



# UN DAY CONCERT 2021

.....  
A Performance  
Featuring  
Classical and  
Contemporary  
Music  
.....

Building Back  
Together for  
Peace and  
Prosperity

UN General Assembly Hall  
New York  
21 October 2021



Ministry of  
Foreign Affairs



KOREA-UN



# PROGRAMME

## WELCOMING REMARKS:

- Under-Secretary-General for Global Communications,  
**Ms. Melissa Fleming**

## SPEAKERS:

- **H.E. Mr. António Guterres**, United Nations Secretary-General
- **H.E. Mr. Abdulla Shahid**, President of the General Assembly
- **H.E. Mr. Cho Hyun**, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations

## PERFORMANCE:

### **Isang Yun: Pezzo FantasiOSO**

Angela Chun and Jennifer Chun, violin

*Live performance*

### **Ernesto De Curtis: Non ti scordar di me**

Youngmi Kim, soprano

Yungwook Yoo, piano

*Pre-recorded performance*

### **Rolf Løvland: You Raise Me Up**

Youngmi Kim, soprano

Goyang Philharmonic Orchestra

Hyun-Sung Ahn, conductor

*Pre-recorded performance*

### **aespa: Next Level**

*Pre-recorded performance*

### **aespa: Black Mamba**

With Goyang Philharmonic Orchestra

Hyun-Sung Ahn, conductor

*Pre-recorded performance*

**Robert Schumann: Widmung, Op. 25, No. 1**

Yungwook Yoo, piano

*Pre-recorded performance*

**Ludwig Van Beethoven: Symphony No. 6 in F Major,  
Op. 68 'Pastorale'**

*V. Hirtengesang, frohe und dankbare Gefühle nach dem Sturm*

Goyang Philharmonic Orchestra

Hyun-Sung Ahn, conductor

*Pre-recorded performance*

**Ennio Morricone: Nella Fantasia**

Youngok Shin, soprano

*Live performance*

**Luigi Arditi: Il Bacio**

Youngok Shin, soprano

*Live performance*

## THE CONCERT

Each year the UN Day Concert presents an opportunity to call for the strengthening of international cooperation in the interest of both nations and peoples.

The 2021 UN Day Concert, sponsored by the Mission of the Republic of Korea, will provide a contemplative moment to reflect on the aspirations at the heart of the UN Charter, and remind ourselves of the value of our shared humanity and planet. As a country renowned for its global influence on contemporary popular music, the Republic of Korea is keen to offer its contribution to this endeavour through the arts and culture.

As the world begins to gradually recover from the Covid-19 pandemic, the Concert will hope to inspire a response that fosters peace and prosperity for all. In celebration of the 76th anniversary of the entry into force of the UN Charter and the 30th anniversary of the Republic of Korea's membership to the Organization, this year's theme, *Building Back Together for Peace and Prosperity*, celebrates the rich history of the UN while looking towards a bright future.

## BIOGRAPHIES (order of appearance):

### Angela and Jennifer CHUN, violin

Angela and Jennifer Chun, hailed by the New York Times as “dynamic violinist sisters,” have appeared under the baton of renowned conductors such as Iván Fischer, Zubin Mehta, André Previn, and Leonard Slatkin at venues including Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center, and Covent Garden. The duo has performed with Seattle Symphony, London Bach Orchestra, KBS Symphony Orchestra, Seoul Philharmonic, Toronto Chamber Orchestra, Aspen Festival Orchestra, Budapest Festival Orchestra, and the National Symphony Orchestra. They have performed and premiered works by György Kurtág, György Ligeti, Sebastian Currier, Kaija Saariaho, Philip Glass, and Isang Yun.

The Chun’s concerts have been aired on major stations including CBS, NPR, NHK, KBS and Classical TV. In 2009, American composer George Tsontakis wrote *Unforgettable* (Concerto for Two Violins) for the Chuns, which they premiered during Aspen Music Festival’s 60th Anniversary season.

They have released several critically acclaimed albums under the Harmonia Mundi label: *Fantasy* (2008) and *Bartók: 44 Violin Duos* (2010). In 2016, the duo collaborated with composer and keyboard player Nico Muhly on the album *In the Summer House* featuring selections from the music of Philip Glass and Nico Muhly.

Angela and Jennifer Chun attended the World Economic Forum in Davos and the Yalta European Strategy (YES) annual meeting to “discuss ways in which music can unite people, reduce conflicts, and promote general welfare”. In October 2016, the sisters performed at the UN Day Concert.

Since 2007, Angela and Jennifer Chun have been visiting professors and String Mentors of the Royal Academy of Music in London.

### Youngmi KIM, soprano

Youngmi Kim is a South Korean soprano specializing in the bel canto tradition of operatic singing. She received her master’s degree from Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia in Rome under the tutelage of renowned prima donna Professor Jolanda Magnoni.

Ms. Kim’s maternal grandfather (Ki-yong Ahn) was the first Korean musician trained at a conservatory in the United States, and his operas (*Kong-jui Pat-jui* and *Kyonwu-Jiknyo*) were the first Western-style operas ever written and produced in Korea.

Ms. Kim has been the recipient of many awards including the Verona International Competition in 1977, the Giacomo Puccini Contest in 1979, the Maria Callas International Competition in 1980, and the Luciano Pavarotti Competition the following year.



© Benjamin Ealovega



© Korea National University of Arts



In 1977, Ms. Kim performed the role of Violetta in Verdi's *La traviata* at the National Theater of Seoul and appeared as Desdemona in Verdi's *Otello*. The following year Ms. Kim performed the role of Mimi in *La Bohème* at the Sejong Cultural Center. Throughout the 1980s, Ms. Kim performed numerous roles in the US. In 1982, she appeared in the Philadelphia season of Donizetti's *L'elisir d'amore* opposite Luciano Pavarotti in the role of Nemorino. Ms. Kim performed the title role of Cio-Cio San in Puccini's *Madama Butterfly* in Hawaii, Los Angeles and San Diego and reprised the role of Mimi in *La Bohème* for New York City Opera. In 1998, she appeared in a concert version of Weber's *Der Freischütz* at Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia and performed *La traviata* in Tokyo.

Ms. Kim is currently a Professor at the Korea National University of Arts.

### **Yungwook YOO, piano**

Yungwook Yoo's professional career was first launched when he was awarded by unanimous vote the first prize and gold medal in the 13th Paloma O'Shea Santander International Piano Competition in 1998. The prize included important concert tours and recitals in Spain, Germany, France, Portugal, Japan and various countries in South America as well as a recording contract with a major label. His first of several recordings released under the Naxos label featured piano transcriptions by Liszt.

In 2007 Mr. Yoo won first prize in the Second Beethoven Competition in Bonn. A prizewinner in other international competitions, including the Richter Competition in Moscow, Vianna da Motta in Portugal, Kosciuszko Chopin Competition, and the Montreal International Music Competition, he enjoys a career that has brought collaboration with leading orchestras and conductors in addition to solo recitals.

Mr. Yoo has performed with the Orchestre National de Lille, Orchestre National de France, St. Petersburg Symphony Orchestra, Orquesta Nacional de España, Orquesta Ciudad de Málaga, Orquesta Nacional de la República Dominicana, Orquesta Sinfónica de Tenerife under the baton of notable conductors such as Pinchas Steinberg, Jesús López Cobos, Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos and Victor Pablo. He has appeared at prestigious venues including Wigmore Hall, Tonhalle in Zurich, Grand Auditorium de l'UNESCO in Paris, Palau de la Música in Barcelona and the Auditorio Nacional de Música in Madrid.

Yungwook Yoo was born in 1977 in Seoul, Korea, where he began his musical studies. He gave his first recital at the age of ten, performing his own compositions. His exceptional talent led to several grants to support his education in his native country and later in the United States. In 1996 he joined the Juilliard School, studying with Martin Canin and in 1997 with Jerome Lowenthal, receiving his bachelor's degree in 2001. From 2002 he studied with Solomon Mikowsky at Manhattan School of Music, where he received the degree of Master of Music in 2004. In 2009 he became a professor at the Yonsei University in Korea.



© Yungwook Yoo



© Goyang Philharmonic Orchestra

## Goyang Philharmonic Orchestra

The Goyang Philharmonic Orchestra was founded in 1999 and is dedicated to the revitalization and development of local culture and the popularization of classical music in South Korea. The Orchestra's activities include regular concerts, charity concerts, arts festivals, concerts for youth and the underprivileged and themed performances. The orchestra is supported by South Korea's Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism and by the Arts Council Korea (ARKO).

The Goyang Philharmonic Orchestra's concerts have featured prominent Korean singers and performers including So-hyun Kim, Dong-gyu Kim, Kai, Young-nam Jo, and Saik Jang. In 2008, the Orchestra won the Symphony Orchestra Competition for Goyang citizens in recognition of its commitment to making classical music accessible to all sectors of society.

The Chief Conductor of the Goyang Philharmonic Orchestra is Hyun-Sung Ahn. He graduated from the Trossingen University of Music in Germany and also studied at the Brno Conservatory in Czech Republic. Hyun-Sung Ahn has led many orchestras worldwide including Jeonju Symphony Orchestra, Mokpo City Symphony Orchestra, National Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine, Janáček Chamber Orchestra, and National Symphony Orchestra of Uzbekistan.

## aespa, K-pop group

Established in 2020 by SM Entertainment, aespa is a K-pop group composed of four members: KARINA, GISELLE, WINTER and NINGNING.

The group debuted their first single "Black Mamba" in November 2020. In 2021, aespa released two additional singles: "Forever" and "Next Level".

Blurring the line between virtual and reality, K-pop group aespa pairs its four human members with their respective digital avatars, delivering an immersive experience.



© SM Entertainment



© Youngok Shin

### Youngok SHIN, soprano

Youngok Shin is a South Korean lyric coloratura soprano known for her interpretations of the bel canto repertoire. She received both her bachelor's and master's degrees in music from the Juilliard School. She made her opera debut as Susanna in *Le nozze di Figaro* at the 1989 Spoleto Festival. Ms. Shin has appeared regularly at the Metropolitan Opera since 1991 in a variety of roles including Gilda in *Rigoletto* (including two international radio broadcasts), the title role in *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Zerlina in *Don Giovanni*, Elvira in *I Puritani*, Oscar in *Un Ballo in Maschera*, Adina in *L'Elisir d'Amore*, the title role in Stravinsky's *Le Rossignol*, and the Nightingale in *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges*. At the Met, she has performed with leading conductors and singers including Luciano Pavarotti, Marilyn Horne, Plácido Domingo, Samuel Ramey, James Conlon and Nello Santi. Other notable engagements include Amina in *La Sonnambula* at Paris' Opéra-Comique, Oscar at Paris' Bastille Opera, Gilda at Covent Garden, Despina in *Così fan tutte* with the Köln Opera, Leila in *Les Pêcheurs de Perles* at Barcelona's Liceu, Elvira with the Nice Opera and at the Teatro Regio in Turin, and Liu in *Turandot* at the Bratislava Spring Festival. She has also appeared as a featured soloist with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Mostly Mozart Festival, in gala concerts in Singapore and Seoul with José Carreras, and in recital in New York at Alice Tully Hall.

Ms. Shin has won numerous awards including the Metropolitan Opera National Council Audition (US) in 1990 and the Hong Nanpa Memorial Award (South Korea) in 1992.

Ms. Shin appeared alongside tenor Yikun Chung with the Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Maestro Myung-Whun Chung at the 2007 UN Day Concert.



## MESSAGE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON UNITED NATIONS DAY

As we mark the 76th anniversary of the United Nations, we also celebrate the spirit of global unity that has brought our organization to life from the very start.

This solidarity is needed more than ever.

The theme of this year's UN Day Concert, *Building Back Together for Peace and Prosperity*, reminds us that solidarity and collective action provide the only path forward to address profound global challenges and build a better, more peaceful and sustainable world for all.

As we reflect on the purposes and principles of the UN Charter that have guided us for the past 76 years, we must all strive to do our part to ensure a fair and equitable recovery for people in every country.

I thank the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations for sponsoring this year's concert, and extend my gratitude to the talented performers joining this year's event.

Let us be inspired by their art and their example of unity and working in harmony as we re-commit to a peaceful, prosperous and more sustainable future for all.



**António Guterres**