

Soo Yeon Lyuh

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EDUCATION

Princeton University

Ph.D. (all but dissertation) in Music Composition

Mills College

MFA in Music Improvisation (2018–2019). Did not receive a degree because the program closed during pandemic.

Seoul National University

D.M.A. in Korean Musicology (2006–2013)

M.M. in Korean Traditional Music, Haegeum Performance (2003–2005)

B.M. in Korean Traditional Music, Haegeum Performance (1999–2002)

VISITING SCHOLAR/ARTIST POSITIONS

Artist-in-residence, Atlantic Center for the Arts (2023)

Resident Artist & Pacific Exchange Concert Curator, Thingamajigs (2016–2021)

Scholar-in-residence, Center for Contemporary Music, Mills College (2017–2018)

Performer/Composer Fellow, Bang on a Can Summer Festival (2016, 2019)

Visiting Scholar, Center for Korean Studies, UC Berkeley (2015–2016)

Visiting Scholar, Department of Music, University of Hawai'i at Manoa (2011–2012)

COMMISSIONS

Kronos Quartet (forthcoming, April 2025)

"Music Against the Climate Crisis: Representing the Women Divers of Jeju Island"

Riley Lee (forthcoming, March 2025)

"Gagok" for Shakuhachi

National Gugak Orchestra (June 2024)

"Haegeum Concerto" for Traditional Korean Music Orchestra and Haegeum

Suits Ensemble (January 2024)

"Puri" for Piano Trio and Haegeum

JACK Quartet (November 2023)

"Entropy" for String Quartet

Nick Photinos (October 2023)

"Ether" for Cello, Piano and Haegeum

F-Plus (September 2023)

"Mirage" for Clarinet, Violin, Drum set and Haegeum

Mostly Mozart Festival Orchestra (July 2023)

"Dudürim" for Orchestra and Haegeum

Courtney Orlando (April 2023)
“[Florescence](#)” for Violin and Fixed Media

Alarm Will Sound (March 2023)
“[Cyclic Universe](#)” for Chamber Ensemble and Haegeum

Parker Ramsay (November 2022)
“[Sleep Study](#)” for Harp and Fixed Media

Van Anh Vanessa Vo (co-composer, October 2022)
“[Love, Life, Loss, You, Me, and Us](#)” for đàn tranh and Haegeum

Sō Percussion (September 2022)
“*Talchum* (Mask Dance)” Marimba, and Haegeum

New Asia Chamber Music Society (June 2022)
“[Torrent](#)” for String Quartet, Erhu, and Haegeum

The Kronos Festival (April 2022)
“Tattoo Extended” for Haegeum, Voice, String Quartet, and Electronics

Arx Duo and Bergamot String Quartet (March 2022)
“[Dudūrim](#),” for Haegeum, String Quartet, and Percussion

Lehigh University Choir (March 2022)
“The World We Create” for SATB and Haegeum

Dither Guitar Quartet (March 2022)
“[Ego Death](#)” electric guitar quartet

Bang On A Can All Stars (January 2022)
“[See You On The Other Side](#)”
for Haegeum, Flute, Clarinet, Horn, Trombone, Piano, Percussion, Electric Guitar, Cello, Bass

The Kronos Festival (June 2021)
“[Tattoo](#)” for Haegeum, Voice, Electronics, and String Quartet

Bang On A Can Virtual Marathon Concert (April 2021)
“[See You On The Other Side](#)” for Haegeum, Ajeng, Janggo, and Electronics

Seoul National University Haegeum Ensemble (March 2021)
“[String Walkers](#)” for Haegeum and Alto Haegeum

Seoul National University Telematic Concert (February 2021)
“Maze” for Violin, Haegeum, Dbl. Bass, Geomungo, Piri, Trombone, Piano, Pansori

Kronos Quartet (February 2017, November 2020)

"[Moment 2020](#)" for String Quartet and Haegeum piece, premiered online

"[Yessori](#)" for String Quartet and Haegeum, Kronos Quartet's 50 for the Future

Pacific Boychoir Academy, Oakland, California (December 2019)

"Sagye" for SATB boys choir piece in 4 movements

Bang on a Can Summer Music Festival, MASS MoCA, North Adams, Massachusetts (2019)

"[Dudūrim](#)" for Chamber Orchestra, commissioned by Elizabeth and Justus Schlichting

Mills College Contemporary Performance Ensemble, Oakland, CA (2017, 2018)

"Etude in *Sujecheon*," open instrumentation

"Etude in *Gehmyonjo*," open instrumentation

PROFESSIONAL/TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of MIE 1: Music Improvisation Ensemble 1, Mills College (Spring 2019)

Taught improvisation techniques at an undergraduate level

Instructor, International Gugak Workshop (2012, 2019)

Taught haegeum to foreign scholars, musicians, and composers

Performer, National Gugak Orchestra (2005–2016)

Contemporary Music Troupe, Korean National Gugak Center

Lecturer, Seoul National University (2010–2015)

Department of Korean Music. Private haegeum lessons (major/non-major)

Instructor, National Gugak Middle School (2005–2006)

Taught prospective haegeum majors

SELECTED GRANTS AND AWARDS

Asian Cultural Council Fellowship, New York, NY (2017)

Supported my work in cross-cultural composition and improvisation in the Bay Area

Arts Council Korea, Seoul, South Korea

Grants from the Korean government to support my participation in

Mills College Residency (2017)

UC Berkeley Symphony Orchestra Spain Tour (2017)

Bang on a Can Summer Music Festival (2016)

Solo Concert "Beyond the World" (2012)

Sejong Cultural Foundation Grant, Seoul, South Korea

Support for Pungnyu Performance at Namsan Gugak Concert Hall (2012)

SELECTED CURATED CONCERTS

Duo with Shodekeh

["Universal Wind: Haegeum Meets Beatbox"](#) (May 26, 2021)

Korean Cultural Center, Los Angeles

Duo Concert with Ashley Bathgate

Smithsonian Freer-Sackler Gallery, Washington DC (October 11, 2019)

Commissioned five new pieces for haegeum/cello duo

Benefit Concert Supporting Bay Area Refugee Women

Zion Church, San Francisco (May 3, 2019)

with Ensemble Ari

Demilitarized Zone Telematic Concert

Multi-sited Improvisatory Contemporaneous Concert for the Two Koreas

Performed Online from the Demilitarized Zone of South Korea, Stanford, CA, USA,
and Berlin, Germany (October 27, 2018)

Pacific Exchange

NOHspace, San Francisco, CA (August 17, 2016, April 15, 2018)

Concert Series featuring Pacific Rim Musicians

Create Festival

The Lab, San Francisco (December 16, 2017)

with Wadada Leo Smith

Korean Cultural Week: New Traditions

Mills College Art Museum (September 23, 2017)

with Fred Frith, William Winant, and Joan Jeanrenaud

GUEST LECTURES AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Conference Presentations

Nief-Norf Research Summit: New Asia

"A New Experiment in Progress: Multiple Perspectives on Creating New Music with
the Korean Haegeum" (2018)

Workshops for Composers

New York University

Composer's Forum, Dr. Julia Wolfe (2023)

Princeton University

Undergraduate lecture, Dr. Juri Seo (2021)

Taipei University

Graduate composition seminar, Dr. Lily Chen (2020)

Stanford University

Composition seminar, CCRMA, Dr. Patricia Alessandrini (2020)

University of California, San Diego

Graduate composition seminar, Dr. Lei Liang (2019)

Mills College
Graduate composition seminar, Dr. Chris Brown (2016)

Bang on a Can
Workshop for Composition Fellows (2017)

University of California, Berkeley
Composition and analysis seminars, Dr. Ken Ueno (2016, 2019)
Undergraduate composition course, Dr. Franck Bedrossian (2016)
Undergraduate musicianship class, Dr. Jean Ahn (2015)

University of California, Santa Cruz
Graduate composition workshop, Dr. Hikyung Kim (2015, 2016)

University of Hawai'i at Manoa
Graduate composition seminar, invited by Dr. Donald Womack (2011, 2016)

Korean Traditional Music Lecture/Demonstrations

Institute for Advanced Study
Artist Salon: A Lecture Concert (2023)

Rice University
Cross-cultural Asian Music, Dr. Shih-Hui Chen (2021)

University of California, Los Angeles
[Musics of Asia Oral History Project](#), Dr Katherine Lee (2021)
Undergraduate Korean Music Seminar, Dr. Katherine Lee (2019)

Mills College
Women, Gender and Music Course, Dr. Nalini Ghuman (2017, 2019)
Undergraduate Asian music seminar, Dr. Chris Brown (2017)
Presentation and workshop on haegeum for SONGLINE series (2016)

Mills College Children's School
Korean percussion and haegeum (2017)

University of California, Davis
Undergraduate Asian music seminar, Dr. Katherine Lee (2015, 2016)

University of California, Santa Cruz
Graduate world music seminar, Dr. Karlton Hester (2016)

University of Hawai'i at Manoa
Asian Music Undergraduate seminar, Dr. Byong Won Lee (2011)

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATION

"Transition in Performance: The Role of Bongjangchwi in Contemporary Sanjo"
Perspectives on Korean Music, Vol.2
Seoul: The Korean Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism (2011)

SELECTED DISCOGRAPHY

Roscoe Mitchell Orchestra, Wide Hive Records (2019)
with Roscoe Mitchell, Thomas Buckner, William Winant, James Fei, and others

Mudang Rock, Fractal Music (2018)
with Henry Kaiser, Simon Barker, Bill Laswell and Rudresh Mahanthappa

DIVINE, Hesteria Records (2017)
with Karlton Hester, Li Ge, Bill Johnson, Mandjou Kone, LuyosMaryCarl, Motoko Honda,
David Smith

Megasonic Chapel, Fractal Music (2015)
with Tania Chen, Danielle DeGruttola, Henry Kaiser and William Winant

Sooyeon Lyuh's Esperanza, Synnara Records (2015)
with Yoon Seung Cho

Soo Yeon Lyuh's Haegeum Jeongak Vol.1, The Open Music (2014)
Traditional Court Music; Solo album

SELECTED PERFORMING EXPERIENCE

For full list, visit <https://www.sooyeonlyuh.com/upcoming-events>

Big Ears Festival with Carl Stone and Ned Rothenberg
with Carl Stone and Ned Rothenberg (March 31, 2023)

A Series of "Yessori" Performances with Kronos Quartet
Carnegie Hall (January 27, 2023)
Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley (January 25, 2019)
92Y New York City (June 28, 2018)
Los Angeles County Museum of Art (June 8, 2017)
Ecstatic Music Festival (March 7, 2017)
Kronos Music Festival (February 3, 2017)

Telematic Concert: Unlimited Sense - Warmth of Non Contact
Anthony Davis, Mark Dresser, Michael Dessen (February 18, 2021)

Korean Cultural Center, Los Angeles, CA: K - Performance Series
Premiere "[MOMENT 2020](#)" with Kronos Quartet (November 19, 2020)

Brooklyn Bound, Virtual Concert
Sō Percussion (November 12, 2020)
Premiering Video, Michael Gordon's "[Light is Calling](#)"

Sō Percussion Summer Institute Awesomeness Concert (July 25th, 2020)

Equality: Interconnection Series for George Floyd
Composition, Improvisation with NowNet Arts Lab Ensemble (June 6, 13, 20, and 27, 2020)

Reservation through Improvisation: The Korean Haegeum
La Jolla Community Center, San Diego, CA (January 15, 2020)

Harmonies of the Season with Pacific Boychoir Academy
St. Mary's College,(December 8, 2019), Cathedral of Christ the Light, Oakland (December 15, 2019)

Notes from Korea with Oakland Symphony Orchestra
Paramount Theatre, Oakland, CA (November 15, 2019)

Dedication: A Korean Buddhist Masterpiece
Duet with Kirsten Lies-Warfield (October 13, 2019)
Sackler Gallery, Washington DC (October 11, 2019)

Soo Yeon Lyuh and Ashley Bathgate
Twiggs Gallery at Cornerstone Design, Boscawen, NH (August 22, 2019)

Bang On A Can Loud Weekend
Ensemble Performance(July 11–31, 2016)
Solo Recital (August 2, 2019)
Premiere Concert: Dudürim (August 3, 2019)
Mass MoCA, North Adams, MA

Santa Cruz County Youth Symphony
UC Santa Cruz Recital Hall, Santa Cruz, CA (November 18, 2019)

Oakland Symphony Orchestra
Composer Jean Ahn's "Woven Silk" Haegeum Concerto (November 15, 2019)

New Asia Chamber Music Society
The DiMenna Center, Manhattan, NY (June 7, 2019)

Culture Kin-Real Vocal String Quartet
Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, CA (May 25, 2019)

Benefit Concert Supporting Bay Area Refugee Women With Ensemble Ari
Zion Church, San Francisco, CA (May 3, 2019)

April in Santa Cruz Festival
Performed Michael Gordon's "Light is Calling"
Music Center Recital Hall, UC Santa Cruz (April 26, 2019)

The Korean American Scholarship Foundation 50th Anniversary Concert
Oxford Palace Hotel, Los Angeles, CA (April 13, 2019)

Improvisation with Thomas Buckner, James Ilgenfritz, and Lisa Mezzacappa
Center for New Music and Audio Technologies, Berkeley CA (March 12, 2019)

Chris Brown and Soo Yeon Lyuh
The Luggage Store Gallery, San Francisco, CA (November 1, 2018)

The Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) Peace Telematics Concert

Performed online simultaneously from CCRMA, Stanford, CA, USA; the South Korean DMZ, and Berlin, Germany (October 27, 2018)

UC Davis Noon Concert

Recital Hall, Ann E. Pitzer Center, Davis, CA (October 25, 2018) [YouTube](#)

Kaiser, Lyuh, Sordahl, Robidoux

Mills College Ensemble Room, Oakland, CA (September 14, 2018)

Haegeum Meets Electronics-with Carl Stone

Center for New Music and Audio Technologies, Berkeley CA (September 2, 2018)

(R)evolution: Resonant Bodies

Banff Center for Arts and Creativity, Calgary, Alberta, Canada (July 30–August 4, 2018)

Celebrating Asian Cultural Heritage Month

Koret Auditorium Main Library, San Francisco, CA (May 5, 2018)

UC Berkeley Composers with Myra Melford

Center for New Music, San Francisco, CA (May 3, 2018)

Contemporary Performance Ensemble Concert

Littlefield Concert Hall, Mills College, Oakland, CA (April 27, 2017; April 25, 2018)

Pacific Exchange

Theatre of Yugen at NOHspace, San Francisco, CA (August 17, 2016; April 15, 2018)

Improvisation with John Bischoff

Studio Grand, Oakland, CA (April 17, 2018)

Wadada Leo Smith: Create Festival

Improvisation with Wadada Leo Smith, William Winant, and Motoko Honda (December 16 2017)

20th Annual Music For People & Thingamajigs Festival

The Oakland Museum of California, Oakland, CA (December 15, 2017)

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, CA (April 29, 2016)

Ensemble Mise-en

The Cell, Manhattan, NYC (December 6, 2017)

Pacific Rim Festival

University of California, Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA (October 26–28, 2017)

National Day of Korea Commemorative Concert

Herbst Theatre of San Francisco, CA (September 27, 2017)

New Traditions: Korean Cultural Week Launch

Mills College Art Museum, Oakland CA (September 23, 2017)

UC Berkeley Symphony Orchestra Spain Tour

Performed "Woven Silk" for Haegeum and Orchestra

Auditorio Manuel de Falla, Granada, Spain, Palau de la Música, Valencia (May 28 & 30, 2017)

United Nations 71st Anniversary - People in Motion: Give Refugees a Sense of Place

Fort Mason Firehouse, San Francisco, CA (October 23, 2016)

Outsound Presents Vinny Golia Large Ensemble

Finnish Kaleva Hall, Berkeley, CA (September 17, 2016)

Improvisation concert of 70 Bay Area musicians

Noon Concert Series: Soo Yeon Lyuh, Haegeum

Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley, Berkeley, CA (September 14, 2016)

Songlines Lecture-Concert

Mills College, Oakland, CA (September 12, 2016)

Open Stage: Jeeyoung Kim's "Self-Portrait: Music, Culture and Literature"

Korean Cultural Center, New York, NY (September 2, 2016)

Sooyeon Lyuh: New Works for Solo Haegeum

Center For New Music, San Francisco, CA (May 4, 2016)

An Encounter with Homemade and Experimental Instruments

Berkeley Art Museum & Pacific Film Archive, Berkeley, CA (April 21, 2016)

Soo Yeon Lyuh, Haegum Recital

Vanderhoef Studio Theatre, Mondavi Center, UC Davis, Davis, CA (April 14, 2016)

From Seoul to San Francisco

Center for New Music, San Francisco, CA (March 13, 2016)