

Hongxi Li Brings her Immersive Concert Project to the Screen in New Documentary

Pianist and Interdisciplinary Artist Hongxi Li Reimagines the Classical Recital through Film, Technology, and Immersive Visuals

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Hongxi Li, Pianist and Interdisciplinary Artist

artist Hongxi Li reimagined the traditional classical recital with *“Bridging East and West: An Immersive Journey Through the Music of Chen Yi,”* a multidisciplinary performance presented at the University of Miami’s Newman Recital Hall. Blending live piano performance with film, visual media, stage lighting, and technology, Li transformed the recital into an immersive, narrative-driven experience.

Supported by the highly competitive 2025 Presser Graduate Music Award, Li developed the project around the piano works of Chinese American composer Chen Yi,

whose music draws from both Chinese and Western musical traditions. Moving beyond the conventional recital format, Li combined live performance with interview excerpts, behind-the-scenes footage, archival folk-song materials, and visual media, creating a layered narrative that illuminated the cultural roots, musical influences, and stories behind the works.

The peak of the evening featured Steinway Spirio | r technology, allowing Li to perform live alongside a previously recorded layer of her own playing. The effect was a striking dialogue between live and recorded performance, expanding the expressive possibilities of the solo piano recital.

“The goal is not novelty for its own sake, but depth—finding new ways for audiences to enter classical music more fully and connect with it more deeply,” Li said.

Post-performance audience feedback underscored the impact of the multidisciplinary format, with 83% of respondents indicating that they would be more likely to attend similar classical performances in the future. Attendees also reported that the combination of music, visuals, and storytelling deepened both their understanding of the works and their emotional connection to

the performance.

The artistic process behind the project became the subject of Li's documentary, *Bridging East and West: An Immersive Journey Through the Music of Chen Yi*. Released in August 2026, the film traces the project from its early artistic conception through rehearsals, interviews, technological experimentation, and the final performance, offering viewers a behind-the-scenes look at its creative development.

Li has also recently joined the artist roster of Global Art & Culture as she continues to expand her work across classical performance and interdisciplinary projects.

About Hongxi Li

Hongxi Li is a Chinese pianist and interdisciplinary artist whose work spans solo and collaborative performance and contemporary music, with recent work exploring multimedia and immersive performance. Praised for her "rock-solid technique and strong interpretive instincts," she has performed internationally, with appearances in China, South Korea, Japan, Thailand, and the United States. Li recently completed her Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the University of Miami's Frost School of Music and holds degrees from the New England Conservatory and Mannes School of Music at The New School.

Hongxi Li

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Pianist Hongxi Li headshot

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