

Rev. Greg Batson, Senior Minister
Tricia Guerrero, Pastoral Associate
Dr. James Smith, Director of Music
Ty Woodward, Organist

Next ONLINE Mid-Week Recital:
Wednesday, December 11, 12:10 p.m.



Seraphour, quartet

Celebrating that which is true, beautiful and good, Seraphour was formed as a response to the isolation of the Covid pandemic. The Southern California based group is on a mission to create beauty and light out of a dark and quiet time. The all-female quartet is dedicated to the preservation and proliferation of the sacred canon – highlighting unaccompanied classical sacred gems that celebrate the beauty of the female voice.

Presenting pieces from the Renaissance to present day and commissioning new works for sacred contemplation, their music celebrates the tradition of beauty that spans centuries and inspires souls. Seraphour's debut album, "Angele Dei," was released in October 2021. It has since been featured on classical radio stations and syndicated NPR and PBS programs across the country. In addition to terrestrial radio, "Angele Dei" can be heard and downloaded on all streaming platforms including, but not limited to Amazon Music, iTunes, Spotify and Pandora. In addition to their debut album, Seraphour's live performances feature music that highlights the Liturgical year. The ladies of Seraphour are also currently working on a series of audio/visual projects featuring Music in Inspired Spaces and getting started on their second Album – a Christmas offering centered-around the "O Magnum Mysterium" text.

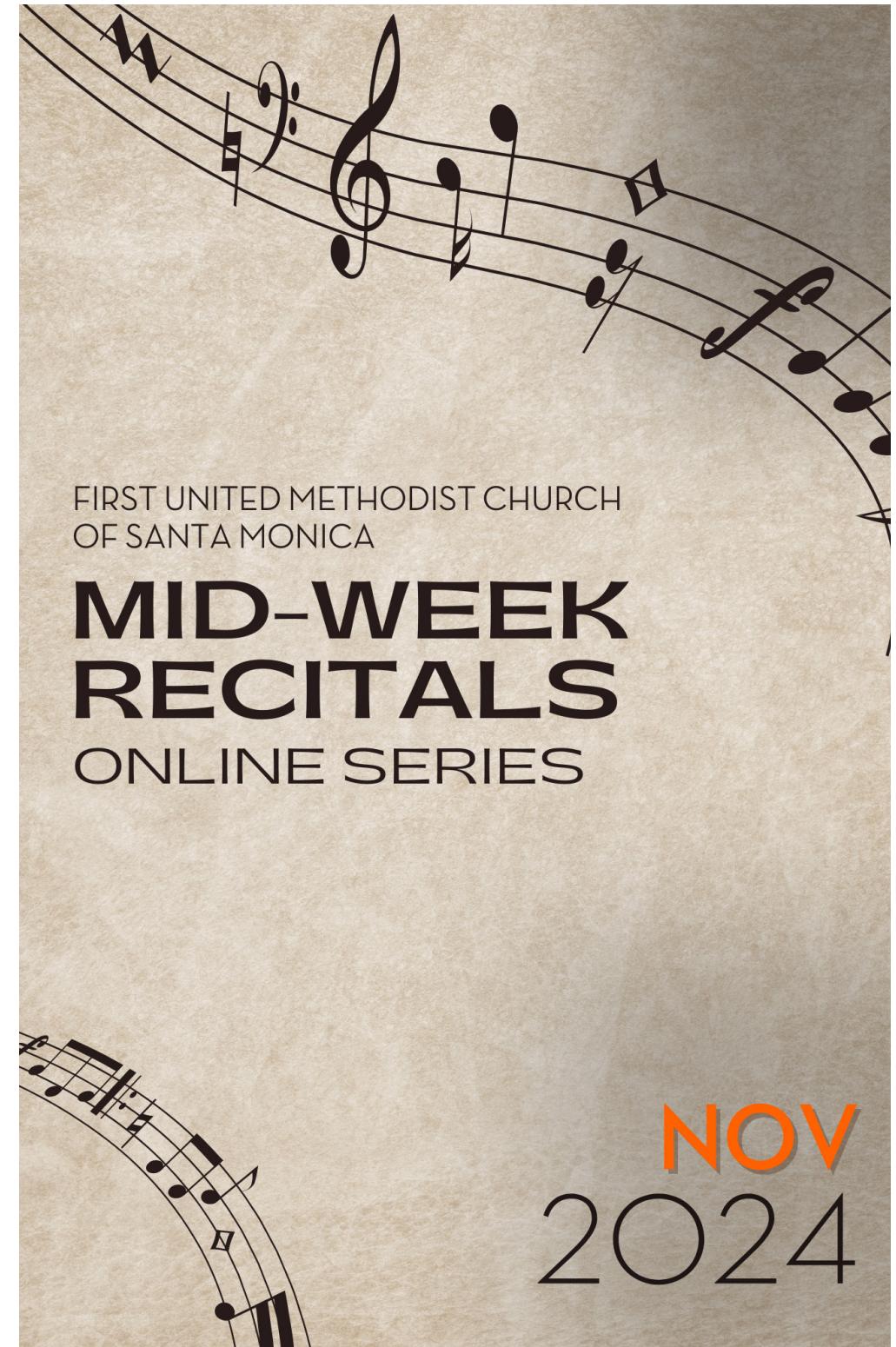
For more information about the group, see their website www.seraphour.com or follow them on social media @seraphour.

First United Methodist Church welcomes you to all of our events
and invites you to join us for In-Person and Online worship on Sundays at 10 a.m.

To see full schedule of recitals,
and watch past recitals, visit:
www.santamonicaumc.org/mid-week-recital-series



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
of SANTA MONICA
1008 Eleventh Street
Santa Monica, CA 90403
www.santamonicaumc.org
310.393.8258



Wednesday, November 13, 2024
12:10 p.m.

NORA CHIANG, piano
CHIKA INOUE, saxophone

Melodie, Op.3, No.1
(Transcribed by David Pepper)

Anton Rubenstein

Sonata in E Minor for Violin & Piano, K.304

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

I. Allegro
II. Tempo di Menuetto
(Transcribed for saxophone)

Sonata in G Minor, Op.19 for Cello and Piano Sergei Rachmaninoff
III. Andante
(Transcribed for saxophone)

Paquito Andy Scott
Polonaise Brillante, Op.3 Frederic Chopin
For Cello and Piano
(Transcribed for saxophone)

About The Artists

Nora Chiang Wrobel began her piano studies at the young age of four. At thirteen, she was awarded a merit scholarship to attend the Juilliard School. She went on to earn merit scholarships at the Eastman School of Music, New England Conservatory and the University of Southern California where she received a Bachelor of Music and a Master of Music degree and earned membership into Pi Kappa Lambda, a national music honors society for academic excellence. Her mentors have included famed pianists Barry Snyder, Evelyne Brancart, Norman Krieger and Leonard Shure. She has performed as a soloist and chamber musician throughout the United States, Canada and China in major venues including Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall, Rolston Recital Hall, Hahn Hall, Jordan Hall and Zipper Hall of the Colburn School.

Ms. Chiang Wrobel is also a well-respected teacher, having taught at Santa Monica College and in her private studio in Los Angeles. Her students have gone on to study at music conservatories such as the Jacob School of Music in Indiana University and California State University, Northridge which was ranked as one of the twenty-five best schools of music in the country. In combination with her performing and recording work, Nora also gives lecture-symposia on music performance and practice, holds piano masterclasses, and teaches piano in the Los Angeles area where she lives with her husband.

Concert saxophonist, **Chika Inoue** has been praised by The Los Angeles Times with “beautiful tone, acute sensitivity and virtuosic technique.” Al Schmitt, 20-time GRAMMY winning recording engineer and producer applauded with “Most delicate tone I have heard throughout my career.” James Conlon, music director of LA Opera has been congratulated with “beautiful sound.” She appears regularly as a saxophonist in the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

She has received numerous performance awards in competitions, lavishing praise as a soloist and chamber musician. Chika has extensive concert touring in North America, Europe, and Asia with admiration and performed at soloist at Granada Music Festival in Spain, Faenza International Saxophone Festival in Italy, Astoria Music Festival, Yamaha Saxophone Festival in Japan, International China Clarinet, and Saxophone Music Festival in China and many more. Additional Performances include appearances with the Pacific Symphony, Fresno Philharmonic, Santa Monica Symphony, Brooklyn Chamber Orchestra, Culver City Chamber Orchestra, California Opera, and Hollywood Bowl Orchestra. In 2022, Chika released a single, Nikolai Kapustin's Saxophone Concerto, Op. 50, commemorating the composer's passing two years prior, which received a considerable acclaim. For many years Chika has been dividing her time in Japan as well, concertizing duo recitals with master pianist Mikiko Yamaguchi.

For full bios, visit the website: www.santamonicaumc.org/mid-week-recital-series

The First United Methodist Church of Santa Monica welcomes you to this concert. To view this performance and other past concerts, go to: Facebook (@santamonicaumc) or YouTube (@SantaMonicaUMC)