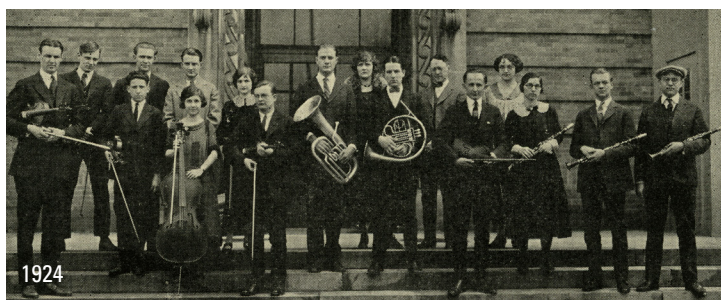


CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF ORCHESTRAS AT BGSU!



BOWLING GREEN PHILHARMONIA

2018-2019
SEASON



Dear Friends of the Bowling Green Philharmonia,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the 100th Anniversary Season of the orchestra at BGSU. We are thrilled to offer you an especially exciting series of concerts in celebration of this significant milestone. Throughout the year, you will experience the joys of music-making by the young and talented members of the BG Philharmonia performing master works of the past and present. Guest artists Mingwei Zhao, cello; Zachary DePue, violin; Brittany Lasch, trombone; Julie Buzzelli, harp; and Nermis Mieses, oboe will join us in performances of some of the greatest solo works of the repertoire.

The calendar for the 2018-19 season is printed at the back of this program for your perusal, and a calendar of all arts events can be found at BGSU.edu/Arts. If this is your first time at one of our concerts, we hope you will enjoy the performance! Please consider becoming a regular member of our community of concert-goers. Follow us on social media @BGSUCMA

We are profoundly grateful for the support you show by your attendance and enthusiastic applause at our concerts! If you so desire, please make a financial contribution to support the orchestra's programs. To do so, you may contact me at efbrown@bgsu.edu or 419-372-2289. The orchestra has its own university foundation account specifically for this purpose.

In celebration of a great tradition of music at BGSU,

Dr. Emily Freeman Brown
Director of Orchestral Activities



BG Philharmonia
MINGWEI ZHAO | CELLO
EMILY FREEMAN BROWN | CONDUCTOR
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2018
8 P.M. | KOBACKER HALL
MOORE MUSICAL ARTS CENTER

PROGRAM

A Birthday Celebration (2018)

Bruce Roter (b. 1962)

M.K. Raplinger, conductor

Concerto in D minor, opus 85

Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

Mingwei Zhao, cello

INTERMISSION

Variations on an Original Theme, opus 36 **"Enigma Variations"**

Edward Elgar

("To My Friends Pictured Within.")

Theme, Andante

- I. (C.A.E.) L'istesso tempo [*The composer's wife, Carol Alice*]
- II. (H. D. S-P.) Allegro [*Hew David Steuart-Powell, a well-known amateur pianist*]
- III. (R.B.T.) Allegretto [*Richard Baster Townshend, author & amateur actor*]
- IV. (W. M. B.) Allegro di molto [*W. Meath Baker, a country squire who bangs the door!*]
- V. (R. P. A.) Moderato [*Richard P. Arnold, son of Mathew Arnold, a serious but witty fellow*]
- VI. (YSOBEL) Andantino [*Isavel Fitton, an amateur just learning to play the viola.*]
- VII. (TROYTE.) Presto [*Arthur Troyte Griffith, a well-known architect to whom Elgar gave piano lessons.*]
- VIII. (W. N.) Allegretto [*Winifred Norbury, a gracious lady with a characteristic laugh.*]
- IX. (NIMROD) Adagio [*A. J. Jaeger, a music critic and friend to many musicians.*]
- X. (DORABELLA) Intermezzo Allegretto [*Dora Penny, Dorabella as in Mozart's character in Così fan Tutte.*]
- XI. (G. R. S.) Allegro di molto [*George Robinson Sinclair, organist. About a bounding dog named Dan!*]
- XII. (B. G. N.) Andante [*Basil G. Nevinson, amateur cellist and chamber musician.*]
- XIII. (***) Romanza Romanza, Moderato [*Lady Mary Lygon, who was on a sea voyage.*]
- XIV. (E. D. U.) Finale, Allegro [*The composer himself. Initials are from a nickname.*]

BIOGRAPHIES



Mingwei Zhao

comes from a musical family. He began to learn cello with his mother at the age of four. From 1997 to 2003, he studied at the music school affiliated with the

Sichuan Conservatory, Chengdu, China. During that period, he participated twice in the Morning Side Music Bridge Summer Program in Calgary, Canada. In fall 2003, he began studies at Bowling Green State University. He has won numerous regional and state competitions, prizes, and awards. Graduating from BGSU in May 2007, he continued his studies with Professor Stumpf at the Thornton School of Music at USC with a full scholarship. In the summer of 2006, he was invited to join the Schleswig Holstein Musik Festival Orchester in Germany. He toured Switzerland, Amsterdam, Berlin, Hamburg and Luebeck. In January 2008, he began to play in a string quartet with Midori Goto. While at USC, Mingwei Zhao also played as the principal cellist in both symphony and chamber orchestras, and has collaborated with conductors such as M.T. Thomas, Hermuth Rilling and Carl St. Clair. After obtaining a master's degree and graduate certificate in 2011 with honors from USC, Mr. Zhao was invited to teach and play in the Sichuan Conservatory of Music in his hometown of Chengdu as the cello faculty and the principal cellist of the symphony orchestra. Since then, Zhao has performed all over the country as a soloist, chamber musician, and orchestra principal. In July 2014, after a successful

and acclaimed series of master classes, private lessons and recital at the University of Xiamen, Fujian, he was offered the position of guest professor from the university, and became one of the youngest persons to ever receive such an honor. In the summers of 2015 and 2016, Zhao was invited to join the Ameropa Chamber Music Festival in Prague, Czech, and played in numerous renowned venues such as the Prague Castle and Santa Barbara Cathedral at Kutna Hora. In December 2016, Zhao successfully played Shostakovich's second cello concerto with SCCM orchestra at the West China premier. He was also invited to join the World Master Symphony Orchestra conducted by Eschenbach, an ensemble formed by musicians from the Berlin Philharmonic, Concertgebouw, La Scala and Chicago Symphony. As a devoted chamber musician, Zhao has a piano trio and string quartet, which, for the past five years, has played concerts and recitals all over China.



Bruce Craig Roter (b. 1962 in Brooklyn, NY) grew up in Hauppauge, Long Island. Roter's formal studies in composition and theory began at the Juilliard School's preparatory division where he studied with Craig Shuller and Bruce Adolphe. Roter continued his education at the Eastman School of Music studying composition with Joseph Schwantner and Samuel Adler and orchestration with Christopher Rouse. Roter received a B.M. from Eastman (1984), a M.A. from Yale University (1985), and a Ph.D. in Composition/Music Theory from Rutgers University (1992).

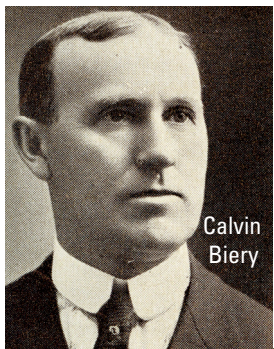
Roter has received numerous awards from the ASCAP as well as grants from the Meet the Composer Foundation and the American Music Center. Roter has been the recipient of commissions from the NEA and the American Composers Forum, including a Continental Harmony commission for national millennial celebrations. Roter has been commissioned by the Albany Symphony Orchestra, the Carson City Symphony, and the Bismarck-Mandan Symphony Orchestra. Roter's music has been performed in the United States, Europe, Africa, and the Middle East. It has been webcast, televised and documented by PBS.

With a richly tonal palette, Roter's musical style balances lyricism with passages that are bold and heroic. Melodies are frequently interwoven, creating elaborate contrapuntal textures. Roter has written for all standard concert media, from songs and choral works to compositions for chamber ensembles, concert band, and orchestra.

Roter often finds inspiration in world events and social issues. His A Camp David Overture (Prayer for Peace) was inspired by the Camp David Peace Accords between Israel and Egypt. The 2006 Washington DC premiere brought together diplomats from all over the world. In a 2001 interview, the conductor David Alan Miller observed that Roter has found a successful niche by exploring American heritage in his music. With a commission from the Albany Symphony and under Miller's direction, Roter's tribute to Theodore Roosevelt, TR: a 'Bully' Portrait, received its world premiere in 2001.

Roter's music is published by Lauren Keiser Music, Inc., Transcontinental, and Coho Music Publications. A music educator as well as a composer, Dr. Roter is a professor of music at The College of Saint Rose in Albany, New York.





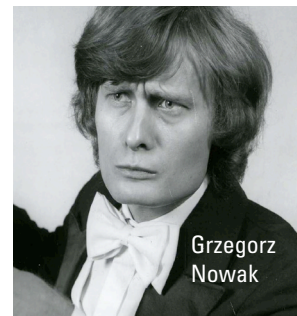
Calvin
Biery



Charles F.
Church Jr.



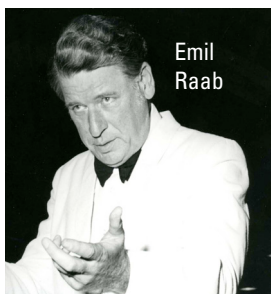
Maribeth
Kitt



Grzegorz
Nowak



BGSU Orchestra Conductors



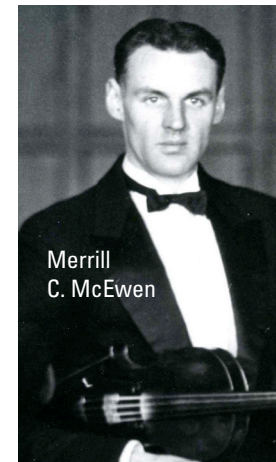
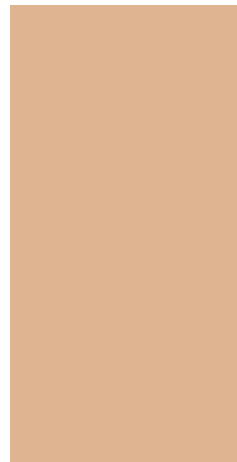
Emil
Raab



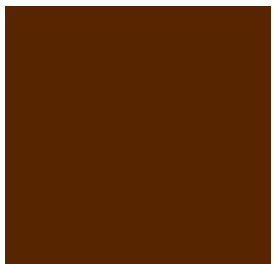
Gerald
McLaughlin



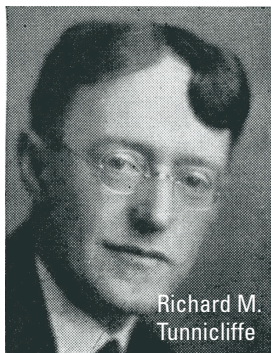
Lorie
Virginia
Kershner



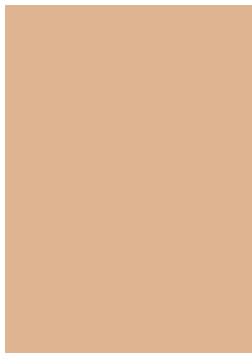
Merrill
C. McEwen



Charles
Gigante



Richard M.
Tunncliffe



Harry
Kruger

BG PHILHARMONIA HISTORY

BGSU Orchestra Conductors

1918-19 Calvin Biery
1919-22 Orchestra disbanded
1922-23 Richard M. Tunncliffe
1924-27 Orchestra disbanded
1927-28 Richard M. Tunncliffe
1928-31 Charles F. Church, Jr.
1931-33 Merrill C. McEwen
1933-34 Charles F. Church, Jr.
1934-40 Merrill C. McEwen
1940-42 Earl E. Smith
1942 Robert Getchell

1942-43 Lorie Virginia Kershner
1944-45 Maribeth Kitt
1945-46 orchestra disbanded
1946-48 William D. Alexander
1948-55 Gerald McLaughlin
1955-62 Seymour Benstock
1961-66 Harry Kruger
1966-69 Charles Gigante
1969-81 Emil Raab
1981-82, Richard Cioffari, Kenley Ingfield
1982-85 Grzegorz Nowak
1985-89 Robert Spano
1989-pres. Emily Freeman Brown

PERSONNEL

Emily Freeman Brown, music director and conductor
Alexander Popovici, Maria Mercedes Diaz Garcia, DMA conductors,
Yabetza Vivas-Irizarry, M.K. Raplinger, Isaac Page, MM conductors

Violin I

Madalyn Navis, co-concertmaster
Thomas Roggio, co-concertmaster
Cole Habekost
Michael Mawle
Ling Na Kao
Mary Solomon
Gene Waldron
Anna Eyink
Alex Munson
Benjamin Silberman
Jiamo Zhang

Violin II

Thomas Roggio**
Madalyn Navis**
Katrina Carrico
Natalie Sterba
Xiangyi Liu
Christopher Hutras
Emily Topilow
Kayla Avolio
Hannah Salo
Megan Graham
Lindsay Watkins
Samantha Hamilton
Lea Robertson-Boyd
DeAnna MacKeigan
Charles Brough

Viola

Roberto Mochetti*
Jianhe Chen
Lelauni McKee
Kiana Spiller
Alysha Szczublewski
Amber Sawyer
Allison Selley
Helena Hickman

Cello

Otavio Kavakama*
Kaleb Ringler
Andrew Lewis
Karelyn Korkan
Sara Hart
Amanda Kile
Isabella Riley
Isaac Dean

Bass

Joseph R. Starks*
Christopher Jeffer
Lindsay W. Diesing
Dylan Bretz
Adam Har-Zvi
Jenica Fox

Flute/piccolo

Taylor Francis
Crisha Joyner
Coreisa Janelle Lee*
Alec Porter

Oboe/Cor anglais

Samantha Carr
David Munro**
Ava Wirth**

Clarinet/Bass

clarinet/E-flat
Elisabeth Hartmark
Gretchen Hill*
Kendra Sachs

Bassoon/Contra

Cozette Cecconie
Kevin Daniel
Joshua Hart*
Ashley Mania

Horn

Morgan Crum
Victoria De Riggi
Jon Jandourek
William Schneider**
Tyler Treacy**

Trumpet

Daniel Rhu**
Alex Sanso**
Yu Tang Yang (Tom)

Trombone

Ian Elick*
Jeff Hlutke
Benjamin Zindler
Zihao Zhou

Tuba

Sean Baker

Percussion/Timpani

Wyatt Boggs
Emanuel Bowman
Jerin Fuller*
Mason Lee

Harp

Alizabeth Nowland+

* sectional principal

** co-principal

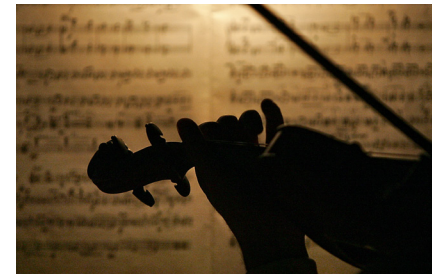
+ guest

A History of the BG Philharmonia

From the very beginning, University President Homer B. Williams was determined to create what he called 'the spirit' of Bowling Green. He gave pep talks to students and faculty, always reminding them that because of their presence and efforts, Bowling Green was, indeed, a special place. He instilled pride and spirit in the young campus.

"He [President Homer B. Williams] instilled pride and spirit in the young campus."

In 1918, he decided that Bowling Green needed a group that could provide music at official events. Professor Calvin Biery was given the task of organizing an orchestra. It wasn't easy, but Biery did recruit a small group of students who knew how to play an instrument, plus a faculty colleague who played the violin. Biery served as both conductor and concertmaster. He proved to be a capable conductor and the orchestra had the hoped-for spirit, but not much else! Never-the-less, President Williams was happy. The 1918 **BEEGEE** magazine noted that the orchestra 'furnished suitable music for the many college functions which occur during the academic year.' According to Vince Corrigan, in his substantial work, *Music 100; The First Century of Music at Bowling Green State University*, Biery's initial efforts only lasted one academic year. In 1922, Richard Tunncliffe revived it with the help of colleague Merrill McEwen who played viola. The photo from 1922 has eleven members, both students and faculty. The Key yearbook photo from 1923-



24 shows an orchestra with seventeen members that includes Tunncliffe, sixth from the right, McEwen, on the far left, and E. C. Powell, the clarinetist on the far right, who played an important role in establishing a marching band. (See this photo on the cover of this program jacket.) Merrill McEwen must have been a significant force behind the orchestra! When he left Bowling Green for Mansfield in 1924 it was disbanded, and when he returned in 1927 it was reconstituted. This time with Richard Tunncliffe as

Lee Ann Snook wrote that "the 1924 Key yearbook announced the orchestra's goal was 'to develop until it can represent correct ideals in instrumental music.'"

conductor and McEwen as violist. Over the next several years, Charles Church, oboe (who also served as Director of the State College Band), and Merrill McEwen alternated conducting and playing. In 1940, Tunncliffe stepped aside in favor of Earl E. Smith who not only conducted the orchestra but also taught Instrumental Conducting.



In the orchestra's 75th Anniversary booklet, Lee Ann Snook wrote that "the 1924 Key yearbook announced the orchestra's goal was 'to develop until it can represent correct ideals in instrumental music.'" That development would take a while, but in the meantime, the orchestra played at several college occasions such as weekly chapel service, commencement, and for a while, even basketball games.

Under the direction of Merrill McEwen, the orchestra grew to about 50 members, but at the same time, it was difficult to make sure that all the standard instruments were covered. Members still included faculty and some townspeople. Glenna Crow, a local woman who played cello, was known to have stayed in the orchestra for 12 years. During World War II, Bowling Green's orchestra conductors served for only a year or two, and some even less. Robert Getchell, who was brought in to replace Earl Smith, conducted the band and the orchestra, but was drafted during his first semester and left. He was replaced by Lorie Virginia Kershner and after one year by Maribeth Kitt. Ms. Kershner had a reputation as a hard worker, instituting separate rehearsals for each section of the

orchestra above and beyond the regular schedule. Almost inevitably the group became an all-woman ensemble and for a short period was silenced because of a lack of students.

Almost inevitably the group became an all-woman ensemble and for a short period was silenced because of a lack of students.

Following the end of the war William D. Alexander and then Gerald McLaughlin set about rebuilding the orchestra. Alexander wrote that at his first orchestra rehearsal there were a total of eight players. He 'scoured the campus' for non-music majors who had played an instrument in high school, and by February of 1947 a 31-piece ensemble gave the first concert on campus in four years.

The post-war years saw remarkable growth in the Music Department and in the orchestra. The University's president, Ralph McDonald, created more scholarships for gifted high school music students and University ensembles began to perform

off-campus visiting area high schools to perform. Conductors William D. McLaughlin and then Seymour Benstock developed the ensemble to a membership of 85. In 1951 McLaughlin had enough string players to establish a separate string orchestra. Benstock came to Bowling Green in 1954 from the Hartford Symphony Orchestra and the Hartt School of Music where he had been first a student, earning the first Master of Music degree awarded by the School, and then an instructor. He also studied at New York University and Cambridge International University earning a Ph.D. in world music. In 1956-57 Benstock instituted the first Pops and Young People's Concerts.

Under the leadership of James Paul Kennedy, director of the newly formed Bowling Green School of Music, a separate chamber orchestra was formed. "It was my goal to have two orchestras," he said, "because the demands on the orchestra were so heavy." The chamber orchestra remained a part of the curriculum until the 1970s, performing both standard and contemporary repertoire.

The period between 1961 and 1981 was one of consistency and growth.

"It was my goal to have two orchestras," he said, "because the demands on the orchestra were so heavy."

James Paul Kennedy
Director

Harry Kruger (1961-66) was a flutist and graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music. He has served as Assistant Conductor of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and Conductor of the Atlantic Civic Ballet. He came to Bowling Green as Director of Orchestral Activities remaining for five years. Violinist Charles Gigante replaced him in 1966. He had a Bachelors and Master of Music degrees from the Eastman School of Music and a Doctor of Fine Arts from St. Ambrose College. He had played violin in the New York Philharmonic and been assistant concertmaster of the National Symphony. He was the conductor of the Quad City Symphony Orchestra. At Bowling Green, he was the first orchestra conductor to conduct opera, *La Bohème* (1967), *La Traviata* (1968) and *Carmen* (1969). He died of cancer when he was only 57 in 1969.



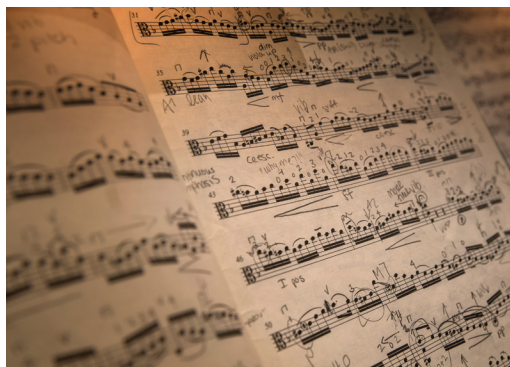
Gigante was replaced by Emil Raab, a gifted violinist with degrees from the University of Michigan School of Music, who worked tirelessly to attract attention to the orchestra and to recruit talented students. While serving as Director of Orchestral Activities at Bowling Green he became the first to have an assistant conductor, Richard Cioffari. Cioffari was an accomplished bassist with degrees in music education and performance from the U of M.

In 1982 Grzegorz Nowak, a graduate of the Eastman School of Music, became the new orchestra conductor and Director of Orchestra Activities. He changed the name of the orchestra to the Bowling Green Philharmonia and set about bringing in guest conductors and artists. In 1984, he won the top prize for conductors at the International Competition for Music in Geneva, Switzerland and was soon on his way to an international career. Nowak was followed by the young, brilliant musician Robert Spano. The Spano years were particularly known for the quality of the performances. In 1989 Spano was hired by his alma mater, the Oberlin

He [Grzegorz Nowak] changed the name of the orchestra to the Bowling Green Philharmonia and set about bringing in guest conductors and artists.

Conservatory of Music, and within a few years he had won a position as assistant conductor with the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Following many successes with major orchestras in the US and Europe, Bob was appointed Music Director of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, a position he has held since 2001. In 2008, he was named Conductor of the Year by Musical America. His recordings have received Grammy Awards. In 2001, he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate at Bowling Green State University.

Special thanks to both Vincent Corrigan and Lee Ann Snook for material for these notes.



100th ANNIVERSARY SEASON CALENDAR



**Saturday, September 22, 8 p.m.,
Kobacker Hall**

**The BG Philharmonia in concert with
guest artist Mingwei Zhao, cello**

In conjunction with the annual High School Honors String Festival, string festival participants will join on selected works. The High School Honors String Festival will feature special guest Douglas Eyink, President and Founder of the School of Strings in Centerville, Ohio.

Program includes: Elgar *Enigma Variations*, and Elgar *Cello Concerto*

**Saturday, October 20, 8 p.m.,
Kobacker Hall**

**The BG Philharmonia in concert at the
39th Annual New Music Festival**

Program includes: *On Wings of Light & Newly Drawn Sky* by Aaron Kernis, John Corigliano's *Campane di Ravello* and the premiere of Martin Kennedy's *Theme and Variations* for trombone in a new version for orchestra. Brittany Lasch, trombone soloist

**Sunday, December 2, 3 p.m.,
Kobacker Hall**

**The BG Philharmonia in concert with
guest artist Zachary DePue, violin**

Program includes: Shostakovich Violin Concerto No. 1 and Stravinsky *Petrouchka*

**Friday, February 1, 11 a.m., Cleveland
Convention Center Grand Ballroom**

**The BG Philharmonia in concert at the
Ohio Music Education Association
Professional Development Conference,
Cleveland, Ohio**

Program includes: Stravinsky, *Petrouchka*

**Saturday, February 16, 8 p.m.,
Kobacker Hall**

**The BG Philharmonia in concert,
51st Annual Concerto Competition**

**Sunday, March 10, 3 p.m.,
Kobacker Hall**

**Bowling Green Chamber Orchestra
in concert**

Featuring Nermis Mieses, oboe, and Julie Buzzelli, harp

**Friday, April 5 (8 p.m.) and
Sunday, April 7 (3 p.m.), Kobacker Hall**
**BG Opera Theater and Camerata campo
di bocce presents: Handel's *Semele***

**Wednesday, April 24, 6 p.m.,
Kobacker Hall**

**Annual Middle School Honors String
Festival performance**

**Sunday, May 5, 3 p.m.,
Kobacker Hall**

**The BG Philharmonia presents its 100th
Anniversary Concert**

Program: Beethoven *Symphony No. 9*,
featuring BGSU choirs and soloists

For a full calendar of arts events and to purchase tickets, visit BGSU.edu/Arts



Mingwei Zhao, cello, while a student at BGSU

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To our guests with disabilities, please indicate if you need special services, assistance or appropriate modifications to fully participate in this event by contacting Accessibility Services at access@bgsu.edu or 419-372-8495. Please notify us prior to the event.