

EASTMAN RANLET SERIES

YING QUARTET

WITH XAVIER FOLEY,
DOUBLE BASS

Thursday, April 18, 2024
Kilbourn Hall
7:30 PM



EASTMAN
SCHOOL OF MUSIC
UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER

PROGRAM

**String Quartet No. 44 in B-flat Major,
Op. 50, No. 1**

Franz Joseph Haydn
(1732-1809)

Allegro
Adagio non lento
Minuet. Poco allegretto—Trio
Finale. Vivace

Mayflower (2024)

Xavier Foley
(b. 1994)

Departure
Silent Sea
Settlement

New York Premiere

INTERMISSION

String Quintet No. 2 in G Major, Op. 77

Antonín Dvořák
(1841-1904)

Allegro con fuoco
Scherzo. Allegro vivace
Poco andante
Finale. Allegro assai

YING QUARTET

Robin Scott, violin
Janet Ying, violin
Phillip Ying, viola
David Ying, cello

Xavier Foley, double bass

Xavier Foley appears by arrangement with Young Concert Artists, Inc.

www.yca.org

MEET THE ARTISTS

The GRAMMY Award-winning **Ying Quartet** occupies a position of unique prominence in the classical music world, combining brilliantly communicative performances with a fearlessly imaginative view of chamber music in today's world. Now in its third decade, the Quartet has established itself as an ensemble of the highest musical qualifications. The Quartet's performances regularly take place in many of the world's most important concert halls; at the same time, the Ying's belief that concert music can also be a meaningful part of everyday life has drawn the foursome to perform in settings as diverse as the workplace, schools, juvenile prisons, and the White House.



The Ying Quartet first came to professional prominence in the early 1990s as the first recipient of an NEA Rural Residence Grant which led to it serving as the resident quartet of Jesup, Iowa, a farm town of 2,000 people. Playing before audiences of six to six hundred in homes, schools, churches, and banks, the Quartet had its first opportunities to use music and creative endeavor to help build community and authentic human connection. The Quartet considers its time in Jesup the foundation of its present musical life and goals.

The Quartet's 2023-24 season features performances for Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, Chamber Music Society of Logan, Music Toronto, and Chamber Music Albuquerque. In Spring 2024, the Ying Quartet teams up with bassist and composer Xavier Foley for a collaboration built around their shared passion for Dvořák and the progressive approach that he demonstrated through his life and music.

The Ying's ongoing *LifeMusic* commissioning project, created in response to its commitment to expanding the rich string quartet repertoire, has already achieved an impressive history. Supported by the Institute for American Music, the Ying Quartet commissions both established and emerging composers to create music that reflects contemporary American life.

MEET THE ARTISTS

Recent works include Billy Childs' *Awakening*; Lera Auerbach's *Sylvia's Diary*; Lowell Liebermann's *String Quartet No. 3, To the Victims of War*; Sebastian Currier's *Next Atlantis*; and John Novacek's *Three Rags for String Quartet*. In August 2016, the Ying Quartet released a new Schumann/Beethoven recording on Sono Luminus with renowned cellist Zuill Bailey. In that season, the five toured with the Schumann *Cello Concerto* transcribed for cello and string quartet along with Beethoven's "*Kreutzer Sonata*," also reimagined for cello quintet.

The Ying Quartet's numerous other recordings reflect many of the group's wide-ranging musical interests and have generated consistent, enthusiastic acclaim. The group's CD "American Anthem" (Sono Luminus), heralding the music of Randall Thompson, Samuel Barber, and Howard Hanson, was released in 2013 to rave reviews; its 2007 Telarc release of the three Tchaikovsky Quartets and the *Souvenir de Florence* (with James Dunham and Paul Katz) was nominated for a GRAMMY Award in the Best Chamber Music Performance category.

As longtime quartet-in-residence at the prestigious Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY, the Ying Quartet teaches in the string department and leads a rigorous, sequentially designed chamber music program. One cornerstone of chamber music activity at Eastman is the noted "Music for All" program, in which all students curate opportunities to perform in community settings beyond the concert hall. The Quartet is also the ensemble-in-residence at the Bowdoin International Music Festival, and from 2001-2008, the members of the Ying Quartet were the Blodgett Artists-in-Residence at Harvard University.

MEET THE ARTISTS

Xavier Foley is known for communicating his virtuosity and passion for music on the double bass, which is rarely presented as a solo instrument.



Xavier is a first prize winner of the 2016 YCA Susan Wadsworth International Auditions, winner of the 2014 Sphinx Competition, and a 2018 Recipient of the Avery Fisher Career Grant. He has performed recitals at Shriver Hall, Rockport Music, La Jolla Chamber Music Society, Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, National Gallery of Art, and the Harriman-Jewell Series. An avid chamber musician, he has appeared with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Marlboro Music Festival, Tippet Rise Music Festival, Bridgehampton Chamber Music Festival, and Skaneateles Festival.

As a composer, Xavier's *For Justice and Peace* was premiered by the Sphinx Organization at Carnegie Hall in October 2019, and co-commissioned by both organizations. It has since been performed by such orchestras as the Atlanta Symphony, New West Symphony, Oregon Symphony, and Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra. Xavier's bass concerto, *Soul Bass*, was commissioned and premiered by the Atlanta Symphony, with following performances with the Baltimore Symphony under their New Music Director, Jonathon Heyward and with the Kansas City Symphony under Michael Stern.

Upcoming and recent commissions for Xavier Foley include Santa Fe Pro Musica, The Cabrillo Festival in conjunction with the Mahler Foundation, the Sphinx Organization co-commissioned with Carnegie Hall and the New World Symphony, Chicago Symphony's MusicNOW (curated by Jessie Montgomery), and the Oregon Symphony, where he has been named Artist-in-Residence for the next three seasons.

During the 23-24 season Xavier will tour extensively throughout North America with the Sphinx Virtuosi playing his new concerto, *"Galaxy" Concertante*, for two double basses commissioned by Sphinx Virtuosi, New World Symphony, and Carnegie Hall, and will also make concerto appearances performing his own works with the Spartanburg

MEET THE ARTISTS

Philharmonic, San Luis Obispo Symphony, Chicago Sinfonietta, University of South Carolina Symphony, Kansas City Symphony, Northwest Sinfonietta, and Oregon Symphony. He will also tour with the Ying Quartet performing a new bass quintet and will appear in recital with Abbey Church Events, Alys Stephens Performing Arts Center @ the University of Alabama, Castleton Festival, Ashmont Hill Chamber Music, Schubert Club, Bowlus Fine Arts Center, and Calgary Pro Musica.

A native of Marietta, GA, Xavier is an alumnus of the Perlman Music Program, and earned his Bachelor of Music from the Curtis Institute of Music working with Edgar Meyer and Hal Robinson. His double bass was crafted by Rumano Solano.

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

BARBARA B. SMITH WORLD MUSIC SERIES

Oumou Sangaré

Kilbourn Hall

Friday, April 19, 2024 at 7:30 PM

Global superstar, Oumou Sangaré, fuses her distinctive Malian sound and voice with elements of blues, folk and rock resulting in a timeless body of work free from borders and genres. Sangaré's vocals soar above driving grooves and inescapably danceable rhythms for a show that is sure to have you on your feet!

BARBARA B. SMITH WORLD MUSIC SERIES

Gamelan

Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre

Monday, April 29, 2024 at 7:30 PM

Gamelan at Eastman, as in Bali, is a communal effort. Members include Eastman students, faculty, and staff, as well as many members of the Rochester community. The music is learned through the oral/aural tradition without the use of notation, and therefore requires the players to work together closely for long periods of time. The result is a sense of group unity and pride as the audience hears the music and witnesses the collective efforts of the ensemble.

*This concert does not require tickets and is free to attend.

UPCOMING STUDENT ENSEMBLE CONCERTS

All student performances are free unless otherwise noted.

Eastman Wind Orchestra

Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre

Monday, April 15, 2024 at 7:30 PM

Music of Hailstork, Grant Still, Maslanka, and Gould

OSSIA

Hatch Recital Hall

Tuesday, April 16, 2024 at 7:30 PM



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



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