

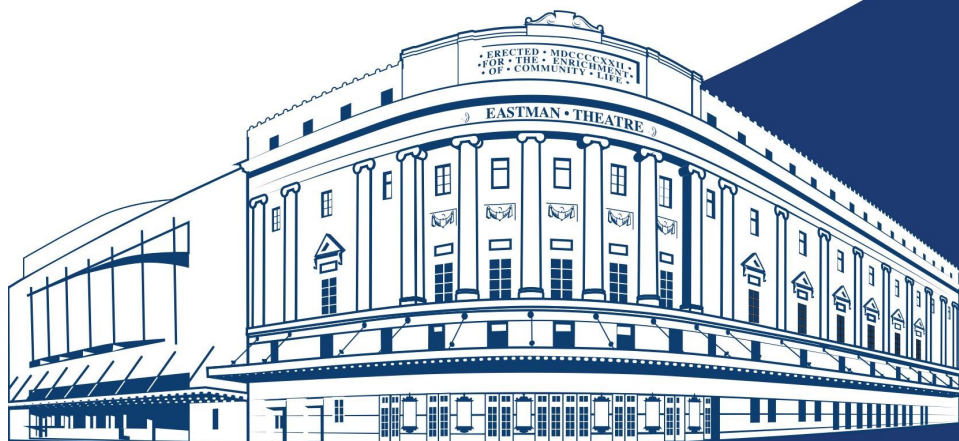
FACULTY ARTIST SERIES

**THE LOMAZOV/
RACKERS PIANO
DUO**

Sunday, September 8, 2024

Kilbourn Hall

3:30 PM



EASTMAN
SCHOOL OF MUSIC
UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER

PROGRAM

Sonata in D Major, K. 381

Allegro

Andante

Allegro molto

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

(1756-1791)

Lomazov/Rackers Piano Duo

Prelude and Fugue in E Major, BWV 878

Johann Sebastian Bach

(1685-1750)

Joseph Rackers, piano

Études-Tableaux, Op. 39

IX. Allegro moderato. Tempo di marcia

Sergei Rachmaninoff

(1873-1943)

Marina Lomazov, piano

Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2, S. 244/2

Franz Liszt

(1811-1886)

Lomazov/Rackers Piano Duo

INTERMISSION

The Rite of Spring

Igor Stravinsky

Part I: Adoration of the Earth

(1882-1971)

Introduction

The Augurs of Spring (Dances of the Young Girls)

Ritual of Abductions

Spring Rounds (Round Dance)

Ritual of the Two Rival Tribes

Procession of the Oldest and Wisest One (The Sage)

The Kiss of the Earth (Adoration of the Earth, or the Wise Elder)

The Dancing Out of the Earth

Part II: The Sacrifice

Introduction

Mystic Circle of the Young Girls

The Naming and Honoring of the Chosen One

Evocation of the Ancestors (Ancestral Spirits)

Ritual Action of the Ancestors

Sacrificial Dance (The Chosen One)

MEET THE ARTISTS

Praised by critics as “a diva of the piano” (The Salt Lake City Tribune), “a mesmerizing risk-taker” (The Plain Dealer, Cleveland), and “simply spectacular” (Chicago International Music Foundation) Ukrainian-American pianist **Marina Lomazov** has established herself as one of the most passionate and charismatic performers on the concert scene today. Following major wins in the Cleveland International Piano Competition, William Kapell International Piano Competition, Gina Bachauer International Piano Competition, and Hilton Head International Piano Competition, Ms. Lomazov has given major debuts in New York (Weill-Carnegie Hall) Boston (Symphony Hall), Chicago (Dame Myra Hess Concert Series), Los Angeles (Museum of Art), Shanghai (City Theater) and Kiev (Kiev International Music Festival).

She has performed as soloist with the Boston Pops, Rochester Philharmonic, Eastman Philharmonia, Chernigov Philharmonic (Ukraine), KUG Orchester Graz (Austria), Bollington Festival Orchestra (England), Piccolo Spoleto Festival Orchestra, Brevard Festival Orchestra and South Carolina Philharmonic, to name a few. New York Times chief music critic Anthony Tommasini describes a recent New York performance as “dazzling” and Talk Magazine Shanghai describes her performances as “a dramatic blend of boldness and wit”.

In recent seasons, Lomazov has performed extensively in China, South Africa, Italy, Spain, and in the United States. She is a frequent guest at music festivals in the U.S. and abroad, including Hamamatsu, Chautauqua, Brevard, Miami, Perugia (Italy), Burgos (Spain), Sulzbach-Rosenberg (Germany) and Varna (Bulgaria), among others. She has recorded for the Albany, Centaur and Innova labels and American Record Guide praised her recent recording of piano works by Rodion Shchedrin for its “breathtaking virtuosity”.

Before immigrating to the United States in 1990, Marina studied at the Kiev Conservatory where she became the youngest First Prize Winner at the all-Kiev Piano Competition. Ms. Lomazov holds degrees from the Juilliard School and the Eastman School of Music, the latter bestowing upon her the highly coveted Artist’s Certificate – an honor the institution had not given a pianist for nearly two decades.

Her primary teachers were Leonid Fundiler and Valery Sagaidachny in Ukraine, Barry Snyder, Jerome Lowenthal, and Natalya Antonova in the

MEET THE ARTISTS

United States. Also active as a chamber musician, Lomazov has performed widely as a member of the Lomazov/Rackers Piano Duo. Praised for “demon precision and complete dedication” (Audio Society), the duo garnered significant attention as Second Prize winners at the Sixth Biennial Ellis Competition for Duo Pianists (2005), the only national duo piano competition in the United States at that time.

Ms. Lomazov is a Professor of Piano at the Eastman School of Music. She has served as jury member for the Cleveland International Piano Competition, Hilton Head International Piano Competition, Eastman International Piano Competition, Minnesota International Piano e-Competition, National Federation Biennial Young Artist Auditions and was the longest serving chair of the National Panel for YoungArts, the only organization in the United States that nominates Presidential Scholars in the Arts. For 17 years she served on the faculty of the University of South Carolina School of Music, where she held the chair of Ira McKissick Koger Professor of Piano. Together with her husband and piano duo partner Joseph Rackers, she co-founded and served as Artistic Director of the Southeastern Piano Festival in Columbia, SC for 20 years, and they now serve as Artistic Directors of the Vivace Music Foundation.

Ms. Lomazov is a Steinway Artist.

MEET THE ARTISTS

Hailed as an “American Virtuoso” (Audiophile Audition), “enormous power and intelligent, instinctive interpretation” (Spoleto Today), and “simply dazzling” (The State), pianist **Joseph Rackers** has performed for enthusiastic audiences in New York, Boston, Chicago, Kiev, Los Angeles, Las Vegas, Paris, Rome, Shanghai, Seoul and Washington D.C., at venues across Canada, China, France, Germany, Italy, South Korea, Spain, Bulgaria, Ukraine and extensively throughout the United States. His performances around the world include the Shanghai and Sichuan Conservatories of Music, Kiev International Music Festival, Gina Bachauer International Piano Festival, Seoul International Piano Festival, Seattle Chamber Music Society, Dame Myra Hess Concert Series and Banff Centre for the Arts, in addition to recitals in most of the fifty states in the U.S. *Gramophone* writes, “the results are consistently compelling...as if Rackers response were primarily to his relationship with the composer as some sort of of kindred spirit”.

Joseph Rackers is an International Steinway Artist. His recordings as soloist, collaborative pianist and producer are available on MSR Classics, Navona, Centaur, Equilibrium, Beauport Classics and Steinway Spirio and his performances have been broadcast on radio and television across the United States and Europe. His recent solo release with MSR Classics was widely recognized by the press; “unflappable virtuosity...highly expressive...committed to letting the composer’s voice—as he hears it—come through” (American Record Guide), “compelling power, rhythmic persuasiveness...consummate style...complete mastery” (Audio Society).

Rackers is Professor of Piano at the Eastman School of Music, Co-Founder of the Southeastern Piano Festival and Artistic Director of the Vivace Music Foundation. A devoted teacher, Rackers’ students have earned awards in dozens of national and international piano competitions, including the Bonn Beethoven International Piano Competition (First Prize, Audience Prize, Contemporary Music Prize, Chamber Music Prize and Bärenreiter-Urtext Prize), Leipzig Bach International Piano Competition, Concours International de Piano d’Orléans, National Winner of the MTNA National Competition, Minnesota International, Seattle International, Yamaha Young Performing Artists, National Society of Arts and Letters, Steinway, Shenzhen, YoungArts, Eastman Concerto Competition, Blount-Slawson, Liszt-Garrison, Dubois, and numerous others. His students have performed for venues including Carnegie Hall, Merkin Hall, Symphony Space and the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Minnesota Orchestra, Aspen and Cliburn music festivals, From the Top on NPR and Kodak Hall at the Eastman Theater.

MEET THE ARTISTS

Rackers has given performances and masterclasses at Indiana University, University of Michigan, Boston University, Cincinnati, UCLA, UNLV, Vanderbilt, and at conservatories and music festivals across Europe and Asia. He has recently served as Schwartz Artist in Residence at Emory University and as faculty or guest artist at the Amalfi Coast Music and Arts Festival, Atlantic Music Festival, Chicago International Music Institute, Seoul International Piano Festival, Perugia International Music Festival, Southeastern Piano Festival, Texas State International Piano Festival, American Liszt Society Festival, Yantai International Music Festival, Varna International Piano Festival and as a National Reviewer for the National YoungArts Foundation. He has given presentations and performances for conferences of the Music Teachers National Association and College Music Society and has been honored by the South Carolina House of Representatives and South Carolina State Senate for his personal contribution to the arts and leadership of the Southeastern Piano Festival.

Also active as a chamber musician, Rackers has performed widely as a member of the Lomazov/Rackers Piano Duo. Praised for “demon precision and complete dedication” (Audio Society), the duo garnered significant attention as the Second Prize Winners of the Sixth Ellis Competition for Duo Pianists, the only national duo piano competition in the United States at that time. Gramophone praises the duo for “assured and centered pianism” and American Record Guide writes “the ensemble between Lomazov and Rackers is dead-on”. Rackers earned the Doctor of Musical Arts and Master of Music degrees at the Eastman School of Music, where he was also awarded the Performer’s Certificate. His principal teachers were Raymond Herbert and Natalya Antonova. For more information, please visit www.josephrackers.com.

UPCOMING EASTMAN SERIES CONCERTS

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

FACULTY ARTIST SERIES

Joshua Conyers, baritone & Chelsea Whitaker, piano

Kilbourn Hall

Monday, September 9, 2024 at 7:30 PM

ROCHESTER FRINGE FESTIVAL

Dave Rivello Ensemble

Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre

Tuesday, September 10, 2024 at 7:00 PM

KILBOURN CONCERT SERIES

William Prince

Kilbourn Hall

Friday, September 13, 2024 at 7:30 PM

UPCOMING STUDENT ENSEMBLE CONCERTS

All student performances are free unless otherwise noted.

9/11 Remembrance Concert – Horn Choir

Kilbourn Hall

Wednesday, September 11, 2024 at 11:30 AM

Eastman Wind Ensemble

Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre

Monday, September 16, 2024 at 7:30 PM

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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