



**GRAND VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY®**

**DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC,
THEATRE, AND DANCE**

Guest Artist Recital
Sergei Kvitko, piano

Monday, October 13, 2025 at 7:30 PM
Sherman van Solkema Recital Hall
Haas Center for Performing Arts
GVSU Allendale Campus

EXIT MUSIC (for the End of Time)

Sergei Kvitko, piano

If you knew that the world would end in one hour, what would be your playlist?

Falling Light

Rhapsody on Bjork's Overture to *Dancer in the Dark*

David Biedenbender

Die Seele ruht in Gottes Händen

from Cantata No. 127

Johann Sebastian Bach
Arranged by Harold Bauer

Dichterliebe Rückblick (after Robert Schumann)

Sergei Kvitko

Gute Nacht from *Winterreise*

Franz Schubert
Arranged by Leopold Godowsky

Louange à l'Éternité de Jésus from *Quartet for the End of Time*

Olivier Messiaen
Arranged by Sergei Kvitko

Malinconia from Sonata Op. 27, No. 2

Eugène Ysaÿe
Arranged by Noah Mallett

Zueignung from *Five Etudes on Songs of Richard Strauss*

Lowell Liebermann

Herzlich Tut Mich Verlangen from *11 Chorale Preludes, Op. 122*

Johannes Brahms
Arranged by Ferruccio Busoni

Adagietto from *Symphony No. 5*

Gustav Mahler
Arranged by Sergei Kvitko

Ave Verum Corpus

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Arranged by Franz Liszt

How fair this spot

Sergei Rachmaninoff
Arranged by Arcadi Volodos

Exit Music (for a film)

Radiohead
Arranged by Christopher O'Riley

In paradisum from *Requiem*

Gabriel Fauré
Arranged by Emile Naoumoff

Precious Lord (Fantasia on the Hymn Tune)

Igor Iachimciuc

Sergei Kvitko's career is as diverse as it is successful.

As a pianist, Mr. Kvitko has captured the attention of music critics with his "polished pianism... glorious Horowitzian three-dimensional perspective" (*Gramophone Magazine*), "masterful, intuitive playing... arresting artistry... an iconoclastic sense for rubato rhythm and phrasing" (*Fanfare Magazine*), and has been praised for his "luminous touch... warm, round sound... plenty of brilliance" as well as "a natural, appealing musicality and sensual understanding of piano tone" (*The Chronicle-Herald*). *American Record Guide* placed his recording of Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition "among the best ever made" and included it on its coveted Critics' Choice List.

His critically acclaimed 2021 CD "Mozart. Post Scriptum" with Madrid Soloists Chamber Orchestra was praised as "an absolute explosion of creativity for Mr. Kvitko" (*EarRelevant, Atlanta*). The album has won The American Prize in Piano Performance (Concerto).

His 2023 album "Schubert by Candlelight: Live in Madrid" was released by Reference Recordings label and received such accolades as "beautifully executed and easily joins the best currently available" (*American Record Guide*) and "outstanding recital... ranked among the best Schubert piano releases in years" (*Fanfare Magazine*).

In 2013 Mr. Kvitko made his New York City debut with a solo recital at Carnegie Hall that "was met with rousing applause, bravos, and a standing ovation" (*New York Concert Review*). He made solo, chamber and orchestral appearances in the United States, Canada, Ireland, Spain, Italy, Austria, Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan.

As a composer he gathered multiple awards for his incidental music for the production of Steven Dietz's play *Dracula*. Lawrence Cosentino of *City Pulse* wrote: "Kvitko wove a borderline insane level of care and sophistication into every bar of his score even when you can barely hear it," and *Fanfare Magazine* called it "a well-conceived, executed, and imaginative score... entertaining, powerful, witty." Other compositions include incidental music for Tennessee Williams' play *The Glass Menagerie* as well as many transcriptions and arrangements. His cadenzas for Mozart's Concerto in D Minor were called "spectacular, to say the least" (*Pizzicato Magazine, Germany*)

What makes Kvitko's career truly unique, is that his artistic accomplishments are balanced by his reputation as an internationally sought-after classical recording engineer and producer of the highest caliber, declared by *Fanfare Magazine* as "one of the best in the business," and dubbed a "recording wizard" by *New York Concert Review*. *Gramophone Magazine* stated that "as engineer, he makes magic," while *American Record Guide* praised his work as a "consistent stream of exceptionally enjoyable recordings." He is a Latin Grammy-nominated producer in Best Classical Album category. His recording of Carter Pann's piece *Mechanics* was a finalist for Pulitzer Prize in Music. CDs produced and engineered by Sergei Kvitko have been favorably reviewed by national and international publications such as *Fanfare Magazine*, *BBC Music*, *Flute World*, *Clarinet Magazine*, *Clavier*, *Percussion* and *Strings Magazine* among many others, earning praises such as "superbly well recorded" (*International Record Guide*, UK), "vividly detailed, vibrant sonics" (*Gramophone*, UK), "beautifully balanced and warmly atmospheric" (*Gramophone*, UK), "the recording is close to ideal – rich, but clear, truthful and immediate" (*American Record Guide*), "larger-than-life recording that sounds fabulous at virtually any volume level" (*Strings Magazine*), "warm and immediate sound" (*The Strad*).

Sergei Kvitko was born in Russia and began studying music at the age of six. After receiving the highest musical education there, he came to the United States to pursue a Doctor of Musical Arts degree at Michigan State University, where he studied with Ralph Votapek. He is a voting member of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (GRAMMY).

GVSU Music Faculty

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Christopher Belland
Rachael Bergan
Colin Bianchi
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Yu Xin
Molly York

Upcoming MTD Events

Oct. 15 @ 7:30 p.m. in SVS
Oct. 16 @ 7:30 p.m. in LAT
Nov. 7 @ 7:30 p.m. in SVS
Nov. 8 @ 9:00 a.m. in LAT
Nov. 8 @ 2:00 p.m. at the GRAM
Nov. 14-23 in KBB Theatre
Nov. 15 @ 1:00 p.m. in SVS

Octubafest!
Wind Symphony/Concert Band Concert
GVPCS: Finding America Program #2
Student Concerto Competition
New Music Ensemble 20th Anniversary
CIRCLE MIRROR TRANSFORMATION by Annie Baker
Guest Artist Recital: Dasol Um, piano

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