

**9/11 COMMEMORATION
AND REMEMBRANCE CONCERT**

Eastman Horn Choir

W. Peter Kurau, director

*Friday, September 11, 2026
Kilbourn Hall
11:30 AM*

PROGRAM

Elegia for Natural Horn (1984) Hermann Baumann
(1934-2023)

Aidan Christensen, natural horn

GREETINGS

W. Peter Kurau, Professor of Horn

Mitten wir im Leben sind
("Though in the midst of life we be") Felix Mendelssohn
from *Kirchenmusik, Op. 23* (1809-1847)
arr. Verne Reynolds

REFLECTIONS

Dr. Jonathan Baldo, Professor Emeritus of Humanities

Symphony No. 3 in E-flat Major, Op. 97 Robert Schumann
IV. Feierlich ("Solemn") (1810-1856)
arr. Christopher Jones

REFLECTIONS

Genyen George Taylor, Professor of Viola

Qualia Memoriam (2026)

J.G. Miller

MSG J.G. Miller, SSG Morgan Chalmers, Col. Ted Price, solo horns
Logan Wadley, tuba

*Composed for the City of Rochester's
25th Memorial of 9/11 at the Eastman School of Music*

World Premiere

REFLECTIONS

Kate Sheeran, Joan and Martin Messinger Dean

VIDEO MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH

Wo ist ein so herrlich Volk Johannes Brahms
("Where is there such a great nation") (1833-1897)
from *Fest-und Gedenksprüche, Op. 109* arr. Verne Reynolds

America the Beautiful Samuel Ward
(1848-1903)
arr. Jeff Tyzik
trans. MSG J.G. Miller

MSG J.G. Miller, guest conductor

EASTMAN HORN CHOIR

Jackson Cadengo, Aidan Christensen, Sarah Chou, Seth Corlew,
Lilah Costanzo, Nick Culver, Maggie Eidel, Andrew Foster,
Alex Gagne, Kasey Gibbons, Nicholas Grey, Emily Groenenboom,
Evelyn Hupka, Hyejin Suzie Lee, Aidan Koch, Rowan Oakes Harada,
Allen Reddick, Annie Rizzo, Aliza Small, Diego Solis,
Delaney Sutherland, Thomas Throckmorton, Graham Ulery,
Nathan Wakefield, John Wellmann, Miles Woods



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

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.

PROGRAM NOTES

Qualia Memoriam (2026)

J.G. Miller

The title reflects on three solo voices, all who experienced the tragedy in different ways; one who was already serving would soon deploy later to combat, another who was in high school not knowing what would come of the world, and a third who only has memories through hearing the story from others – having never truly experienced it firsthand.

Two of the solo voices begin the work, with their own intertwining thoughts as the third joins a choir of nostalgia, followed by an unravelling, and a return to the trio together signaling hope through their own service, ultimately leaving only the third voice to carry onwards. The piece was influenced by the musical selections of the last 24 years of 9/11 memorials, including Mahler, Copland, Randall Thompson, and popular folk tunes.

The idea of “qualia” has been discussed throughout philosophy, arising first in concept by John Locke and René Descartes, though not expressly named until 1866 by C.S. Peirce. Within the scope of this work, it is interpreted as “a qualitative experience that cannot be adequately expressed through a simple hearing of a story.” It is the involvement of others in the choir, through a section of multiple short cadenzas, that keeps the essence of the memoriam. This personal contribution allows both audience and performers to reflect on how the world changes before, during, and after their lives.

An appropriate adage, adapted over millennia in pedagogy, is

*“Tell me and I forget,
Teach me and I remember,
Involve me and I learn.”*

— J.G. Miller

MEET THE ARTISTS

Originally from Southern California, Colonel **Ted Price** (97E BM/PC) has proudly served in the United States Army over 27 years. After briefly serving as a cryptologic linguist, COL Price was commissioned through the Reserve Officer Training Corps at Cornell University. He currently serves dual-hatted as a Brigade Commander of a globally dispersed Joint organization and as an Office Chief within a Combat Support Agency in Washington D.C. He is responsible for enterprise-level implementation and management of tailored programs built to enable Department of War sensitive activities worldwide.



Over a distinguished military career, COL Price has served in a variety of operational, staff, and leadership positions at tactical, operational, and strategic levels. His awards and decorations include

the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, and Purple Heart; Ranger Tab, Airborne, Air Assault and Master Combat Infantryman Badges; and the COL Thomas Knowlton Award.

He has served three combat tours in the Middle East and Central Asia, with operational tours in Europe and East Asia. COL Price is a graduate of the Army and Navy War Colleges, Binghamton University, and the Eastman School of Music, receiving the Performers Certificate. He studied Horn with Peter Kurau, Verne Reynolds, David Krehbiel, and Jim Decker.

Master Sergeant **J.G. Miller** (06E BM/PC), a Colorado native, is the Horn Section Leader with The U.S. Army Field Band. He holds a Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of Southern California, with additional degrees from the University of Arizona and the Eastman School of Music.



Prior to his service, he performed with The Who, Mariachi Sol de México, various orchestras, and on numerous Los Angeles studio soundtracks. With The U.S. Army Field Band, he performs national and global free concert tours connecting with the public and honoring veterans, notably on the GRAMMY®-winning album, *Soundtrack of the American Soldier*.

An active educator and craftsman, MSG Miller taught at high school and collegiate levels, serves as Chair of the Board for Cormont Music (formerly Kendall Betts Horn Camp), was elected as the first Military Liaison to the International Horn Society, and won his current position a horn he built while working at Lawson Horns. He is also the co-founder of Veritas Musica Publishing with works performed from elementary schools to the halls of the National Security Agency.

He keeps his life grounded thanks to his spouse, three children, and three pets. Hobbies include motorcycling, painting, philosophy, tabletop strategy games, eSports, national parks, and the St. Louis Cardinals.

His teachers include Peter Kurau, James Thatcher, Daniel Katzen, and Kendall Betts.

Originally from Clarence, New York, Staff Sergeant **Morgan Chalmers** (25E BM) holds a Bachelor of Music degree from The Eastman School of Music. Prior to joining The United States Army Field Band in 2025, she performed with ensembles including the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, Binghamton Philharmonic Orchestra, and The Syracuse Orchestra. Staff Sgt. Chalmers is currently a member of The U.S. Army Field Band Woodwind Quintet, performing educational concerts nationwide to engage students and promote the Army's mission through music.

