

# IMAGO

La Nature Mystique

21 novembre

19h30

Concert

ReedSmith

Driving progress  
through partnership

 **EBLANC**  
Rénovation

Art for  
Nature

  
FONDATION  
DES  
ÉTATS-UNIS

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# — The Fondation des États-Unis

Founded in 1930 by the American visionaries Homer and Mabel Gage, the United States Foundation (Fondation des États-Unis, also known as the FEU) is an American multicultural center in Paris, offering students and researchers from around the world an inspiring place to study and a communal living environment. It is also a vector of peace: its cultural and artistic program celebrates friendship between cultures while showcasing the talents of American youth to Paris. Located across from Parc Montsouris on the 36-hectare eco-campus of the Cité internationale universitaire de Paris (CiuP), the Foundation is housed in an eight thousand square meter Art Deco building designed by architect Pierre Leprince-Ringuet as a tribute to Franco-American friendship. It features a library, meeting rooms, an art gallery, a magnificent large concert/conference hall overlooking a rose garden, and a 5th floor of artists' and musicians' studios. The frescoes on the walls, by Franco-American painter Robert La Montagne Saint-Hubert, are listed as a historic monument and can be visited by the public during European Heritage Days.

To fulfill its public-interest mission, the FEU presents projects throughout the year that are led by its residents, alumni, its own «Harriet Hale Wolley» fellowship artists, and companies in artistic residence. The FEU's mission is to strengthen the friendship and cooperation between France and the United States through education and culture. It provides a intercultural environment, ideal for shaping global citizens with the humanism values needed to build a better world. Because FEU is a non-profit organization, its concerts, exhibitions, workshops, conferences, performances, and scientific activities are open to the general public free of charge. Each year, thanks to the center's grants and its partnership with the Fulbright Program, a new generation of talent can live together, exchange ideas, exhibit, perform, and freely express their creativity with each other and, in the Grand Salon of the FEU, with the wider community of France.

# About

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On Tuesday, November 21, 2023, the FEU welcomes Ensemble IMAGO, a variable-geometry musical ensemble in artistic residency. Part of the November Art for Nature cycle, *La Nature Mystique* is a concert exploring nature as metaphor, enabling artists to convey deeply human experiences and sensations through classical music. These events invite artists and audiences to reflect and exchange around climate change, the importance and connection with nature, mother earth and community, and perhaps even inspire a few ideas and changes in one's daily life. The Grand Salon, located in the heart of the FEU, overlooks the garden and park of the Cité internationale universitaire de Paris eco-campus, where thousands of students live together around strong values including respect for the environment.

From Ravel to Debussy, via Takemitsu, Ensemble IMAGO will also be presenting a world premiere by Ensemble composer Sato Matsui, entitled *Six Tankas Antiques*. This composition is largely inspired by 8th-century Japanese poetry.

*Ever since the earliest cave paintings, nature has been a crucial subject in innumerable human artistic creations. In the concert La Nature Mystique, Ensemble IMAGO explores the representation of nature as a metaphor for artists to convey deeply human experiences and sensations. Through poetry and music, the works that we have selected outwardly depict nature to awaken an inward sense of awareness and contemplation. The program is curated to contemplate the sky, water, and land, culminating in an original IMAGO creation composed by Sato Matsui, Six Tankas antiques, inspired by ancient Japanese poetry from the eight century, and which will receive its world premiere at the Fondation des États Unis.*

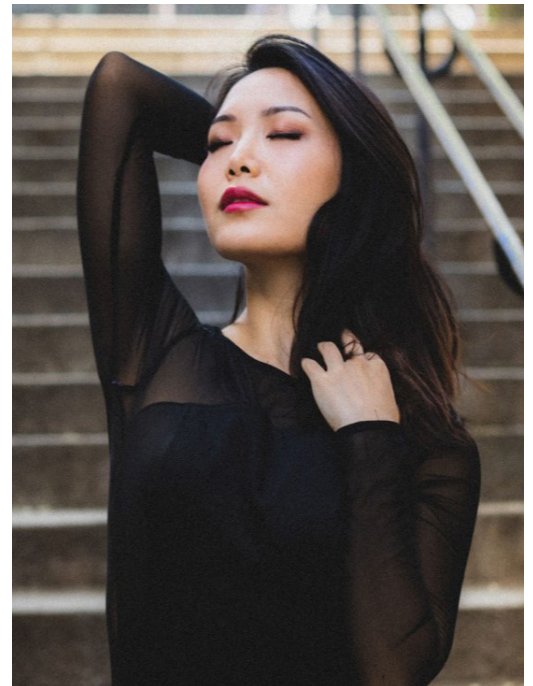
~ IMAGO

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# Ensemble IMAGO

IMAGO is a modular chamber music ensemble founded in early 2021, consisting of core members Sato Matsui, Rieko Tsuchida, and Thomaz Tavares, specializing in original compositions and classical repertoire. The name IMAGO symbolizes the final stage of insect metamorphosis and means henceforth in Japanese, emphasizing music and art as agents of transformation. They've performed at various French venues such as Petit Palais and Salle Cortot, adapted to the COVID-19 pandemic with immersive virtual experiences, and collaborated with choreographers such as Gildas Lemonier, makeup artist Michel El Ghouli, and videographer Kadia Ouabi to create innovative performances like *Trois apparitions de la nuit*.

Since her Carnegie Hall debut in 2011, award-winning pianist Rieko Tsuchida has performed internationally as soloist and chamber musician. Tsuchida made her professional concerto debut in 2011 performing Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1 with the California Symphony Orchestra. She has also appeared as soloist with the Ashdod Symphony Orchestra, the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and the San Domenico Orchestra. Among the many awards she has received are the 2016 SONY USA Foundation Virtuoso Salon Scholarship, the YoungArts NFAA Finalist Award and third prize in the ILYM International Piano Competition. She has also been invited to perform at other prestigious festivals and venues such as the Verbier Festival Academy, Salle Gaveau, and more. Tsuchida currently lives between New York and Paris. In October 2022, she released an album with London Opera cellist Tessa Seymour of Lera Auerbach's 24 preludes for cello and piano, as part of a project funded by the Académie Musicale de Villecroze. She recently gave her first recital at Salle Cortot, at the Eiffel Tower, as well as concerts in Chicago, Washington D.C. and New York. Tsuchida also recently became artistic director of Classical Music Collection Japan (CMCJ), a project funded by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government to promote the culture of classical music in



Japan. She will make her Japanese concert debut with CMCJ this winter at Tokyo's Oji Hall. Tsuchida received her Bachelor of Music degree from the Peabody Conservatory under the tutelage of Boris Slutsky. She completed her Master of Music at The Juilliard School in the studios of Matti Raekallio and Joseph Kalichstein.



Born in New York and raised in Brazil, flutist Thomaz Tavares is currently based in Paris, where he leads an active solo, chamber, and orchestral performance career. He is flutist with the Orchestre de Chambre Nouvelle Europe under the baton of Maestro Nicolas Krauze, and is an occasional guest performer with Ensemble Calliopée, VociHarmonie, and the Open Chamber Orchestra of Paris. Tavares was previously the professor of flute at the Conservatoire Proinois in the medieval town of Provins, as well as guest professor at the Conservatoire

Jean Baptiste Lully in Paris. An active and devoted pedagogue, Tavares has given numerous recitals, lectures, and masterclasses throughout France, the United States, and Brazil. Praised for his “innate sense of musical aesthetics in all styles” by Vociharmonie and for his “polished, lyrical and virtuoso” playing by the Virginia Gazette, Tavares has made numerous solo and chamber appearances at the historical Salle Cortot in Paris and the Château de Fontainebleau. He has performed at the Festival d’Auvers sur Oise, Journées de Ravel, Harmonies du Perche, the Festival de Fontainebleau, the Melodieuse in Luberon, the Dartington Summer Festival, and Talis Sarajevo, to name a few. Tavares holds his Bachelor’s degree from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, where he was the recipient of the Premier Young Artist Scholarship. He moved to Paris in order to study under the tutelage of the renowned international soloist Jean Ferrandis at the Ecole Normale de Musique de Paris, where he obtained his Diplôme Supérieur d’Execution with unanimous distinction from the jury and in 2020, followed by his terminal degree the Diplôme Supérieur de Concertiste. Tavares was a recipient of the 2019 Harriet Hale Woolley Fellowship at the Foundation des États-Unis, for which he undertook a dual performance research on the musical repertory of the French Belle Époque with Jean Ferrandis and the compositions of Yuko Uebayashi under advisorship of the composer herself.

Born in Chitose, Japan, Sato Matsui is a Paris-based composer and the Founder and Artistic Director of IMAGO. Her musical style draws influence from traditional Japanese sonorities as well as her training as a classical violinist. Matsui holds her Master's and Doctorate degrees from the Juilliard School and her Bachelor's degree from Williams College. Her recent projects include a commission for a flute concerto for Carol Wincenc, which was premiered at the 2023 National Flute Association Gala Concert at Symphony Hall in Phoenix, Arizona. In April of this year, Matsui's *Oiseau Lunaire* received its U.S. premiere at Carnegie Hall by pianist Will Healy. Her trio *Hanasaka Jiisan* for oboe, bassoon, and piano was commissioned by Cornelia Sommer for the 2022 International Double Reed Conference in Denver, Colorado. Matsui's large ensemble piece *Kinokonoko*, commissioned for the New Juilliard Ensemble, received its Lincoln Center premiere at Alice Tully Hall in 2019. A lover of interdisciplinary collaborations, Matsui has worked extensively with dancers and choreographers as well as other artists. In 2020, she was invited by the New York City Ballet to take part in the New York Choreographic Institute, where she collaborated with choreographer Jonathan Faulry. In 2017 was named the Resident Composer for the Creative Movement and Gestures Program at the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity in Alberta, Canada. In 2017, Matsui worked with librettist Sarah LaBrie to create and produce *Hoshi*, an opera that follows a young woman's conflicting search for reconciliation with her estranged father. Her original scoring of Shakespeare's play *As You Like It* was produced and directed by Ian Belknap in May of 2019 at the McClelland Drama Theater in Lincoln Center. In 2019, Matsui received a Fulbright Scholarship and moved to Paris in order to research the manuscripts of Erik Satie for her doctoral dissertation. She is the winner of the 2019 Charles Ives Prize from the American Academy of Arts and Letters.



# Practical Information

## Fondation des États-Unis

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Our cultural program can be found online on [fondationdesetatsunis.org](http://fondationdesetatsunis.org)

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## Prices

Free entrance  
We recommend booking via our website

With generous support from:

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## Opening Hours

Monday to Friday  
10am-12:30pm / 14pm-17:30pm

## Access

Public transport :  
RER B: Cité Universitaire  
T3a: Cité Universitaire  
Bus 21 or 67: Stade Charléty - Porte de Gentilly

By car :  
Parking available in the surrounding streets.  
Underground parking lot Porte de Gentilly (approx. 500m from the Fondation): Parking Charléty-Coubertin.

By bike :  
It's possible to get to the FEU by bike with Vélib, station at the entrance of the FEU.

