EASTMAN PRESENTS — KILBOURN CONCERT SERIES

TERRI LYNE CARRINGTON WE INSIST 2025!

Friday, October 3, 2025
Kilbourn Hall
7:30 PM

EASTMAN
SCHOOL OF MUSIC
UNIVERSITY OCCHESTER

PROGRAM

Selections from Terri Lyne Carrington's album "We Insist 2025!" to be announced from stage.

Terri Lyne Carrington, drum set Warren Wolf, vibes Christie Dashiell, vocals Morgan Guerin, bass, saxophone Milena Casado, trumpet

PROGRAM NOTES

We Insist 2025!

One of the seminal works of jazz as protest, "We Insist! Max Roach's Freedom Now Suite," was first released in 1961 by Max Roach in collaboration with Abbey Lincoln and lyricist Oscar Brown, Jr. on Candid Records.

Invoking both the historic pains and hopeful potentiality of the Black experience, Roach created a striking avant-garde vocal-instrumental suite commemorating the centennial of the Emancipation Proclamation and acted as an urgent call for freedom during the civil rights era, which remains poignant as ever today.

In honor of Roach's centennial, GRAMMY-Award Winning drummer-producer Terri Lyne Carrington and GRAMMY-nominated vocalist Christie Dashiell have reconceptualized *We Insist*, paying homage to Roach and Lincoln's legacy by sonically broadening the suite, while being steadfast with the still poignant social justice message - *We Insist!*

Continuing her work honoring jazz traditions, Carrington (the albums producer), acknowledges Roach's legacy and its continued relevance to today's fight for freedom in order to bring forth a new story of jazz's future. Joining the lineup are many emerging artists that Carrington introduced to Candid Records: Morgan Guerin, Milena Casado, Simon Moullier, Matthew Stevens, Devon Gates, guest percussionist Weedie Braimah, and rising star vocalist Christie Dashiell, filling in the role of Abbey Lincoln. The album has a special cameo appearance by trombonist Julian Priester, the only living musician from the original recording.

Together, they impart the story of the "Freedom Now Suite" respecting its jazz tradition, while allowing the influence of other music traditions from the African Diaspora including gospel, soul, funk, Afro-Latin, West African, and blues, with the resounding spirit and urgency that rings true on the original album.

Celebrating 40 years in music, NEA Jazz Master and four-time GRAMMY® award-winning drummer, producer and educator, **Terri Lyne Carrington** started her professional career in Massachusetts at 10 years old when she became the youngest person to receive a union card in Boston. She was featured as a "kid wonder" in many publications and on local and national TV shows. After studying under a full scholarship at Berklee College of Music, Carrington worked as an in-demand musician in New York City, and later moved to Los Angeles, where she gained recognition on late night TV as the house drummer for both the *Arsenio Hall Show* and Quincy Jones' *VIBE TV* show, hosted by Sinbad.

While still in her 20's, Ms. Carrington toured extensively with Wayne Shorter and Herbie Hancock, among others. In 2011, she released the GRAMMY® award-winning album, *The Mosaic Project*, featuring a cast of all-star women instrumentalists and vocalists, and in 2013, she released, *Money Jungle: Provocative in Blue*, which also earned a GRAMMY® Award, establishing her as the first woman ever to win in the Best Jazz Instrumental Album category.

To date Ms. Carrington has performed on over 100 recordings and has been a role model and advocate for young women and men internationally through her teaching and touring careers. She has toured or recorded with luminary artists such as Al Jarreau, Stan Getz, Woody Shaw, Clark Terry, Diana Krall, Cassandra Wilson, Dianne Reeves, James Moody, Yellowjackets, Esperanza Spalding, Kris Davis, Chaka Khan, Natalie Cole, and Nancy Wilson.

In 2019 Ms. Carrington was granted The Doris Duke Artist Award, a prestigious acknowledgment in recognition of her past and ongoing contributions to jazz music. Also in 2019, her collaborative project, Terri Lyne Carrington and Social Science (formed with Aaron Parks and Matthew Stevens), released their album, *Waiting Game*, inspired by the seismic changes in the ever-evolving social and political landscape. The double album expresses an unflinching, inclusive, and compassionate view of humanity's breaks and bonds through an eclectic program melding jazz, R&B, indie rock, contemporary improvisation, and hip-hop. *Waiting Game* was nominated for a 2021 GRAMMY® award and has been celebrated as one of the year's best jazz releases by *Rolling Stone*, *Downbeat*, *Boston Globe*, and *PopMatters*. *Downbeat* describes the album as, "a two-disc masterstroke on par with Kendrick Lamar's 2015 hip-hop classic, *To Pimp a Butterfly...*" and garnered three of their critics poll awards, Album of the Year, Group

of the Year, and Artist of the Year. Ms. Carrington was also named Artist of the Year by Jazz Times Critics Polls, the Boston Globe, and the Jazz Journalists Association.

Ms. Carrington has received honorary doctorates from Manhattan School of Music, York University, and Berklee College of Music, where she currently serves as the Founder and Artistic Director of the Berklee Institute of Jazz and Gender Justice, which recruits, teaches, mentors, and advocates for musicians seeking to study jazz with racial justice and gender justice as guiding principles.

She has curated musical presentations at Harvard University, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, and the John F. Kennedy Center, and has enjoyed multi-disciplinary collaborations with esteemed visual artists Mickalene Thomas and Carrie Mae Weems and is also the artistic director for Detroit's multi-disciplinary arts organization, the Carr Center.

In 2022, the curator and activist authored two books; a children's book entitled *Three of a Kind*, on the making of the Allen Carrington Spalding trio, and the seminal collection, *New Standards: 101 Lead Sheets By Women Composers*, another illustration of how she has worked tirelessly to fight for inclusivity and raise the voice of women, trans, and non-binary jazz musicians. Accompanying the book is her latest album, *new STANDARDS vol. 1*, featuring 11 selections from the songbook with an all-star band.

The album, which ranges from ballads to experimental compositions, is timely and adventurous, exploring the multiverse of jazz, with Carrington (drums and percussion) joined by Kris Davis (piano), Linda May Han Oh (bass), Matthew Stevens (guitar), and Nicholas Payton (trumpet) and welcomes special guests trumpeter Ambrose Akinmusire, saxophonist Ravi Coltrane, electronic artist Val Jeanty, guitarist, Julian Lage, flutist Elena Pinderhughes, percussionist Negah Santos and vocalists Melanie Charles, Samara Joy, Michael Mayo, Dianne Reeves, and Somi. In 2023, the album won a GRAMMY® Award for the best jazz instrumental album.

Carrington also curated a multi-media installation to accompany and expand on the message of the *New Standards* book and new *STANDARDS vol. 1* album. The installation premiered at Detroit's Carr Center, and was later featured at the Emerson Contemporary Media Art

Gallery in Boston. This ambitious series of projects were created to shine a light on women composers in historic new ways.

Ms. Carrington serves as co-executive producer and musical director for the newly formed Jazz Music Awards and is a 2022 inductee into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Morgan Guerin is a genre-fluid multi-instrumentalist and composer whose music merges jazz, R&B, hip-hop, and experimental sounds into a dynamic and immersive experience. Raised in a musical family near New Orleans before moving to Atlanta, he developed his craft from a young age on drums, saxophone, flute, bass clarinet, EWI, bass, keys, synthesis, and engineering, later studying at The New School in NYC. Guerin has performed with renowned artists such as Terri Lyne Carrington, Tyshawn Sorey, and Esperanza Spalding, and his work has contributed to two GRAMMY-winning albums. His latest release, *Tales Of The Facade*, is a deeply personal project that reflects on identity, technology, and social change, featuring a fusion of lush harmonies, intricate grooves, and compelling narratives. Recognized by *The New York Times* as a "wunderkind," Guerin continues to break musical boundaries while crafting a sound that resonates across generations.

Born in Washington, DC, GRAMMY® nominated vocalist and composer Christie Dashiell lives at the musical crossroads of jazz, rhythm and blues, gospel, and soul. Known for her improvisational prowess and effortlessly rich and clear tone, she has become one of the most soughtafter artists on the scene today. Growing up in a musical family, Christie has been singing all of her life. She is the third of four multi-talented and musical children of jazz bassist, Carroll Dashiell, Jr. Her musical lineage is deeply rooted.

Christie is a graduate of Howard University and the Manhattan School of Music. While at Howard, Christie sang in the university's premier vocal jazz ensemble, Afro-Blue. As a member of Afro-Blue, she appeared on *NBC*'s acapella competition series, "The Sing Off." She has twice received recognition in *DownBeat* Magazine's Student Music Awards as Outstanding Soloist and Best Vocalist in the Graduate College division and was selected as a semifinalist in the 2015 Thelonious Monk Institute International Vocals Competition. In 2016, Dashiell released her debut

solo album, *Time All Mine*, debuting on *Billboard*'s Jazz Album and Contemporary Jazz Album Charts at numbers thirteen (13) and twenty-two (22), as well as *JazzTimes*' Top 50 Writer's Ballots, Critics' Poll. As a follow up, her critically acclaimed sophomore album, *Journey In Black*, garnered her first GRAMMY® nomination in 2025 for Best Jazz Vocal Album. The album explored themes of grief, joy, freedom and legacy and received a rare Five-Star review in *Downbeat* Magazine. Most recently, Dashiell released, *WE INSIST 2025!* with her mentor, co-leader and NEA Jazz master Terri Lyne Carrington - [the album] a very timely reimagining of Max Roach, Abbey Lincoln and Oscar Brown Jr's "Freedom Now Suite."

In addition to touring with her own quartet, Dashiell has worked with many artists including vocal ensemble Sweet Honey in the Rock, bassist and producer Adam Blackstone, and acclaimed pianist Cyrus Chestnut. She can be heard on various albums including Marquis Hill's *The Way We Play*, Wynton Marsalis' work, *The Ever Fonky Lowdown* with Wynton Marsalis and The Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, and the social-justice compilation album, *Black Lives: From Generation to Generation*. She has been seen in concert on various national and international stages namely, Jazz at Lincoln Center Shanghai, The Baku Jazz Festival in Azerbaijan, and Bunkamura Orchard Hall in Tokyo. Dashiell is on faculty at Howard University, The New School, and The University of the District of Columbia.

Called "a revelation" by *The New York Times*, trumpeter and composer **Milena Casado** is one of the most compelling new voices in contemporary jazz. Known for her fluid improvisation and deeply personal compositions, she effortlessly moves between acoustic music and electronic experimentation, blending tradition with innovation.

Recently recognized by the *LA Times* as a can't-miss newcomer who's keeping the spirit of jazz moving and listed as a contemporary jazz artist you should know by *WBGO*, Casado has already generated major buzz through her work with Terri Lyne Carrington, Vijay Iyer, Aaron Parks, Kris Davis, and other guiding forces in the music world, earning critical acclaim. She has been featured at many of the world's top venues and festivals, including Carnegie Hall, The Village Vanguard, North Sea Jazz Festival, Montreal Jazz Festival, and Monterey Jazz Festival, among others.

Casado leads her working quintet, with recent performances at North Sea Jazz Festival, Montreal Jazz Festival, Vitoria-Gasteiz Jazz Festival, NYC Winter Jazzfest, and other major venues. Backed by this group, Casado recently released her debut album, *Reflection of Another Self*, on Candid Records.

"Reflection of Another Self is a stunning debut—sonically adventurous and deeply personal, a journey of self-discovery and resilience, overcoming personal traumas. It is a bold statement from a newcomer who has been honing her skill with luminaries and biding her time, constructing a debut album fit for someone destined to upend the jazz world."

Warren Wolf is a world-renowned vibraphonist, drummer, pianist, and composer whose artistry places him at the forefront of contemporary jazz. Born and raised in Baltimore, Maryland, and trained at Berklee College of Music, Wolf is celebrated for his ability to seamlessly bridge tradition and innovation, drawing from jazz, classical, R&B, and gospel.

Over the years, Wolf has toured and recorded with some of the most respected names in music, including Christian McBride & Inside Straight, the SFJAZZ Collective, Wynton Marsalis, Aaron Diehl, Monty Alexander, and many others. His commanding presence on the vibraphone and his versatility across instruments have earned him worldwide recognition, performing at major festivals, concert halls, and jazz clubs across the globe.

As a Mack Avenue recording artist and bandleader, Wolf has released a series of acclaimed albums that highlight his virtuosic technique, soulful compositions, and wide-ranging musical vocabulary. Beyond his work as a performer, he is also a passionate educator and mentor, dedicated to inspiring the next generation of musicians. He is on the faculty at Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore, MD and the San Francisco Conservatory of Music/RJAM in San Francisco, CA.

With his unique blend of technical brilliance, deep musical expression, and boundless creativity, Warren Wolf continues to expand the possibilities of the vibraphone while captivating audiences everywhere. He endorses Ludvig/Musser Vibraphones/Marimbas & mallets with Innovative Percussion.

UPCOMING EASTMAN PRESENTS CONCERTS

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

EASTMAN PRESENTS - RANLET SERIES

Ying Quartet

Sunday, October 5, 2025 at 3:00 PM Kilbourn Hall

The Ying Quartet occupies a position of unique prominence in the classical music world, combining communicative performances with a fearlessly imaginative view of chamber music in today's world. As quartet-in-residence at the Eastman School of Music, the ensemble performs three Eastman Presents Series concerts during the season.

Eastman Presents - Ray Conniff Jazz Series

Eastman New Jazz Orchestra

Wednesday, October 8, 2025 at 7:30 PM Kilbourn Hall *Free, tickets not required

UPCOMING EASTMAN ENSEMBLE CONCERTS

All student performances are free unless otherwise noted.

Eastman Jazz Orchestra

Monday, October 6, 2025 at 7:30 PM Kilbourn Hall

Composers Concert

Tuesday, October 7, 2025 at 7:30 PM Kilbourn Hall

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Thursday, October 9, 2025 at 7:30 PM Kilbourn Hall

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.

