

**Bay Area Music Teachers and Gulf Coast Music Association present
Autumn Artist Festival 2019**

Thursday, October 10, 2019

Teacher Workshop: \$25 | 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Exploring Music of the Balkans: The Piano Duet

Friday, October 11, 2019

Recital: \$12 adults; \$8 students | 7:30 p.m.

A World Odyssey

Saturday, October 12, 2019

Master Class: \$20 | 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Package price for Workshop, Recital, & Master Class: \$50

Gaqi Piano Duo Biography

The Gaqi Piano Duo was formed in 2013 by Albanian-born brothers Piro and Gjergji Gaqi. Hailing from a musical family, they each boast active performing careers as soloists and chamber musicians, and have concertized as a duo in venues across Europe and North America. The Gaqi Piano Duo aims to create a musical bridge between the two continents, by bringing audiences a varied international repertoire, including works inspired by diverse folk traditions.

Gjergji Gaqi studied piano and chamber music under Prof. Dario de Rosa and Prof. Alberto Miodini at the International School of Chamber Music "Trio di Trieste" in Duino (Italy), while completing the bi-lingual International Baccalaureate diploma. He graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Music major and Economics minor from Colby College, where he also won the concerto competition, studying piano with Dr. Cheryl Tschanz and composition with Dr. Jonathan Hallstrom. While serving as Graduate Student Instructor in Piano, he pursued his graduate studies under Prof. Christopher Harding and Prof. John Ellis at the University of Michigan. Dr. Gaqi is currently Professor of Piano at Tyler Junior College, having previously taught at Siena Heights University, College of the Mainland and Brazosport College. He is a frequent adjudicator of festivals and competitions and has served in many functions with the East Texas Music Teachers Association, including currently as chair of the Helen Elbert Chamber Music Festival.

Piro Gaqi completed his undergraduate studies in Piano Performance at the National University of Music in Bucharest (Romania). After returning to Albania to serve on the Faculty of Music at the Academy of Arts in Tirana, he pursued his first master's degree at the National University of Music in Bucharest, under the tutelage of Prof. Delia Pavlovici and Prof. Camelia Pavlenco. He completed a second Master's degree at the University of Montreal in 2009, studying Instrumental Accompanying with Prof. Jean-Eudes Vaillancourt. In 2015 he received the Doctor of Music degree from the National University of Music in Bucharest, under the direction of Prof. Serban-Dimitrie Soreanu. He has further worked with distinguished pedagogues such as Béatrice Rauch, Anita Vezuli, Malina Danadara, Hans Vroomans and Gérard Frémy. He is currently a Lecturer at the University of the Lower Danube in Galati (Romania), having previously served as faculty at the State University of Tetovo (Macedonia).



University Baptist Church

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For more information or to purchase tickets, go to:

www.bayareamusicteachers.org or www.gulfcoastmusicteachers.org