

Dr. SARITA KWOK
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EDUCATION

Doctoral of Musical Arts in violin performance, Yale University School of Music, 2009

Artist Diploma in violin performance, Yale University School of Music, 2005-2006

Masters of Musical Arts in violin performance, Yale University School of Music, 2003–2005

Master of Music in Violin Performance with Distinction, Michigan State University, 2001-2003

Bachelor of Arts in English Literature, University of Sydney, 1999-2001

Deans List for Academic Excellence and Distinguished Undergraduate Scholar

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Yale University Department of Music

- **Faculty, Lecturer**, 2006-current

*Coordinator of the Yale undergraduate musicianship and ear training program, prerequisite for music majors
Has directed this course since its inception
Involves overseeing and/or teaching four classes that meet twice weekly, 6-8 hours of keyboard labs and 2 TAs
Designed an original curriculum for the course*

- **Chamber music coach**, 2006-2008

Undergraduate students and chamber ensembles

Yale University School of Music

- **Coordinator of the Undergraduate Lessons Program**, 2009-current

*Coordinate the credit and non-credit lessons for over 300 Yale undergraduate students
Liaise between the Yale School of Music and Yale College, Department of Music and between faculty and students
Teach undergraduate violin students*

- **Artist-in-Residence**, Alianza String Quartet 2006-2008

Responsibilities included outreach concerts, recitals, coaching of undergraduate and graduate ensembles and performing music of Yale resident composers

Academic Service

- Chair, Yale School of Music Alumni Ventures Committee 2009-2010
- Chair, Yale School of Music Undergraduate Lessons Program Review Committee 2009-2010
- Served on YSM committees for review of the Doctoral degree and joint B.A./M.M program 2009-10
- Served on YSM Alumni Ventures Committee 2008-2009
- Faculty delegate representing Yale School of Music on a trip to Abu Dhabi, UAE 2008 led by Deputy Provost for the Arts, including senior faculty members of Schools of Music, Drama and Architecture.

CHAMBER MUSIC PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

Alianza String Quartet – www.alianzaquartet.com

First violinist and founding member (2004-present)

- **Management:** Lisa Sapinkopf Artists
- **Plowman National Chamber Music Competition 2007** – Grand Prize, 2007
- **Chamber Music Foundation of New England International Competition** – First Prize, 2008
- **Yale University School of Music resident ensemble**, 2006-2008
- **Residencies and performances:** Aix-en-Provence Festival, France; Aldeburgh Festival, UK; Villa de Medici, Italy; Pacific Music festival, Japan; Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, CT.
- **Selected festival and series performances:** Brooklyn Friends of Chamber Music, NY; Red Bank Chamber Music Society, NJ; Cosmos Club, Washington DC; George Flynn Classical Concerts, CT; Danbury Concert Association, CT; Temple Emmanuel Chamber Series, MA.
- **NYC Debut** at Zankel Hall (Carnegie Hall) in 2007:
New York Times: “*the Alianza players are musical, well trained and have an unusually elegant sound – they boil over with an edge-of-the-seat eagerness*”
Classical Source: “*elegant phrasing – rock-steady intonation, burnished sound and lively, characterful playing.*”
- **World premiere performances** in the USA and France: composers Martin Bresnick, Ezra Laderman, Harold Meltzer, Jerome Combier and Michael Jarrell
- **Albany Records:** recording of three Ezra Laderman quartets to be released this season
- **Educational workshops:** including presenting a string quartet composition workshop at Central CT State University
- **Influences:** closely mentored by the Tokyo String Quartet. Has also worked with Juilliard and Takacs String Quartets, members of the Berlin Philharmonic, Mahler Chamber Orchestra.

Selected Chamber experience:

- Performances in Boston and greater New England area since 2005 with Jian Liu, piano and Alexandre Lecarme, cello
- Hammond Performing Arts Series, Rockport Chamber Music Festival, MA, The Concert Series at Wellesley College, Thayer Winter Concert Series, Braintree, MA, Temple Emmanuel Chamber Music Series, Newton, MA
- Presented educational pre-concert talks and musical guides for audiences on the above series, including a special presentation for the Rockport Chamber Music Festival Educational Outreach program on Messiaen’s *Quartet for the End of Time* and master-classes at Wellesley College.

Selected Collaborations:

- Tokyo Quartet: Mendelssohn’ String Octet Op.20 at Zankel Hall, NY, 2007
- Members of the Tokyo String Quartet: Dvorak’s String Sextet Op. 48 at Leonard Bernstein Memorial Stage, Sapporo, Japan, 2007
- Pianist Boris Berman and Kikuei Ikeda (TSQ) at Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, 2004
- Pinchas Zukerman and Amanda Forsyth: Tchaikovsky’s String sextet ‘*Souvenir de Florence*’, Meadowmount School of Music, 2002

SOLO PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

Recent performances and projects

- Solo recordings for Yale University's Collection of Musical Instruments electronic guide project on five of the Collection's instruments, Spring 2008
- Recitals in the Boston area on the Temple Emmanuel Chamber Music Series, Boston Centre for the Arts, Weston Public library, Hammond GMAC Performing Arts Series, 2008-2009 season
- Master-class, forum and recital for a 'chamber music festival weekend' at Wellesley College, MA 2009

Selected Solo Concerto Performances

- New Haven Chamber Orchestra: 2007
- Michigan State University Philharmonic Orchestra: 2002
- East-West Philharmonic Orchestra, Sydney: 1999
- Melbourne Symphony Orchestra: 1998 nationally televised – Australian Broadcasting Corporation ABC
- Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra: 1998 national broadcast – ABC Classic FM
- Sydney Symphony Orchestra: 1996

International Awards and Prizes

- **Ian Potter Cultural Foundation 2002-2004**, Australia: financial grants for overseas study
- **Kendall National Violin Competition 2001**: Audience Prize and Prize for Best Interpretation of an Australian Composition
- **7th Wieniawski and Lipinski International Competition 2000**, Poland: Honorary Diploma
- **Symphony Australia Young Performers Award 1998**: Winner of the String Division
- **MOST Nelly Apt Scholarship 1998/99** for Overseas Study: Rubin Academy, Israel and Indiana University
- **Big Brother Scholarship 1998/99** for Overseas Study: Royal Academy of Music, London
- **Lord Yehudi Menuhin**: Australian National Academy master-class at the Melbourne Town Hall, 1998. A documentary of this event was released on ABC-TV May 1999.
- **Gisborne International Music Competition 1998**, New Zealand: Prize winner
- **International Competition for Young Violinists 1997**, Kloster Schontal, Germany: Prize winner
- **Sydney Symphony Orchestra James Fairfax Young Artist 1996**

Educational Awards

Yale School of Music

- **Yale School of Music Alumni Association Prize 2006** for a student excelling in her field of study
- **Henry and Lucy Moses Award 2005-6** for a student of exceptional promise
- **Maxwell Belding Scholarship 2004-5** for students enrolled in the Master of Musical Arts degree pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts degree
- **Yale School of Music Scholarship 2003-4**

Michigan State University

- **Alexander Schuster Concertmaster Fellowship 2002-3**
- **Coleman Memorial String Scholarship** for Graduate Study 2002-3

Meadowmount School of Music, NY

- **Tait Award 2003** sponsored by Bein & Fushi Rare Violins, Chicago
- **Shar Music Company Award 2002** for the student showing most musical talent and potential for success