

**WEIWUYING
OPEN
HOUSE** 衛武營



***Do You See What I Hear? -
John VAUGHAN & HSU Che-cheng
Duo-Piano Crosstalk Concert***

2024.10.10 Thu. 14:30 ~ 16:30

Weiwuying Recital Hall

Duration is 30 minutes without intermission.



National Kaohsiung
CENTER FOR THE ARTS

WEI WUYING

衛武營 國家藝術文化中心
國家表演藝術中心 National Performing Arts Center

Synopsis

Professor John VAUGHAN, an American pianist and music educator with a deep passion for his craft, collaborated with HSU Che-cheng, a remarkably talented visually impaired pianist and singer-songwriter from Taiwan, to conceive the “Crosstalk Concert.” This concept emerged from their deep-rooted teacher-student relationship. When HSU first began his studies with Professor VAUGHAN, the professor had no prior experience teaching visually impaired students. To overcome this challenge, they expanded their exploration of music beyond traditional piano lessons, engaging in music through creative and unconventional methods such as lively discussions, playful games, and the use of audio recordings. Additionally, they often enjoyed listening to cross-talk and radio dramas together, building up the inspiration and vitality that would later shine through in their performances on stage.

This concert is more than just a musical performance. The two pianists incorporate theatrical elements, drawing inspiration from their teacher-student dialogues in class, the contrasting perspectives of sighted and visually impaired individuals, and their everyday observations. The performance spans a range of musical styles – classical, pop, and original compositions – delivered through piano and enhanced by singing, juggling, and cross-talk, all presented in a humorous and entertaining way.



Program

G. F. HANDEL: Hallelujah Chorus from Messiah (arr. by John VAUGHAN and HSU Che-Cheng)

L. COHEN: "Hallelujah" (arr. by HSU Che-Cheng)

Ray CHARLES: "Hallelujah I Love Her So" (arr. by John VAUGHAN)

F. CHOPIN: Prelude Op. 28, No. 15 *Raindrop*

John VAUGHAN: "Bathroom Buddies"

Jay CHOU: "Listen to Mama" (arr. by HSU Che-Cheng)

John VAUGHAN: "The Song of ICU"

L. v. BEETHOVEN: Piano Sonata in f minor, Op. 57 *Appassionata*, Mov. I

L. v. BEETHOVEN: "Ode to Joy" from Symphony No. 9 *Choral* (arr. by John VAUGHAN and HSU Che-Cheng)

LI Zheng-fan: "Ode to Joy" (Original singer: Harlem YU; arr. by John VAUGHAN and HSU Che-Cheng)

WU Jia-xiang: "Just Be Happy" (Original singer: CHEN Lei; arr. by John VAUGHAN and HSU Che-Cheng)

Pharrell WILLIAMS: "Happy" (arr. by John VAUGHAN and HSU Che-Cheng)

Artists Introduction

Piano | John VAUGHAN

John VAUGHAN, born in Pennsylvania, USA, earned his Master's and Doctoral degrees from the Philadelphia College of Arts and the Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University, respectively. Since making Taiwan his home in 1993, he has served as a full-time professor at Soochow University's School of Music. Beyond his academic role, VAUGHAN is known for his solo performances throughout Taiwan. In 2009, he initiated a creative collaboration with HSU Che-cheng, a talented visually impaired pianist, and a performance workshop, giving birth to a musical comedy titled "Playing Piano, Speaking of Love." Starting in 2020, VAUGHAN and HSU have been captivating audiences across Taiwan with their innovative series, *Do You See What I Hear? - John Vaughan & HSU Che-Cheng Duo-Piano Crosstalk Concert*.

Piano | HSU Che-cheng

At birth, HSU Che-cheng was rendered blind in both eyes due to retinal detachment. When he was three, his family discovered his strong sensitivity to melody and rhythm, as well as his perfect pitch. He embarked on his formal piano education at just five years old. At eleven, he began his studies under the guidance of Professor John VAUGHAN at Soochow University. HSU's musical prowess was evident early on, as he started accumulating a plethora of awards from the tender age of eight. His outstanding achievement at thirteen, winning first prize in the VSA International Young Soloists Competition, earned him the accolade "Beethoven reincarnate." Following his triumph at the Xingtian Temple Music Award at fifteen, he pursued advanced studies at the Johann-Joseph-Fux Konservatorium Des Landes Steiermark in Austria. By sixteen, HSU was studying at the Universität Für Musik Und Darstellende Kunst Graz-Austria, driven by a mission to heal the world with music, infuse lives with hope and joy, and lead us all toward a luminous future.

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