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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
January 26, 2015



**THE MUSIC OF ASIA FEATURED ON "SHELDON CLASSICS" SERIES  
WITH VIOLINIST XIAOXIAO QIANG AND PIANIST PETER HENDERSON**

ST. LOUIS – The Sheldon presents “Sheldon Classics: Asia” featuring St. Louis Symphony violinist Xiaoxiao Qiang, pianist Peter Henderson and other members of the St. Louis Symphony, Wednesday, February 25, 2015 at 8 p.m. in the perfect acoustics of the Sheldon Concert Hall. Many classical composers have been influenced by Asia and its music, including Claude Debussy, Florent Schmitt and Dmitry Kabelevsky. We’ll hear their beautiful and imaginative works, as well as music by 20<sup>th</sup>-century composer Toru Takemitsu, and top composers of today - Bright Sheng and Tan Dun. Also featured will be the premiere of a commissioned piece, “First Study in Watercolor,” by Trey Makler, made possible by the Sinquefield Charitable Foundation and the Mizzou New Music Initiative.

**Xiaoxiao Qiang** has performed extensively as a chamber musician and soloist. She is the founding violinist of the Eon Trio, and toured with them throughout Asia. She represented the string quartet of the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, which performed at the state banquet hosted in honor of H.R.H. Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn in April 2007 and Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in March 2006. She has collaborated as a chamber musician with renowned artists such as the Tokyo String Quartet, Cho-Liang Lin, Kyoko Takezawa, Robert McDuffie, Augustin Hadelich and Jian Wang. As a soloist, she recorded “La Rosée Fond” by Kawai Shui, which was released on Ablaze Records in 2008. Along with her successes as a soloist, Qiang is also an experienced and accomplished orchestral musician. She has performed with the Singapore Symphony Orchestra and the Houston Symphony Orchestra, and was a member of Singapore Festival Orchestra during her studies in Singapore. In 2011 she joined the First Violin Section of the St. Louis Symphony after winning an international audition from a field of over 100 candidates.

A versatile pianist, **Peter Henderson** is active as a performer in solo, chamber and orchestral settings. Henderson is currently Associate Professor of Music and Artist in Residence at Maryville University, where he has served on the faculty since fall 2005. He performs frequently as an ensemble keyboardist with the St. Louis Symphony, and made his debut as a subscription-concert soloist with the orchestra in January 2008. In recent years, Henderson has played solo recitals focused on works of a single composer: during the 2011-12 season, he performed the 32 piano sonatas of Beethoven; in November and December 2012, he presented the complete piano works of Debussy; and in November 2013, he played Chopin’s 27 Études in a single concert. Henderson holds the degree of Doctor of Music from Indiana University-Bloomington.

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Sheldon Concert Hall / *Sheldon Classics: Asia*  
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**Trey Makler** is a junior currently pursuing a Bachelor of Music in Composition at the University of Missouri (MU) in Columbia, MO. His primary teachers include Stefan Freund and W. Thomas McKenney. Makler has also participated in masterclasses with Jorge Muñiz, John Orfe, Jennifer Margaret Barker and Nicholas Omiccioli. Makler is the recipient of several notable commissions, awards and premieres. In the spring of 2014, Makler was selected by MU faculty to write *Elysium* for the Forest Park Forever foundation, which was premiered in the Historic Jewel Box in St. Louis, MO, and was recently selected for performance at the 2015 University of Nebraska – Kearney New Music Festival. Makler is the recipient of the 2015 Sinquefeld Prize, a top honor in composition at MU, and the winner of the 2014-2015 West Central Division MTNA Young Artist Composition Competition. Makler is currently vice-president of the MU Composers Guild and president of the Zeta Chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia.

Tickets are \$30 orchestra/\$25 balcony/\$15 student, and are on sale now through MetroTix at 314-534-1111, through The Sheldon's website at [TheSheldon.org](http://TheSheldon.org), or in person at The Fox Theatre Box Office, 534 N. Grand Blvd. For more information, call The Sheldon at 314-533-9900 or visit [TheSheldon.org](http://TheSheldon.org).

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*Sheldon Classics are underwritten in part by Wilfred and Ann Lee Konneker  
Commissioned work made possible by the Sinquefeld Charitable Foundation and the Missouri New Music Initiative  
Welcomed by RAF-STL*