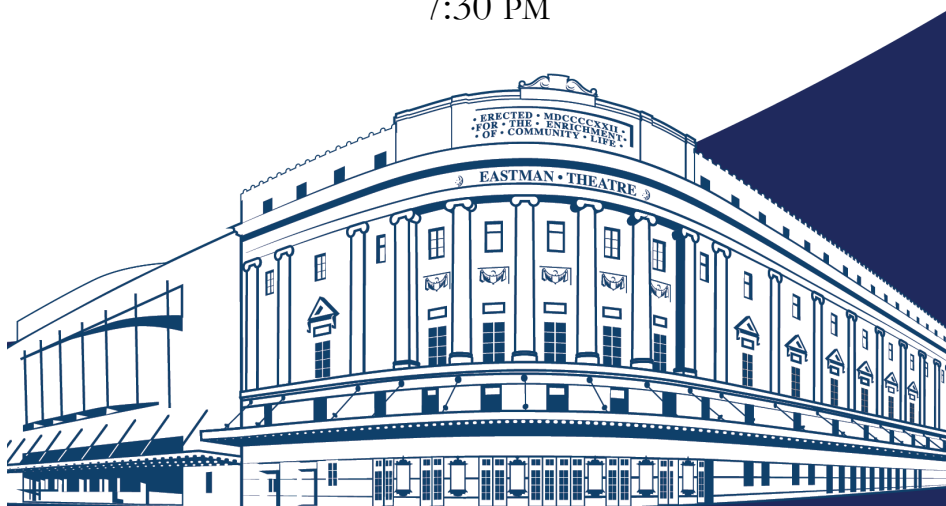


EASTMAN PRESENTS –
KILBOURN CONCERT SERIES

DUO ASSAD

SÉRGIO & ODAIR ASSAD,
GUITAR

Monday, February 9, 2026
Kilbourn Hall
7:30 PM



Eastman School of Music

PROGRAM

Suite Troileana (1975)

I. Bandoneón

II. Zita

Astor Piazzolla

(1921-1992)

Abismo de Rosas

Américo Jacomino (“Canhoto”)

(1889-1928)

Jongo (1988)

Paulo Bellinati

(b. 1950)

Suite Retratos (1958)

II. Ernesto Nazareth. Valse

IV. Chiquinha Gonzaga. Corta Jaca

Radamés Gnattali

(1906-1988)

One Week in Rio (2016)

Chácara do Céu on Monday

Corcovado on Tuesday

MAM on Wednesday

Forró de Santa on Thursday

Parque Lage on Friday

Semente on Saturday

Maracanã on Sunday

Sérgio Assad

(b. 1952)

INTEMISSION

Chôrus No. 5 (“Alma Brasileira”), W207

Heitor Villa-Lobos

(1887-1959)

PROGRAM

Dyens en trois temps (2021)

Sérgio Assad

Roland au nord

La chanson et Roland

Roland au sud

Palhaço (1980)

Egberto Gismonti

(b. 1947)

Baião Malandro (1977)

Tahhiyya li ossoulina (2007)

Sérgio Assad

The Assad Brothers play Jeremy Cooper Guitars.

MEET THE ARTISTS

Brazilian-born brothers **Sérgio and Odair Assad** have created a new standard of guitar innovation, ingenuity and expression. Their exceptional artistry and uncanny ensemble-playing come from a family rich in Brazilian musical tradition and studies under guitarist/lutenist Monina Távora, a disciple of Andrés Segovia. Their virtuosity has inspired a wide range of composers to write for them including Astor Piazzolla, Terry Riley, Radamés Gnattali, Marlos Nobre, Nikita Koshkin, Roland Dyens, Jorge Morel, Edino Krieger, and Francisco Mignone. Sérgio Assad has added to their repertoire by composing music for the duo and for various musical partners both with symphony orchestra and in recitals. They have worked extensively with such renowned artists as Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg, Gidon Kremer, and Dawn Upshaw. Odair is based in Brussels where he teaches at Ecole Supérieure des Arts, while Sérgio resides in Chicago.



In 2026, the Assads will celebrate their 60th Anniversary with a new album of compositions by Sérgio and a tour across North America. The Assad Brothers began playing together at an early age and their international career began with a major prize at the 1979 Young Artists Competition in Bratislava. Their touring programs are a compelling blend of styles, periods and cultures stemming from a diverse repertoire. This includes folk, jazz and various styles of Latin music along with classical repertoire such as transcriptions of the great Baroque keyboard literature of Bach, Rameau, and Scarlatti and adaptations of works by Gershwin, Ginastera, and Debussy.

Sérgio Assad premiered his concerto *Phases* with the Seattle Symphony. He is currently writing a concerto for Yo-Yo Ma to premiere in the coming seasons. The Assads have also collaborated with such notable orchestras as the Los Angeles Philharmonic, São Paulo Symphony Orchestra, and the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra.

In 2004, Sérgio and Odair arranged a special tour featuring three generations of the Assad family including their father, Jorge Assad [1924-2011], on the mandolin and the voice of their mother, Angelina Assad. GHA Records released a live recording and a DVD of the Assad family

MEET THE ARTISTS

live at Brussels' Palais des Beaux-Arts. Other highlights include being featured performers on James Newton Howard's soundtrack to the movie *Duplicity*, a touring project entitled *De Volta as Raízes (Back to Our Roots)* with Lebanese-American singer Christiane Karam, percussionist Jamey Haddad, and composer/pianist Clarice Assad, a reunion of the Assad Family in Qatar and across, a tour and recording with Paquito D'Rivera called *Dances from the New World*, a tour with jazz guitarist Romero Lubambo, and tours with Yo-Yo Ma and other musicians from the Silkroad Ensemble. During the 2019-2020 season, Sérgio and his daughter Clarice Assad premiered and recorded the collaboration *Archetypes* with Third Coast Percussion.

The Assads have made a number of recordings on Nonesuch and GHA including *Sérgio and Odair Assad Play Piazzolla* and *Jardim Abandonado*, which both received Latin Grammys. They recorded *Obrigado Brazil* with Yo-Yo Ma with Sérgio arranging several of the works and were featured on Yo-Yo Ma's chart topping release, *Songs of Joy & Peace*, alongside other guests as diverse as James Taylor and Dave Brubeck. Both recordings won Grammy awards. Sérgio Assad was also nominated for two Latin Classical Grammys as a composer for his works *Interchange* and *Maraeaipe*.

In 2015, Sérgio and Odair celebrated their 50th anniversary as a duo. Their first ever performance together was in the fall of 1965 on a Brazilian television show called *Boussaude*. The celebration included a 27-city tour in Brazil followed by ten more in North America, highlighted at the 92nd Street Y in New York. The Guitar Foundation of America awarded the brothers with its Lifetime Achievement Award in June 2015.

UPCOMING EASTMAN PRESENTS CONCERTS

Tickets for all series concerts can be purchased at EastmanTheatre.org

EASTMAN PRESENTS – KODAK HALL SERIES

Up in Concert

Friday, February 13, 2026 at 7:30 PM

Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre

The unforgettable animated classic *Up* returns to the big screen with Michael Giacchino's Oscar- and Grammy award-winning score performed live to picture! Follow the unlikely duo of a curmudgeonly 78-year-old balloon salesman and his 8-year-old stowaway on this hilarious, heartwarming journey to a lost world filled with danger and surprises.

BLACK STUDENTS UNION AT EASTMAN PRESENTS

Black History Month Recital

Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 7:30 PM

Kilbourn Hall

*Free, tickets not required

Friends of Eastman Opera Competition

Friday, February 20, 2026 at 6:30 PM

Cominsky Promenade

*Free, tickets not required

FACULTY ARTIST SERIES

Bob Sneider, jazz guitar

Sunday, February 22, 2026 at 3:30 PM

Hatch Recital Hall

FACULTY ARTIST SERIES

YooJin Jang, violin & Alexander Kobrin, piano

Tuesday, February 24, 2026 at 7:30 PM

Kilbourn Hall

UPCOMING EASTMAN ENSEMBLE CONCERTS

All student performances are free unless otherwise noted.

OSSIA

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at 7:30 PM
Kilbourn Hall

Composers Concert

Thursday, February 12, 2026 at 7:30 PM
Kilbourn Hall

RAY CONNIFF JAZZ ENSEMBLE SERIES

Eastman New Jazz Orchestra

Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 7:30 PM
Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre

RAY CONNIFF JAZZ ENSEMBLE SERIES

Eastman Jazz Orchestra

Thursday, February 19, 2026 at 7:30 PM
Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre

Musica Nova

Friday, February 20, 2026 at 7:30 PM
Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre

We acknowledge with respect the Seneca Nation, known as the “Great Hill People” and “Keepers of the Western Door” of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy. We take this opportunity to thank the people whose ancestral lands the Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester currently occupies in Rochester, New York.



For the most up to date information on Eastman concerts and events, scan this code to visit our online calendar.



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