



University of Maryland School of Music Presents
KOREAN PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE
WITH SPECIAL GUEST WASHINGTON SAMULNORI

November 30, 2016 . 7:30PM
DEKELBOUM CONCERT HALL
at The Clarice

UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND

SOM
SCHOOL of MUSIC

University of Maryland School of Music Presents

THE UM KOREAN PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

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INTRODUCTION

Moon Gut/Binari Washington Samulnori

Utdari Samulnori UM Korean-Percussion Ensemble

Sebastian Wang, director

Samdo Sul Changgo Washington Samulnori

**Sebastian Wang, Sanghyuk Park,
Robin Ghertner, Shelby Kimmel**

Samdo Nongak Garak Washington Samulnori

**Sebastian Wang, Sanghyuk Park,
Robin Ghertner, Shelby Kimmel, Hyun Seop Lee**

INTERMISSION

Pan Goot Washington Samulnori

**Sebastian Wang, Sanghyuk Park,
Robin Ghertner, Shelby Kimmel, Hyun Seop Lee**

Moon Goot can be loosely translated as, "Gate Ritual." In the old days, traveling troupes of farmers' bands would bless a village before entering the village gates. They would do so by chanting a short blessing wishing for good fortune and blessings for the village and its people. Then the performers would enter the gates in a parade and bring joy to all with their music and talents.

Binari is piece that is a song wishing good fortune and blessings for all people. There is one main singer that sings with the help of the rest of the ensemble.

Utdari Samulnori features the styles and rhythms unique to the Kyeonggi and Chungcheon provinces. The rhythms originate from

the different farmers' band music from these two areas. This piece features very colorful and dynamic use of the lead brass instrument, the kweanggarri. In the middle of the piece, two kweanggarri are used at the same time, and they interact with each other as well as the rest of the group.

Samdo SulChanggo highlights the hourglass-shaped drum, the changgo. All players are playing this instrument and are playing rhythms from all three major provincial areas in Korea. Each style is unique and is featured in different movements in the piece. The piece starts with the slow rhythm, gutgeori, and ends with the fast and exciting rhythm, hwimori!

Samdo Nongak Garak is one of the most popular staple repertoire of Samulnori, this piece's title can be translated as, "Farmers' Band Rhythms of the Three Provincial Areas." It showcases the various styles and movements unique to the different types of farmers' band music from the three major provincial areas in Korea. These various rhythms are performed on all four traditional instruments. The final section features two *kkweanggarri* players performing together while interacting with the other instruments.

Pan Goot draws from Samulnori's origins, farmers' band music, also known as Nongak. This piece features all performers wearing a special spinning hat called a "*sangmo*". In addition, all players play standing up with some instruments strapped to their bodies. While performing, all players dance, play, and spin the *sangmo* simultaneously. Many different formations are performed together and then the piece is concluded with individual solos of some of the players.



Director, Sebastian Wang was born in Washington, DC and has lived in Maryland most of his life. He encountered Samulnori when he was six years old and started taking private lessons when he was nine. He started to perform with a group when he was 14, performing at various local universities as well as the Kennedy Center. After graduating from high school, he continued his study at The Korea National University of Arts in Seoul, Korea, under renowned Samulnori founder and master, Kim Duk Soo. After graduating from the university, Sebastian returned to the states and began teaching and performing in the local Washington, DC area. He is also the executive director of Washington Samulnori, a local professional Samulnori group based in the Washington, DC area.

The **UM Korean Percussion Ensemble** was formed in 2009 under the leadership of Dr. Robert Provine, emeritus Ethnomusicology professor here at UMD, specializing in Korean music. The ensemble is one of the one of newest courses in the Ethnomusicology department here at Maryland and has been receiving a great amount of support from the public as well as the UMD community. In this class, students learn to play the Samulnori instruments: the changgo, buk, kweanggarri, and jing. This ensemble is the first of its kind in Maryland and one of few in the US.

Undergraduate Students: Klara Boger, James Brittain, Sean Crawford, Peter Emery, Wilson Hong, Dylan Juskus, Joseph Wofford

Graduate Student: William Scally



Sanghyuk Park is a traditional Korean percussionist from Laurel, Maryland. Sanghyuk Park originally studied traditional Korean drumming and dancing from Jungwoo Lee and Ho-in Choi from Pilbong Nong-ak in 2005 as a hobby. Sanghyuk Park has performed at numerous events in the DC, Maryland, and Virginia area and has been recognized by the community for his performances.

In 2011, Sanghyuk has begun his professional study in Korean traditional percussions with Sebastian Wang from Washington Samulnori (WS) and Chunseung Lee from New York Korean Traditional Marching Band (NYKTMB). As a current member of WS and NYKTMB, his experience includes performances at Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center at University of Maryland in 2011-2014 and an opening ceremony for the major league baseball game at New York Mets Citi Field Stadium in 2011. Sanghyuk Park also teaches members of local community on weekly basis and hopes to pursue his professional music career in Korean traditional percussions in future.



Robin Ghertner has been performing and studying percussion traditions from around the world for over 20 years, including across the US, Korea, Cuba, and Peru. He has his degree in Music Performance and Ethnomusicology from Wesleyan University. Robin has been playing Samulnori and pungmul for the past 12 years, working with the primary pungmul ensemble in New York City between 2004 and 2008. Apart from playing Korean music, he studied composition and percussion under too many masters to name, including Anthony Braxton Pheeroan akLaff, Alfredo Valiente, and Poncho Quinto.



Shelby Kimmel started playing traditional Korean percussion six years ago when living in South Korea, and fell in love with the energy and the rhythms of the music. She has played with Oori, a Samulnori group based at MIT, Cambridge, MA, and with Washington Samulnori. She has also studied Udo and Pilbong pungmul in Korea. When not drumming, Shelby researches quantum computing as a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Maryland.



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