

*University of Maryland School of Music Presents*

**AN EVENING OF KOREAN PERCUSSION MUSIC**  
**University of Maryland Korean Percussion Ensemble**  
**with special guest performers Washington Samul Nori**



Tuesday, December 6, 2022 • 8PM

KAY THEATRE

AT THE CLARICE SMITH PERFORMING ARTS CENTER



**SCHOOL OF  
MUSIC**

University of Maryland School of Music Presents

**AN EVENING OF KOREAN PERCUSSION MUSIC**

**UMD Korean Percussion Ensemble  
with Washington Samulnori**

**Sebastian Wang**  
*Music Director*

*Udtari Samulnori* ..... Traditional

UMD Korean Percussion Ensemble

*Samdo SulChanggo* ..... Traditional

Washington Samulnori: Sebastian Wang, Robin Ghertner

*Samdo Nongak Garak*..... Traditional

Washington Samulnori:  
Sebastian Wang, Robin Ghertner, Hyunggoo Kang, Yoonyoung Hoo



**Sebastian Wang** was born in Washington, D.C. 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 fourteen, 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 D.C. area. He is also the executive director of Washington Samulnori, a local professional Samulnori group based in the Washington D.C. area.

**The University of Maryland Korean Percussion Ensemble** was formed in 2009 under the leadership of Dr. Robert Provine, a UMD Professor Emeritus in Ethnomusicology and a specialist 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 four Samulnori instruments—*changgo*, *buk*, *kweanggwari*, and *jing*. This ensemble is the first of its kind in Maryland and one of few in the United States.

### About Samulnori

*Samulnori* ("four things playing") was developed from the rural folk genre *p'ungmul* ("wind things"), previously known as *nongak* ("farmers' music")—loud, spirited music and dance, often performed outdoors, which is played for village entertainment and ritually marks the passing of seasons in an agricultural cycle. *Samulnori* is a modern, virtuosic stage tradition that took its name from the group SamulNori, formed by Kim Duk Soo in 1978. The four core instruments are 1) the *changgo*, an hourglass-shaped drum, 2) the *buk*, a lower-pitched barrel-shaped drum, 3) the *kweanggwari*, a small, hand-held gong, and 4) the *jing*, a lower-pitched hanging gong. Ethnomusicologist Donna Kwon describes the soundscape of this ensemble as combining the "high, shimmering sonority" of the *kweanggwari* and the "low, continuous 'wah-like' sound" of the *jing* with the sounds of the two drums—the *buk* "accenting the strong beats of the rhythm" and the *changgo* "filling the space in between."

**UDTARI SAMULNORI**

Udtari Samulnori features the styles and rhythms unique to Gyeonggi and Chungcheong 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 gong, 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**

*Samdo Sul Changgo* 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**

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.

**UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND KOREAN PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE**

Sebastian Wang, *Music Director*

**Undergraduate Students**

Alexis Ayuketah  
Jesseca Greene  
Jayden He  
Andrew Lising  
Megan Miller

Students are from the classes  
MUSC 129Q (undergraduate) and 629Q (graduate),  
which are offered every semester to students across campus

**Washington Samul Nori**

Sebastian Wang, *Director*  
Robin Ghertner  
Yoonyoung Heo  
Hyunggoo Kang