

TUBA MIRUM

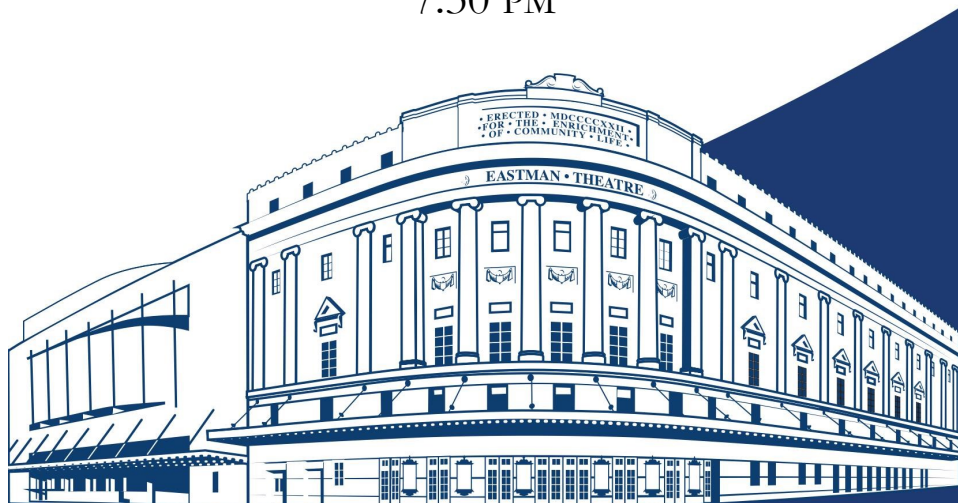
DR. JUSTIN BENAVIDEZ, DIRECTOR

ETHAN MILLINGTON, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Kilbourn Hall

7:30 PM



EASTMAN
SCHOOL OF MUSIC
UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER

PROGRAM

Axis (2013)

Kevin McKenzie
(b. 1993)

Salvation is Created

Pavel Chesnokov
(1877-1944)
arr. Lisa Golas

Ramen Noodles (2011)

Salt
Miso
Ton-Kotsu
Soy Sauce

Satoshi Yagisawa
(b. 1975)

Ignition (2019)

Kevin Day
(b. 1996)

Angle East (2012)

Zach Collins
(b. 1981)

Black Armored Wings (2006)

Michael Nickens
(b. 1976)

Down in the River to Pray

Traditional
arr. David Gluck

PERSONNEL

EASTMAN TUBA MIRUM

Dr. Justin Benavidez, director
Ethan Millington, assistant director

Euphonium

Jack Altenbach
Darren Brady
Kathryn Carley
Jacob Ellgass
Emma Goldberg
Will Hurtz
Nathanael Kumar
Benjamin Small

Tuba

Josh Budziak
Bec Caldwell
Zoe Jones
Matthew Langrell
Steph Magera
Kalin Mark
Ethan Millington
Angel Paz
Andrew Sieradzki
Logan Wadley
Nicholas Weir
Jack Whalen

PROGRAM NOTES

Axis (2013)

Kevin McKenzie

Axis deals with 2 themes that were inspired by the music of Dmitri Shostakovich and their interaction with each other while new thematic motifs are added throughout. This piece was written for the University of Memphis Tuba Ensemble's second CD entitled *Axis*, under the direction of Kevin Sanders. First premiered at the Tennessee's Music Educator Conference in 2014, this work was also performed at the International Tuba and Euphonium Conference that same year.

— *Kevin McKenzie*

Salvation is Created

Pavel Chesnokov

Salvation is Created is composed by Pavel Chesnokov, who belongs to a late-Romantic group of Russian “spiritualist” composers that included Bortniansky and Gretchaninoff. During his career, Chesnokov wrote a choral conducting text and produced more than 500 choral works. The choral nature of this work is as resplendent as the transcription is classic. It is a communion hymn based on a chant from Kiev and Psalm 74: “Salvation is made in the midst of the earth, O God. Alleluia.”

Ramen Noodles (2011)

Satoshi Yagisawa

As I travel more frequently outside of Japan, I now realize that Japanese ramen noodles are very popular the world over. While I love ramen, there are also many euphonium and tuba playing ramen lovers. Everywhere I go, no matter where on earth, we hit it right off with ramen talk, and I have been urged to write this piece about it.

— *Satoshi Yagisawa*

PROGRAM NOTES

Ignition (2019)

Kevin Day

Ignition was commissioned by Dr. James Jackson III for The Hartt School Tuba-Euphonium Ensemble at the University of Hartford, Connecticut. The piece is a fast, energetic, and high-octane composition that features the more technical and virtuosic side of low brass playing, while also having contrasting lyrical sections. The piece depicts the ignition of a race car on its journey to win a race and the obstacles that it must maneuver around in order to be victorious.

Angle East (2012)

Zach Collins

Zach Collins, composer of *Angle East* and Professor of Tuba and Euphonium at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, shares, “While I don’t consider myself a composer, I do think that developing the ability to arrange and compose has given me a skill that is invaluable in my position as a university professor. I can write music that is adapted to the specific ability levels of my students, challenges them where they are, and is hopefully fun to play. In 2012, I composed an eight-part ensemble, *Angle East*, for my students. The title to this driving piece doesn’t actually mean anything. It was inspired by a conversation I had with the students who gave the first performance of the piece. The next time you see me or one of those students, ask us and we’d be happy to tell you the story.”

PROGRAM NOTES

Black Armored Wings (2006)

Michael Nickens

Black Armored Wings was composed by Michael Nickens for a group of friends and fellow students at the University of Michigan. It was premiered at the 2006 International Tuba and Euphonium Conference as part of that ensemble's winning performance in the ITEC Quartet Competition. The composition includes influences of rock and funk music while including improvisatory sections in each part and a driving conclusion.

Down in the River to Pray

Traditional

Down in the River to Pray is a traditional American song variously described as a Christian folk hymn, an African-American spiritual, and a Southern gospel song, although the exact origin of the song is unknown. David Gluck, the arranger of this version for tuba-euphonium ensemble, writes:

“For many of us, the beautiful, simple, African American spiritual *Down in the River* reemerged in 2000 when it was featured in the soundtrack of the Coen Brothers’ film, *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* It was this version, sung so eloquently and soulfully by Alison Krauss, that inspired me to do this arrangement for Charles Villarrubia. My concept was to have the low brass imitate the subtle ‘ebb and flow’ and vocal phrasing of an acapella choir singing in a traditional, spiritual setting.”

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

EASTMAN PIANO SERIES

Joyce Yang

Kilbourn Hall

Thursday, March 21, 2024 at 7:30 PM

Blessed with “poetic and sensitive pianism” (Washington Post), pianist Joyce Yang captivates audiences with her virtuosity, lyricism and interpretive sensitivity. As a Van Cliburn International Piano Competition silver medalist and Avery Fisher Career Grant recipient, Yang will showcase her colorful musical personality in works of Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff, Bach, Aaron Kernis, and Stravinsky.

FACULTY ARTIST SERIES

Carlos Sanchez-Gutierrez & Robert Morris, composers

Hatch Recital Hall

Thursday, March 28, 2024 at 7:30 PM

UPCOMING STUDENT ENSEMBLE CONCERTS

All student performances are free unless otherwise noted.

Trombone Choir

Kilbourn Hall

Wednesday, March 20, 2024 at 7:30 PM

Musica Nova

Kilbourn Hall

Friday, March 22, 2024 at 7:30 PM

Music of Takemitsu, Pesca, and Rands

Frühling Posaunen

Kilbourn Hall

Sunday, March 24, 2024 at 3:30 PM



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