

## Short Bio

(300 words)

Of flutist Annie Wu, *The Mercury News* said, “This artist, it seems, can do anything.” In 2015, Wu won first prize in the Astral Artists’ national audition and became one of Astral’s youngest artists. She is the first prize winner of the James Pappoutsakis Flute Competition, Yamaha Young Performing Artist Competition, and YoungArts National Competition, and was named a Presidential Scholar in the Arts. As soloist, Wu has performed with the San Francisco Symphony, Vienna International Orchestra, California Symphony, Kentucky Symphony Orchestra, West Virginia Symphony, Livermore-Amador Symphony, Diablo Symphony Orchestra, and the San Jose Chamber Orchestra, and she has performed on series at Boston’s Jordan Hall, Strathmore’s Mansion, and D.C.’s Phillips Collection. Projects have included a solo flute commission from Grammy-nominated composer Anna Clyne titled *Hopscotch*, a narrative album of vocal music titled “They Call Me Mignon” which won Harvard’s Hoopes Prize, and a beatbox flute YouTube video with over 2 million views. Her 2014 album titled *Not Too Sweet* explores an autobiographical approach to classical curation and is loosely inspired by desserts.

Wu’s interest in the intersections of artforms has guided her multifaceted career. She was guest faculty at the Juilliard School for her own course exploring music and literature, and taught masterclasses for the Royal Conservatory of Belgium, Play on Philly, and Sacramento Flute Club. Previous professional positions include events roles at the James Beard Foundation and a hydroponic farm in Brooklyn, where she designed dozens of interdisciplinary experiences with award-winning chefs. She maintains a food- and art- inspired blog, and her work has been published in *Peripheries Journal* and profiled by PBS Nova. She holds a B.A. magna cum laude in Comparative Literature from Harvard University and an M.M. from New England Conservatory as a part of the Harvard-NEC Dual Degree Program where she studied with Paula Robison.

## Long Bio

(700 words)

Born in 1996, flutist Annie Wu was the youngest winner of Astral Artist's 2015 National Auditions and holds the title of Presidential Scholar in the Arts. The Chinese American Bay Area native has first prizes in the James Pappoutsakis Flute Competition, Yamaha Young Performing Artist Competition, YoungArts Foundation's YoungArts National Competition, and National Flute Association's High School Soloist Competition.

Music captured Wu's heart from an early age and quickly became her primary passion. By her high school years, she had performed at Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, Royal Albert Hall, the Berlin Philharmonic, and more in both recital and orchestral settings. To date, she has been a featured soloist with the Vienna International Orchestra, California Symphony, Kentucky Symphony Orchestra, West Virginia Symphony, Livermore-Amador Symphony, Diablo Symphony Orchestra, and the San Jose Chamber Orchestra. Wu graduated magna cum laude from a 5-year simultaneous degree program for a Bachelor's in comparative literature from Harvard University and a Master's in flute performance from New England Conservatory. For her senior thesis, she followed Goethe's character Mignon across 200 years of musical iterations to propose a new model of interdisciplinary performance. The self-released album with Boston-based pianist Feng Niu was titled "They Call Me Mignon: 11 variations on a voice"; the project and accompanying research paper won Harvard's Hoopes prize for excellence in undergraduate research.

Wu's enthusiasm for narrative programming continued to expand in her recital collaborations with Niu. The pair performed several times at Boston's Jordan Hall and for series like Strathmore's "Music at the Mansion" and the Phillips Collection's "Sunday Concerts." For her Astral Artist's recital in 2019 titled "Folk x Fantasy x Flute," Wu commissioned Grammy-nominated composer Anna Clyne to write a solo flute work entitled Hopscotch for which she gave the world premiere.

Teaching is a major interest in Wu's life, and she acknowledges with gratitude her teachers Paula Robison, Isabelle Chapuis, Robert Stallman, Esther Landau, Shao-Jiang Huang, and many others. In spring 2022, she was a visiting instructor for Juilliard's Preparatory Division, presenting her elective course titled, "Finding the Words: Using Language as an Expressive Tool in Instrumental Performance." She has also written a guest blog for The Flute Center of New York on the same topic of expanding instrumental expression via language study. She maintains a private flute studio in New York and online.

In 2011, Wu released a YouTube video of Greg Pattillo's Three Beats for Beatbox Flute, which received over 2 million hits, and she has performed the work for the Boston Celebrity Series, a TED Talk conference, and several appearances in Las Vegas. She has led masterclasses on the technique for the Royal Conservatory of Music, Belgium, and the Sacramento Flute Club.

The Mercury News once said of Wu, "This artist, it seems, can do anything." Much of Wu's recent work has focused on creating new synergies between music, literature, art, food, and community. In 2022, she collaborated on several music and food projects including a mushroom-inspired dinner-concert and a Thai High Tea concert-brunch. Her 2024 album

released through the Etymology Classics label is loosely inspired by desserts and the phrase “Not Too Sweet” – an oft-spoken Chinese compliment for sweets – from which the album takes its title. The tracks explore “flavors” and sounds that complicate the simply sweet, as well as some favorite tunes from the artist’s childhood. The album art, created by the artist with a combination of AI and photo editing, presents a nostalgic, personal vision of these well-known pieces.

Adjacent to her music career, Wu’s previous professional positions include events roles at the James Beard Foundation and a hydroponic farm in Brooklyn, where she designed dozens of interdisciplinary experiences with award-winning chefs. She maintains a food- and art- inspired blog, called In Search of Lost Smell, and her work has been published in Peripheries Journal and profiled by PBS Nova.

She holds a B.A. magna cum laude in Comparative Literature from Harvard University and an M.M. from New England Conservatory as a part of the Harvard-NEC Dual Degree Program where she studied with Paula Robison.

Wu plays a custom Powell instrument.

As of 2024; Contact the artist for most up to date information.