

Harpist, Composer

Renée Qin, a young Canadian harpist and composer, is currently a senior in a BA program at Stanford University, double majoring in Music (BA Honors) and Economics (BA Honors). She began piano training at the age of four and later expanded to flute and harp, studying harp under Elizabeth Volpé Bligh, former principal harpist of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra and a professor at the University of British Columbia. In 2019, she underwent intensive training at the Curtis Institute of Music Summer Harp Colony under the guidance of Elizabeth Hainen and Judy Loman. In 2020, Renée was admitted to the dual degree program in Harp at the New England Conservatory and Tufts University, but she chose to pursue double majors in Music and Economics at Stanford University. Currently, she studies harp with Dan Levitan and composition with Dr. François Rose at Stanford University.

As a young soloist, Renée has collaborated with multiple orchestras, including the Stanford Philharmonia, the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, and the Harmonia Chamber Music Orchestra, among others. She has performed at prestigious venues such as Carnegie Hall in New York, Field Concert Hall at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, and the Orpheum Theatre in Vancouver. Most recently, on May 19, 2024, Renée performed Mozart's Concerto for Flute and Harp in C major, K.299, accompanied by a local professional orchestra at Bing Concert Hall at Stanford. Previously, in December 2022, she performed Handel's Harp Concerto in B-flat major at Stanford Memorial Church, accompanied by the Stanford Philharmonia.

Renée has won several national and international competition awards, including the first prize at the 2018 Canadian Music Competition and the American Protégé International Romantic Music Competition. In 2019, she also won the Canadian International Music Competition Concerto Competition and performed a harp concerto accompanied by a local orchestra. In 2018, she received a music scholarship from the West Coast Chapter of the American Harp Society. Additionally, in 2022, her composition project "Ternaround" was awarded the Chappell Lougee Scholarship.

On May 31, 2024, Renée signed with Hemiola Culture Media, a rising agency in Asia. This partnership marks a significant milestone in expanding her career internationally. As part of this new association, she will serve as a jury member for the European and North American regions of the 19th Singapore Zhongxin International Music Competition in 2024, an event organized by the agency.

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Orchestral Experience

Stanford Symphony Orchestra, principal harpist, 2021 - Present
Stanford Philharmonia, Principal harpist 2023
California Youth Symphony, guest harpist 2023
Vancouver Youth Symphony Orchestra, principal harpist, 2017 - 2020
Lions Gate Youth Orchestra, principal harpist, 2017 - 2020
Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, principal harpist, 2019
University of British Columbia Symphony Orchestra, guest harpist, 2018
Vancouver Symphony Orchestra (side by side concert at the Orpheum Theatre), youth harpist, 2018, 2019
Lions Gate Sinfonia, guest harpist, 2017

Chamber Music Experience

Elegiac Trio for Flute, Viola, and Harp by Arnold Bax, May 2023
Ave Maria by Franz Schubert, April 2023
Reverie by Claude Debussy, September 2020
Clair de Lune by Claude Debussy, September 2020
Another Time for Guitar and Harp by Michael Conway Baker (world premiere), October 2019
Harp Concerto by Michael Conway Baker, October 2019
Intermezzo for Flute and Harp by Michael Conway Baker, August 2019
Pièces de Clavecin en Concerts - Violin, Cello, and Harp by Jean-Philippe Rameau, July 2019
Emptiness for Konghou and Harp by Nathania Ko, March 2019
De Falla Spanish Dance No. 1 - Harp Duet by Manuel de Falla, 2018
Concerto for Flute, Harp and Orchestra by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, December 2018

Soloist with Orchestras

Stanford Symphonic Chorus, concerto soloist, May 2024
Stanford Philharmonia, concerto soloist, December 2022
Harmonia Chamber Orchestra, concerto soloist, March 2020
Vancouver Philharmonic Orchestra, concerto soloist, February 2020
A Little Night Music Orchestra, concerto soloist, 2019
Lions Gate Youth Orchestra, featured soloist, 2017 - 2019

Solo Performances

Concerto for Flute & Harp, by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Performed at Bing Concert Hall, May 2024
Concerto in B-Flat major by G. F. Handel, performed at Stanford Memorial Church, December 2022
Sarabande e Toccata by Nino Rota, Performed at Grace Vancouver Church, March 2020
La Fille Aux Cheveux De Lin by Claude Debussy, performed at Carnegie Hall, March 2019
Harp Sonata by Paul Hindemith, performed at McGill University and Unitarian Church of Vancouver, 2018
Concerto in B-Flat major by G. F. Handel, performed at Field Concert Hall in Philadelphia, June 2019

Composition

Sonnet 116 by Renée Qin, lyrics by William Shakespeare, performed by Evelyn S., December 2023
Spring Tide by Renée Qin, performed by Stanford Symphony Orchestra, June 2023
Voice of the Planet by Renée Qin, performed by Ensemble Kujoyama, October 2023
Piper by Renée Qin, performed by Ives Collective, November 2022
Ternaround by Renée Qin, performed by Renée Qin, November 2022

Gaieties by Renée Qin (lead composer), performed at Stanford Memorial Auditorium, November 2022

Music Programs and Festivals

Curtis Summerfest Harp Colony at the Curtis Institute of Music, June 2019

Vancouver Symphony Orchestra Institute, July 2019

Master Class with Sasha Boldachev at University of British Columbia, Feb 2018

Marrowstone in the City (Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra Summer Program), July 2015

Awards

Chappell Lougee Scholar, 2022

National First Place Winner, WorldVision Music Contest, 2021

First Prize Winner, Canadian Music Competition (National Final), 2018

Scholarship Recipient, West Coast Harp Society, 2018

Vienna New Year's Concert International Music Competition, Stings Young Talent Award, 2019

Concerto Winner and Soloist, Canada International Arts & Music Society Concerto Competition, 2019

Second Place Winner, Bainbridge Symphony Orchestra Young Artist Competition, 2019

First Prize Winner, the American Protégé International Competition of Romantic Music, 2018

First Prize Winner, Best Handel Performance, the Great Composers series, 2019

First Prize Winner, the Art of Instrumental Performance, the Great Composers series, 2017

Second Prize Winner, the Music of the 19th Century, the Great Composers series, 2018

Second Prize Winner, the North International Music Competition, 2017 - 2018

Honorable Mention - ENKOR International Music Competition, Strings, 2018

Finalist - Vancouver International Music Competition, 2017

Education

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

B.A. Music (with honors); Economics (with honors), Minor in Computer Science

Music Major GPA: 4.05

Coterm Masters Degree expected 2025

Stanford, CA

2020 - 2024

Principal Teachers

François Rose (Composition)

Dan Levitan (Harp)

Douglas Rioth (Harp)

Elizabeth Volpe Bligh (Harp)

Janelle Nadeau (Harp)

Cui Junzhi (Konghou Harp)

Brenda Fedoruk (Flute)

Adam Aleksander (Piano)

Henri-Paul Sicsic (Piano)

Conductors

Paul Phillips

Otto Tausk

Bramwell Tovey

Roger Cole

Jonathan Girard

Clyde Mitchel

Douglas Macaulay

Master Classes

Judy Loman

Elizabeth Hainen

Sasha Boldachev

Motoshi Kosako

Music Community Service

Director, the Music Connect Project (youth-run non-profit organization), 2016-2020

Engage in chamber music performances across community venues in Vancouver, 2016 - 2020

Awarded "Outstanding Youth Team" by the Mayor of the West Vancouver District, 2019

Organize concerts featuring ethnic musical instruments, 2018 - 2020

Harp history and music workshops in communities across Vancouver's North Shore, 2016 - 2020