

CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING AND CINEMATIC ARTS

Boyer College of Music and Dance

World Music:
gamin and Hyun-Jin Cha

September 11, 2025
Temple Performing Arts Center

Thursday
7:30 PM

Between Breaths: A Sonic Memoir

Korean musician **gamin** offers an intimate multimedia ritual that weaves together sound, memory, and identity. Drawing from her personal monograph on family history and cultural heritage, she brings the voices of her ancestors to life through the traditional wind instruments—piri, saenghwang, and taepyeongso—telling a story of migration, resilience, and belonging.

Through improvisation and traditional Korean modes, this performance unfolds as both a personal ritual and a shared reflection. Conceived and created by gamin, *Between Breaths* explores what it means to carry a lineage—musically, spiritually, and emotionally—while living between places, languages, and histories. The result is a sonic memoir, where each breath carries generations of memory and quiet strength.

Today's performance was created through gamin's own voice, script, and visual design, with janggo (hour-glass drum) player, Hyun-Jin Cha, as well as the support of collaborative sound design by Elizabeth Hoffman. This work in progress will be presented in its full form on December 3 in Fridman Gallery, New York, in collaboration with a visual artist, live guest musicians, and a sound designer.

About the Artists

gamin is a distinguished Korean wind instrumentalist and designated Yisuja (master) of Important Intangible Cultural Asset No. 46 for Court and Royal Military music. She specializes in piri, taepyeongso, and saenghwang, and reimagines traditional forms through cross-disciplinary collaborations and improvisation. gamin has toured internationally, performing at venues such as Roulette Theater, the Metropolitan Museum, and appeared on stage with Yo-Yo Ma at the Silkroad concert in Seoul. A recipient of fellowships from the Jerome and Howard Foundations, she was artist-in-residence at HERE Arts Center and Asian Cultural Council. gamin teaches at UCLA's Herb Alpert School of Music. www.gaminmusic.com

ELIZABETH HOFFMAN, composer (NYC), works in acoustic, electroacoustic, and computer media, and has created collaborative projects with performers including Ivan Goff, Jane Rigler, Margaret Lancaster, gamin, Marianne Gythfeldt, Elena Demyanenko, String Noise, Azalea Twining, and a recent work for Glass Farm Ensemble's *Nieuw Amsterdam - New York* album on Innova. Elizabeth teaches in NYU's Arts and Science Music Department. Her electroacoustic music is published by *Empreintes DIGITALes*. She has received Bourges, Prix Ars, Pierre Schaeffer, and Sonic Circuits prizes; and McDowell, NEA, Seattle Arts Commission, and Jerome Foundation grants and an International Computer Music Association commission. Her interactive music connects computer processes to acoustic instruments in textural, tuning, and spatial explorations, or algorithmic application as in a permanent installation in Bobst Library Atrium. Her interest in feminist re-tellings and in the imprint of society on subjectivity, in dialogue and intervention through music, is a long-standing focus. She is also a pianist.

Percussionist **HYUN JIN CHA** is a soloist and Korean ensemble musician, who was a member of the Korean music band Dulsori from 1998-2016. Hyun Jin has performed at many festivals, concerts and collaborations with international music and dance artists in multi-disciplinary projects as an ensemble musician. She is also active in various fields such as festival, workshops and lectures on traditional culture education. In 2017, she moved in the US and has been continuing her music works, teaching, managing and directing events. She is currently in Philadelphia and working on a new challenge to interact with local artists and to make music activities more broad and free. And as an artistic director of URIOL우리열, a traditional Korean percussion ensemble based in Philadelphia, she performs and teaches 'Pungmul', 'Minyo' and Korean culture.