

THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC, THEATRE, AND DANCE PRESENTS

... Virtuoso Series Concert ...

MEREDITH BLECHA-WELLS, CELLO
AND JOOYEON CHANG, PIANO

An Evening in the French Salon

FEBRUARY 23, 2026 • 7:30 P.M.
ORGAN RECITAL HALL



**COLORADO STATE
UNIVERSITY**

SEASON SPONSOR:



The Bank
of CSU

VIRTUOSO SERIES CONCERT
AN EVENING IN THE FRENCH SALON
MEREDITH BLECHA-WELLS, CELLO
JOOYEON CHANG, PIANO
FEBRUARY 23, 2026 | 7:30 P.M. | ORGAN RECITAL HALL

Sonata for Cello and Piano in B-flat Major, Op. 46

Louise Farrenc (1804–1875)

- I. *Allegro moderato*
- II. *Adagio*
- III. *Allegro vivace*

Three Pieces for Cello and Piano

Nadia Boulanger (1887–1979)

- I. *Modéré*
- II. *Sans vitesse et à l'aise*
- III. *Vite et nerveusement rythmé*

INTERMISSION

Sonata in A Major

César Franck (1822–1890)

(Transcription for Cello and Piano)

- I. *Allegretto ben moderato*
- II. *Allegro*
- III. *Recitativo–Fantasia: Ben moderato – Molto lento*
- IV. *Allegretto poco mosso*

Praised for her “beautifully full and lyrically strong tone” by *Gramophone Magazine*, **MEREDITH BLECHA-WELLS** is a sought-after performer and instructor. She has played throughout much of the United States, as well as Europe, Australia, South America, and Asia. Currently based in Colorado, Dr. Blecha-Wells recently joined the faculty at Colorado State University.

As a recording artist, Dr. Blecha-Wells has released several CDs spanning the solo, chamber music, and orchestral space. Her solo album was described as “technically dazzling” (*the Whole Note*) and she was praised for her “lyrical warmth and her powerful athleticism” (*Classical Music Discoveries*). Dr. Blecha-Wells’ recordings can be found on labels including Naxos, Navona, and Onyx Lane Productions and broadcast on numerous radio stations such as WFMT (Chicago, IL), WMBR (Cambridge, MA), KALX (Berkeley, CA), WRUV (Burlington, VT), WCNY (Syracuse, NY), KUCO (Edmond, OK), among others.

Dr. Blecha-Wells previously served as the Professor of Cello at Oklahoma State University where she was awarded the College of Arts and Sciences Junior Faculty Award for Scholarly Excellence as well as the First Lady of OSU Distinguished Music Professor award. A passionate pedagogue, Dr. Blecha-Wells is committed to raising the efficiency and joy in learning. Her students have gone on to remarkable programs including the Juilliard School, the New England Conservatory, the Eastman School of Music, Rice University, the University of Michigan, the Manhattan School of Music, the San Francisco Conservatory, Northwestern University, Indiana University, the Cleveland Institute of Music, the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, the University of Southern California, DePaul University, and the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. Additionally, her students have won several competitions including the YoungArts National Awards, the Classics Alive Artists, Enkor International Competition, American Protégé Competition, Ad Astra String Competition, MTNA, Hyeckha String Competition, among others. Dr. Blecha-Wells’ students have also been selected to participate in prestigious festivals including the National Youth Orchestra and the National Youth Orchestra 2, Aspen Music Festival, Brevard Music Festival, Eastern Music Festival, Green Mountain Music Festival, and several others.

Dr. Blecha-Wells has taught at numerous festivals, clinics, and institutes spanning six continents. She has had the pleasure of teaching at the International Cello Institute, the Alaska Cello Intensive, Gran Encuentro Chelistas in Colombia, the Saarbürg Chamber Music Festival in Germany, the Chicago Suzuki Institute, the Austin Suzuki Institute, among others. She has given numerous clinics and was the featured cello clinician at the 2024 American String Teachers Association Conference.

Dr. Blecha-Wells received a bachelor's and master's degree in Cello Performance from Indiana University and holds a Doctor of Musical Arts in Performance and Literature from the Eastman School of Music. Her teachers have included Janos Starker, Alan Harris, Emilio Colon, Helga Winold, Richard Hirschl, and Marc Johnson. Additional studies include festival participation at the Taos School of Music, the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, Spoleto Festival USA, the National Repertory Orchestra, and the Bowdoin International Music Festival.

DR. JOOYEON CHANG is a passionate and accomplished collaborative pianist who has actively performed across South Korea, France, the United Kingdom, Austria, Italy, Luxembourg, and the United States. Her extensive international experience has broadened her repertoire and deepened her artistry, allowing her to collaborate with a diverse range of soloists, chamber musicians, and ensembles.

She has appeared with world-renowned brass musicians, including tuba virtuosos Øystein Baadsvik and Roland Szentpali, as well as euphonium legend Steven Mead. Her collaborations also include performances with esteemed clarinetist Mark Nuccio and horn player Katy Woolley, showcasing her versatility and expressive range.

Dr. Chang has been a regular participant in the Jeju International Wind Ensemble Festival for over a decade and has performed at prestigious events such as the International Tuba Euphonium Conference (ITEC), ClarinetFest, and the International Horn Symposium. She is also a frequent performer at the Colorado Kodály Institute—where she serves as both a collaborative pianist and administrator—and the International Keyboard Odyssiad® & Festival (IKOF), where she has been invited as a performer and competition judge.

A dedicated educator, Dr. Chang is on the faculty of Colorado State University, where she teaches piano classes and coaches chamber music. Each semester, she collaborates on multiple faculty and guest artist recitals, numerous student recitals, and works closely with the University Chorus. She partners with 30 to 40 students per term, preparing them for juries and guiding their artistic growth through individualized coaching. She also engages CSU students by emphasizing the importance of ensemble collaboration, teaching them how to discover musical meaning within the score, and guiding them in crafting compelling musical narratives. Prior to CSU, she taught applied lessons to master's students in Collaborative Piano at Chung-Ang University and Sungshin Women's University in South Korea.

She actively performs with Hsin-Hsuan Lin as part of The Lin and Chang Piano Duo, presenting diverse and innovative programs to audiences worldwide. The duo has received enthusiastic support from the community each year, earning warm acclaim for their expressive performances. In recent seasons, they have appeared as invited artists at Jeju National University in South Korea.

Dr. Chang also collaborates with Sarah Hetrick as Duo Oenamel, with past performances at the University of Arkansas, University of Central Arkansas, Duquesne University, Sam Houston State University, and Texas A&M International University.

Beyond her teaching and performing, Dr. Chang is deeply engaged in the musical community, organizing and participating in concerts and events that connect students, faculty, guest artists, and audiences. She is committed to fostering a dynamic and collaborative musical environment, delivering high-quality artistic experiences both on and off campus.

LEVEL UP.

The NEW CSUTM Visa[®] Debit Card.



Show your Rams pride everywhere you go with the all-new CSU Visa[®] Debit Card – free with any FNBO checking account. New design. Raised detail. Premium finish.



The Bank of CSU

fnbo.com/csu

Member FDIC