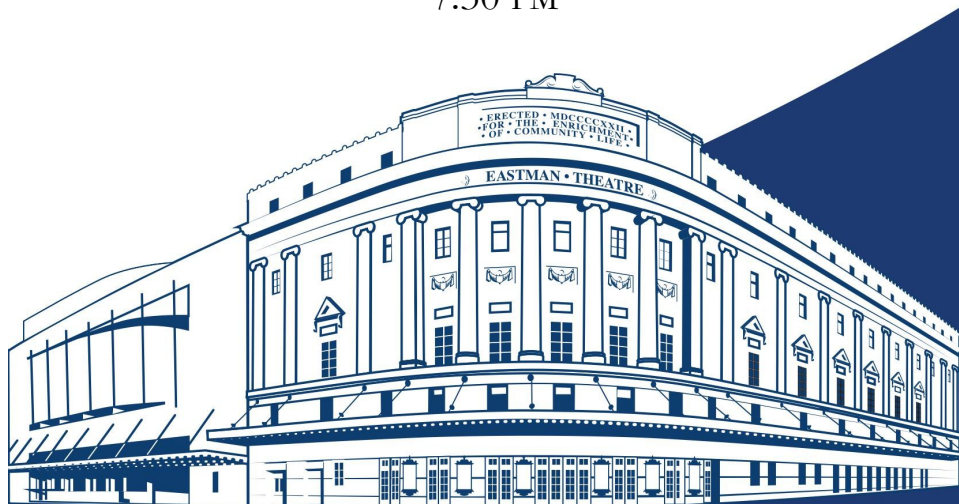


COMPOSERS CONCERT

Tuesday, September 16, 2025
Hatch Recital Hall
7:30 PM



EASTMAN
SCHOOL OF MUSIC
UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER

PROGRAM

Haikus (2025)

Sascha Burhop
(b. 2007)

Evangeline Silker and Daphne Huerta, viola

Fragments of Rain I & II (2025)

Matthew Lam
(b. 1999)

Leo Choi, piano

Air on the G String (2025)

Nattakon Lertwattanaruk
(b. 2006)

Irene Huang, violin
Oooju Robinson, cello
Adam Kolers, bass clarinet
Ty Taya Promreuk, piano
Peiwen Zou, conductor

PROGRAM NOTES

Haikus (2025)

Sascha Burhop

Haikus, a duet for two violas, is an exploration of musical form and the auditory personification of the natural world. Throughout the piece, musical haikus are passed back and forth between each viola, made up of 5/8 - 7/8 - 5/8 bar groupings that mirror the syllabic structure of the classic Japanese poetic form. Traditionally, haikus are created to capture a moment in time or appreciate an aspect of nature at a deeper level. Throughout this piece, different melodic lines intertwine to create rushing streams or the fluttering of birdsong that imitates the naturalistic style of the haiku.

PROGRAM NOTES

Fragments of Rain I & II (2025)

Matthew Lam

Water has long been one of composers' favorite themes, most notably: Debussy, Takemitsu, Nishimura, and Murail. Following their footsteps but attempting to breakthrough from them, this short piece aims to paint a sonic image of different levels of rain. With the piece hovering at a higher register most of the time, individual droplets are depicted by quick arpeggios, while blurry runnings paint an image of quick, intense rainfall. The pedalling blurs the palette of the piano, further enhancing the saturating sonic quality of the rain.

Air on the G String (2025)

Nattakon Lertwattanaruk

David Fincher's *Seven* (1995) is a spectacular film and certainly one of my favorites from his masterful oeuvre. However, in the second act, the film falls victim to the classic *Air on the G String* needle drop. Whether it is there simply as a cliché or a stroke of brilliant irony, I cannot help but be increasingly bothered by it upon each re-watch. I hope this piece serves as a way for me to output this confusion and come to terms with it. Here, *Air on the G String* is broken down in hyperbolic motion: the motif quoted from Bach's third orchestral suite is shattered and fossilized within the staggered vibrations of grotesquely loosened G strings. The "air" in the title no longer refers to a serene aria, but instead to literal air: translucent passing gestures and physical struggles relating to a lack of breath.

MEET THE COMPOSERS

Sascha Burhop, a first-year undergraduate student at the Eastman School of Music and University of Rochester, enjoys exploring the expansive storytelling modes and theatrical aspects of music and performance throughout his compositions. Burhop began studying composition in high school at The Governor's School for the Arts in Norfolk, Virginia, and has had many works performed by peers and professionals alike, working closely with musicians of the Virginia Symphony and composers such as Jessie Montgomery. In many of Burhop's works, he focuses on using instruments and melodic materials in much the same way that a visual artist makes use of different colors on a paint palette, thus creating auditory artworks within the music. Burhop's most recent works focus on programmatic pieces such as tone poems and theatrical vignettes.

MEET THE COMPOSERS

Born and raised in Hong Kong, **Matthew Lam** is an active composer of acoustic and electroacoustic music and an enthusiast of contemporary music style. His goal is to explore and experiment on a wide array of sounds and timbre, especially with contemporary instrumental techniques and electronics. His recent interests include saturation in music and ambisonics. Winning multiple awards, his works were featured in numerous events, including June in Buffalo (USA), International Computer Music Conference (2025: Boston), International Rostrum of Composers (2023: Netherlands), MUSLAB (Ecuador), soundSCAPE (Italy), and Paysages | Composés (France). Groups such as the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra, Toledo Symphony, Hong Kong New Music Ensemble, Mivos Quartet, and [Switch~ Ensemble] are among the many who have presented Lam's music. He is currently pursuing his doctoral studies at Eastman School of Music and serves as a teaching assistant at Electroacoustic Music Studios at Eastman.

Originally from Bangkok, **Nattakon Lertwattananuruk** (b. 2006) is a composer and performer whose work investigates the relationship between anthropogenic presence and contemporary ecological conditions. His works often engage with microscopic musical materials abstracted from their original contexts, instruments as a site of physical exploration and extension, and the integration of multimedia in dialogue with the concert setting. He is a recipient of the Distinguished Prize at the SCG Young Thai Artist Award (2022, 2024) and has collaborated with ensembles including Tacet(i), the Thai Youth Orchestra, Kul-Gänte, and Duo Dubois. His work has been presented at numerous international festivals, such as the Thailand New Music and Arts Symposium, IntAct Festival, Thailand International Composition Festival, Princess Galyani Vadhana International Music Festival, and the China-ASEAN Music Festival.

Nattakon is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Music in Composition at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, where he studies under Dr. Evis Sammoutis.

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

Morning Chamber Music

Saturday, September 20, 2025 at 11:30 AM

Hatch Recital Hall

*Free, tickets not required

FACULTY ARTIST SERIES

Eastman Virtuosi

Saturday, September 20, 2025 at 7:30 PM

Kilbourn Hall

FACULTY ARTIST SERIES

Ran Dank, piano

Sunday, September 21, 2025 at 3:30 PM

Kilbourn Hall

FACULTY ARTIST SERIES

Alexander Kobrin, piano

Tuesday, September 23, 2025 at 7:30 PM

Kilbourn Hall

UPCOMING STUDENT ENSEMBLE CONCERTS

All student performances are free unless otherwise noted.

Eastman Philharmonia

Monday, September 22, 2025 at 7:30 PM

Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre

Eastman School Symphony Orchestra

Wednesday, September 24, 2025 at 7:30 PM

Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre

EMuSE

Thursday, September 25, 2025 at 7:30 PM

Hatch Recital Hall



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



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