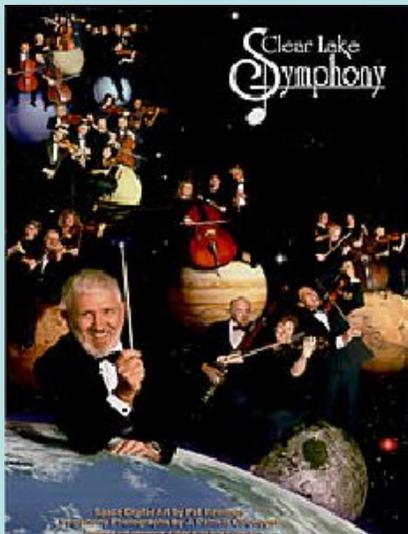


## 2010 - 2011 Season

The Clear Lake Symphony celebrated its 35th season in the fall of 2010. There are six regular season performances including the Christmas "Pops" featuring various classical selections and guest soloists. Concerts will be held either at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church Auditorium, 18220 Upper Bay Road in Nassau Bay or at University of Houston, Clear Lake Bayou Building Auditorium. See concert dates for location.



The Clear Lake Symphony will be performing the fourth in their 2010-2011 concert series on Friday, February 4, 2011 at the University of Houston Clear Lake Bayou Building Auditorium located at Bay Area Blvd and Middlebrook Drive in Clear Lake. Map of the UH-CLC Campus is located on page 5. Celebrating their 35th season, the orchestra will perform an evening of beautiful Classical music.

Reminder: All concerts will be on Friday evenings at 7:30 p.m. For a list of all the season concerts, please click on the following link:

[www.ClearLakeSymphony.org](http://www.ClearLakeSymphony.org)

### Guest Artist

**So Yoon Lee**



## Clear Lake Symphony

Program February 4, 2011

*"Namensfeier" Overture, ("Name Day"), Op. 115*

Beethoven

*Piano Concerto No. 2 in B-flat Major, Op. 83*

Brahms

Allegro non troppo  
Allegro appassionato  
Andante  
Allegretto grazioso

So Yoon Lee, piano

### INTERMISSION

*Symphony No. 4 in A Major, Op. 90*

Mendelssohn

Allegro vivace  
Andante con moto  
Con moto moderato  
Saltarello: Presto

**Dr. Charles A. Johnson**  
Conductor and Musical Director

Steinway is the official piano of the Clear Lake Symphony

Concert Tickets are available from Eye Trends, 515 Bay Area Blvd., Suite 300 (next door to Starbucks). Phone number: 281-488-0066. Individual are: \$10 adults, \$8 senior citizens (age 55 & up) & \$7 students. Tickets are also available at the concert ticket table the night of the concert.

## February 4, 2011 Program Notes

***Grand Overture in C Major, "Namensfeier" Overture, Op. 115 ("Name Day")*** - by Ludwig van Beethoven (1770 - 1827) was completed in 1814 and first performed on December 25th 1815 in Vienna.

When Beethoven was a young man, one of the most respected writers in Germany was Friedrich Schiller, dramatist, poet, and philosopher. Beethoven revered Schiller's works, and as early as 1793 he had begun thinking about setting a favorite poem, *An die Freude* (better known as the "Ode to Joy"), to music. It would take almost twenty years for him to act on the idea, and another decade for it to come to fruition as the famous last movement of the Ninth Symphony.

When Beethoven finally sat down to work on the Ode to Joy, he had not yet conceived the radical departure of adding a choral section to a symphony. Instead, he planned a simpler approach, a concert work made up of a few movements ending with the poem. The first sketches along these lines appeared in 1811. The work did not progress particularly rapidly, and as it developed, Beethoven apparently realized that Schiller's Ode was worthy of a more significant piece than the relatively innocuous composition he had been planning. Eventually he separated the poetic setting from the other themes and converted the latter into an overture. As it happens, he finished the score, labeling it "in the first vintage month (October) 1814, in the evening, on the name-day [birthday] of our Kaiser." It is this indication that has produced the overture's nickname. The overture is truly "grand," not only in the sense of being a relatively lengthy piece, but also in that it is much more weighty and complex than a Mozart or Rossini operatic overture. In it we can hear the fully mature Beethoven, an innovator who no longer shied away from extending a form or challenging audiences, yet also a man wise enough to put aside a portion of his work when it needed further development, even though it would take almost ten more years to produce something he would consider a worthy capstone to his career.

--Program notes by Geoff Kuenning, 1999, Symphony of the Canyons

***Piano Concerto No.2 in B-flat Major, Op. 83*** by Johannes Brahms (1833 - 1897) is separated by a gap of 22 years from the composer's first piano concerto. Brahms began work on the piece in 1878 and completed it in 1881 while in Pressbaum near Vienna. It was premiered in Budapest on November 9, 1881, with Brahms as soloist, and was an immediate success. He proceeded to perform the piece in many cities across Europe.

In the two-decade gap between the first and second concertos, Brahms gained widespread recognition as a leading composer and wrote a number of important works, most notably his first and second symphonies. Composing those pieces allowed Brahms to achieve a level of mastery in the symphonic style foreshadowed by the first piano concerto. The second concerto includes materials that can only reach their full potential when developed in an orchestral setting and thus requires a more equal relationship between the soloist and the ensemble than previously utilized in the genre. Additionally, Brahms expanded the traditional three-movement concerto form to include a fourth movement as found in the symphony. The piano part of the second concerto, unlike those of Brahms's contemporaries such as Liszt, is based on a type of virtuosity that is subservient to musical expression rather than an aim in itself.

--Program notes by Jessica Rudman, 2007, and excerpts from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

***Symphony No.4 in A Major, Op. 90 ("Italian Symphony")*** by Felix Mendelssohn (1809 - 1847)  
The work has its origins in the tour of Europe which occupied Mendelssohn from 1829 to 1831. Its inspiration is the color and atmosphere of Italy, where Mendelssohn made sketches but left the work incomplete. The *Italian Symphony* was finished in Berlin, March 13, 1833, in response to an invitation for a symphony from the London (now Royal) Philharmonic Society. He conducted the first performance himself in London on May 13, 1833, at a London Philharmonic Society concert. The symphony's success, and Mendelssohn's popularity, influenced the course of British music for the rest of the century.

Felix Mendelssohn was an extraordinary child prodigy, a composer who had his first public concert performance at the age of nine. When the most distinguished musicians of the day assured his father, a wealthy banker, that the boy was an authentic genius, nothing was spared to bring him to artistic maturity. Mendelssohn wrote a great deal of music in his youth, thirteen symphonies and several concertos, for example, which he considered *juvenilia* and never released for publication. The *Italian Symphony*, completed when Mendelssohn had just turned twenty four, was never published in his lifetime because he was not satisfied with it. The last movement caused him considerable anguish, and he always planned to revise it. He, however, was alone in his judgment: historically; critics have often called this a "perfect" work, many noting that the last movement is a "gem".

--Program notes in part by Susan Halpern and excerpts from Wikipedia

## *Soloist - So Yoon Lee*



So Yoon Lee, pianist, first prize winner of the 22nd Kingsville International Competition enjoys a remarkable and multifaceted career that has taken her throughout the United States, Canada, and Asia.

She received her doctoral degree in piano performance from the University of Texas at Austin, master's degree from the Eastman School of Music and bachelor's degree (highest honors) in Seoul National University. She also received a Performer's Certificate from the Eastman School of Music. In addition to garnering many awards from her alma mater, she was the second prize winner of the 26th Frinna Awerbuch International Piano Competition in New York City (2002); prize winner of the Washington International Competition in Washington, DC (2005); and won the second prize at the 2007 Bradshaw & Buono International Piano Competition in New York City. She

has studied with Barry Snyder, Anton Nel, Krystian Zimerman, Ursula Oppens, Paul Badura-Skoda, Jean Barr, and Ann Shein.

For many years she has maintained a busy schedule as performer and collaborator in solo recitals, chamber music performances, and ensemble performances. Her recital appearances have included numerous performances at Carnegie Hall, Steinway Hall, Bechstein Auditorium and the Donnell Library Center in New York City, NY; Kennedy Center in Washington, DC; Gateway Theatre in Vancouver, Canada; Libby Gardner Concert Hall in Salt Lake City, Utah; George Eastman House, Memorial Art Gallery, and Kilbourn Hall in Rochester, New York; the Seoul Arts Center and Sejong Cultural Center in Seoul, Korea; Irons Recital Hall and Brookhaven Recital Hall in Dallas, Texas; Northwest Performing Arts Center in Houston, Texas; and Bates Recital Hall and Jessen Auditorium in Austin, Texas. Recent highlights in the US include performances with the Valley Symphony Orchestra. In addition to her coast-to-coast concerts, she will be making return visits to South Texas where she will perform the Ravel and Saint-Saens Piano Concertos. Eager to pursue dual careers in teaching and performing, she was appointed to the faculty of the University of Texas Pan American. She is currently a piano faculty at Lone Star College.



### Remaining Season Concerts

#### March 18, 2011 - GD

Winners - Youth Concerto Competition

Wagner - *Tannhauser Overture*

\*\*Gloria Dei Lutheran Church\*\*

#### April 29, 2011 - UHCL

Frank - *The Accursed Huntsman*

Frank - *Symphonic Variations*

Soloist: Dr. Sooah Chae, piano

Milhaud - *Boeuf sur le Toit (The Cow on the Roof)*

Saint-Saens - *Symphony No. 1*

\*\*University of Houston, Clear Lake\*

## Upcoming Events

### Great Chefs of the Bay Area Fundraiser – Rescheduled to May 5, 2011

The 7<sup>th</sup> annual Great Chefs of the Bay Area Fundraiser for the Clear Lake Symphony has been rescheduled to Thursday, May 5, 2011 at 7:00 pm at the Hilton Houston NASA Clear Lake Hotel in Nassau Bay. This is the only fundraiser for the Symphony, so please re-mark your calendars for this event. More information will be available in the near future on the Symphony website and newsletter. Reservations for this event close on May 2, 2011.

Reservation forms are available on-line:

Mail-in Form (checks & credit cards):

[http://clearlakesymphony.org/files/Great Chefs Revervation Form 2011.pdf](http://clearlakesymphony.org/files/Great_Chefs_Revervation_Form_2011.pdf)

On-line Form (for credit cards):

[http://clearlakesymphony.org/GC\\_Reservation.htm](http://clearlakesymphony.org/GC_Reservation.htm)

### Annual Youth Concerto Competition

The Clear Lake Symphony held its annual Youth Concerto Competition on January 8, 2011 for young artists from Houston Metro area high schools, junior highs, and elementary schools. The Youth Concerto Competition winners will be provided with a scholarship and perform with the Clear Lake Symphony at the March 18, 2011 concert. There were 34 contestants in this year's competition.

*The aim of the Competition is to enhance music performance and appreciation by:*

- ◆ *encouraging promising students to prepare high quality performance materials*
- ◆ *aiding instrumental and piano teachers in the Houston/Galveston Metro Area in so encouraging their students*
- ◆ *provide opportunities for the students to perform with the Clear Lake Symphony before a live audience*

*Scholarship awards will be granted to the winner of each category in each Division.*

The winners for the Wind, Piano and String Divisions are:

#### Junior Wind Division

Winner: Cameron Hillebrand, flute

Honorable Mention: Ayman Abouleish, trumpet

#### Senior Wind Division

*No scholarship awarded*

#### Junior Piano Division

Winners: Patrick Pan (co-winner)

Daniel Whatley (co-winner)

Honorable Mention: Auburn Lee

#### Senior Piano Division

*No scholarship awarded*

#### Junior String Division

Winner: Melissa Du, violin

Honorable Mention: Claire Wood, violin

#### Senior String Division

Winners: Charles Seo, cello (co-winner)

Andrew Shiau, cello (co-winner)

Honorable Mention: Kynan Horton-Thomas, bass

More information on the Youth Concerto Winners will be posted on the Clear Lake Symphony Website in February and the next newsletter.

## U of H Clear Lake Campus Map

The February 4, 2011 Clear Lake Symphony Concert will be at the University of Houston Clear Lake in the Bayou Building Auditorium. The below map will help direct you to the location. The easiest way to get to the Bayou Building is by taking Entrance 3 off Middlebrook Drive. Parking Lot D1 is the closest to the Bayou Building. Parking is free of charge for this concert. You may use both student & faculty parking.

The entrance to the Auditorium is located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. There are elevators in the lobby or stairways to reach the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Signs will be posted to direct you. The ticket counter is also located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.



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