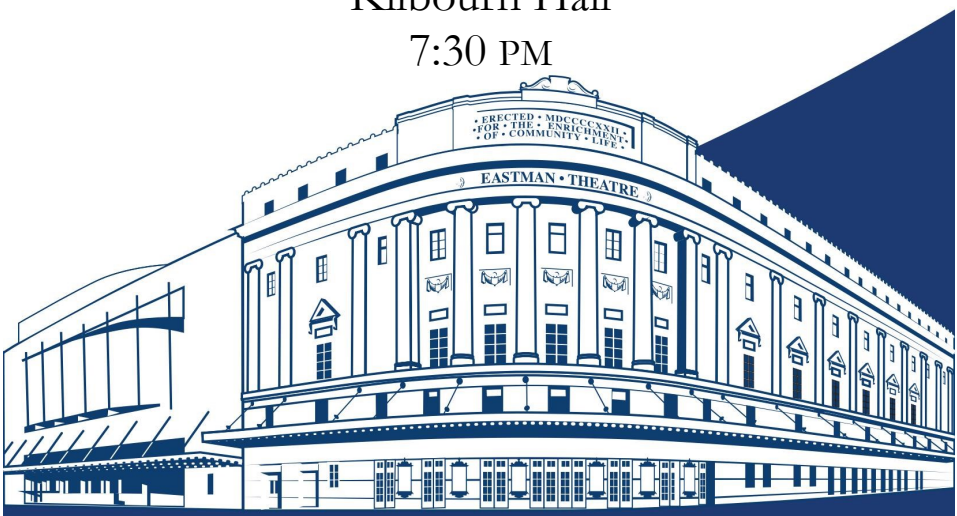
OSSIA new music

Presents

MELTDOWN

Tuesday, February 20, 2024
Kilbourn Hall
7:30 PM



EASTMAN
SCHOOL OF MUSIC
UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER

PROGRAM

Aruah (2022) — Saad Haddad (b. 1992)

Floris Van der Veken, conductor
Myles Meader, flute
Maeve Gillen, bassoon
Colin Crake, alto saxophone
Daniel Adamczyk, trumpet
Daniel Davis, percussion
Artur Korotin, violin
Catalina Wooldridge, cello
Molly Mink, double bass

The Night the Priest Killed Eleanor (2023) — Anak Baiharn

Zach Griffin, conductor
Guo Wu, soprano
Floris Van der Veken, saxophone
Isaac Romagosa, electric guitar
Joëlla Becker, cello
Aiden Hughes, percussion
Tucker Johnson, electronics

Incantation (2007) — Rodney Sharman (b. 1958)

Andrew Kim, conductor
Noah Eastman, solo bassoon
Hannah Kim & Erica Lin, violin
Keon Sagara, viola
Alfred Western, cello
Sunshine Quan, harp

INTERMISSION

PROGRAM

meltDown Upshot (2013) — Marcos Balter (b. 1974)

Credo
Parallel Spaces
Ready
True/False
Home
Cherubim
Rapture

Luca Pevaroni, conductor
Lily Bogas, Guo Wu, Dorothy Nie, soprano
Floris Van der Veken, alto saxophone
Jenelle Williams, horn
David Sicheng Huang, piano
Sunshine Quan, harp
Isaac Crouse & Isaac Romagosa, electric guitar
Gavin Rice, mandolin
Ciara McGuire, violin
Matthew Wiest, cello
Danica Rebudiao, double bass
Julian Stuart-Burns, electric bass
Kai Gray, percussion

PROGRAM NOTES

Aruah (2022) Saad Haddad

Aruah, or "souls" in Arabic, is an exploration of breath and its repeated gestures of inhalation and exhalation that inevitably lead to its final iteration before becoming a "spirit." The title of the work suggests a programmatic and narrative element, which guided me throughout its composition. The impact of the 2020 pandemic and its aftermath that we are living in has much to do with the conception of this work. *Aruah* opens with a melody played in quasi-unison across the octet, which transforms into a series of chords that embody these breaths. These held chords eventually break out into a music that flows in a seemingly perpetual motion, with repeated gestures overlapping each other all throughout the ensemble, signifying the sheer volume of breath that encompasses even as few as eight people on stage. At times, literal inhalation and exhalation sounds make up the sound profile, most poignantly in the middle of the work, where the winds literally breathe in the background while the strings take up the harmonic material. The language itself is my most overt mixture thus far between the microtonally inflected maqamat, or Arab modes, just intonation, and the triadic-based harmonies employed by the late twentieth-century minimalists.

This work was written for the International Contemporary Ensemble as part of Columbia Composers' 2022 season. The World Premiere was given by the International Contemporary Ensemble at The DiMenna Center for Classical Music, New York, NY on April 16, 2022.

The Night the Priest Killed Eleanor (2023) Anak Baiharn

Winner of the 2023 OSSIA International Call for Works

The Night the Priest Killed Eleanor is a fan fiction based on the song *Eleanor Rigby* by The Beatles. This piece exhibits a plot where it is assumed that the priest was the one who killed Eleanor and buried her in the church.

The work contains excerpts from Psalm 121, Anglican Chant (Philip Stopford) and textual fragments from La fille aux cheveux de lin (Charles-Marie René Leconte de Lisle).

PROGRAM NOTES

Incantation (2007) Rodney Sharman

Incantation (2007) expresses the soulful nature of the bassoon using frequent glisses and large tonal leaps. In the composer's words: "The piece consists of chants and refrains, almost every note in the quartet and harp part is doubled at the twelfth, an overtone of the harmonic series. The bassoonist is sometimes asked to create a tone rich in harmonics, imitating the sound of Buddhist Tibetan Chant, creating a rich, enveloping sound, enhanced by the quartet and harp parts." Incantation was commissioned by bassoonist Kathleen McLean, to whom it is dedicated. First performance of the piece was given April 11, 2008 by Ms. McLean, Erica Goodman and the Accordes String Quartet at Glenn Gould Studio, Toronto, Ontario.

meltDown Upshot (2013) Marcos Balter

The notated material should be seen as the basis of the piece, the elements that must be present. In addition to it, musicians (with the exception of singers) should interject (with moderation) improvised musical gestures (solos) and/or slight alterations to the notated music and timbre (i.e. trills, slight swinging figures, tremolos/flutter, etc.) in the fashion of popular music performances.

Commissioned by the Kaufman Center and the Ecstatic Music Festival. Dedicated to Ensemble Dal Niente and members of Deerhof.

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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.

UPCOMING EASTMAN SERIES CONCERTS

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

KILBOURN CONCERT SERIES

Lady Blackbird

Kilbourn Hall
Thursday, February 22, 2024 at 7:30 PM

Introducing Lady Blackbird - a bold, effervescent West Coast-based vocalist who has burst onto the jazz scene, harnessing the energy of Billie Holiday and Chaka Khan to create her unique style.

KILBOURN CONCERT SERIES

Steven Isserlis, cello and Connie Shih, piano

Kilbourn Hall
Sunday, February 25, 2024 at 3:00 PM

Acclaimed worldwide for his profound musicianship and technical mastery, British cellist Steven Isserlis enjoys a unique and distinguished career as a soloist, chamber musician, educator, author and broadcaster. As a concerto soloist, he appears regularly with the world's leading orchestras and conductors, including the Berlin Philharmonic, National Symphony Orchestra Washington, London Philharmonic and Zurich Tonhalle orchestras.

UPCOMING STUDENT ENSEMBLE CONCERTS

All student performances are free unless otherwise noted.

Eastman New Jazz Ensemble

Kilbourn Hall
Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at 7:30 PM

Eastman Wind Orchestra

Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre
Friday, February 23, 2024 at 7:30 PM

Music of Husa, Yurko, McCune, Stucky, and Sierra

Eastman Wind Ensemble

Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre
Monday, February 26, 2024 at 7:30 PM

Music of Bach, Daugherty, and Simon



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



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