed through Facebook and Youtube.

## Programme Notes

**PYOTR ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY**  
**Violin Concerto in D Major, Op. 35**  
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**III. Finale**

### **The Backstory:**

In 1877, Tchaikovsky got a letter from his previous student, Antonina Milyukova, who said she was in love with him. However, Tchaikovsky almost didn't remember this woman. Tchaikovsky visited Antonina Milyukova on June 1 for

the first time. In order to keep his homosexuality from the public, Tchaikovsky proposed to Antonina after couple days from their first meet. This marriage have lasted only around two months, but it must have seemed a lifetime for Tchaikovsky. He was shocked that she knew not one note of music, and he couldn't bring himself to introduce Antonina as his wife. In September of same year, he attempted to commit his first suicide.

On October 13, his brother, Anatoly, brought Tchaikovsky on a trip to Europe. This trip to Europe has completely turned his mind into composing music, saying "My heart is full. It thirsts to pour itself out in music." He then returned to compose and completed the Symphony no.4 in January 1878, and he finished Eugene Oregon in the next month. In March of 1878, Tchaikovsky had gradually recovered his strength, settling in Clarens, Switzerland. He then started to work on a new composition, a violin concerto in D major, and complete the score two weeks later.

When he returned to Russia in the late April in the same year, there were still some remaining troubles—Antonina continuously accepted and rejected the divorce contract—but the worst time of his life had passed.

### **The Music:**

This concerto starts with an allegro moderato in D major— a graceful movement, and a warm description of the breathtaking sceneries from Clarens, the Switzerland resort place— the place where Tchaikovsky composed this concerto. The spirit, skillfulness and energy of this movement represent the existing styles that are always passionately articulated in Tchaikovsky's other major works. The intensity of emotion reaches a climax before the first movement cadenza starts.

The second movement is a tranquilly gloomy andante cantabile, contrasting distinctly with the first movement. The melancholy entry of violin solo, and it sings a moan that eventually alternates to a more delighted and pastoral-like melody, like a sound of breathtaking nature.

The second movement is followed by the final movement without pause. It is generously marked allegro vivacissimo for the tempo and returns to the tonality in the first movement—D major, showing its excited and cheerful energy. Including a vigorous and exciting Russian dance in the movement as the violinist's bow dances along with it, this movement has a homesickness of second theme providing an emotional contrasting expression to the movement's higher-energy sections, but it is finally ended by a cheerful and passionate finale.

*Programme notes by Yao Liang-Yu.*