CHARLES VALENZA
HISTORIC HORN COLLECTION
CONCERT

with Priscilla Yuen, piano

Sunday, October 29, 2023
Hatch Recital Hall
6:30 PM
PROGRAM

Horn Concerto No. 2 in E-flat Major, K. 417  
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
III. Rondo. Più allegro  
(1756-1791)

Lea Helsel, Carl Geyer 4-valve single B-flat horn

Concertino for Horn and String Orchestra,  
Op. 45, No. 5  
Lars-Erik Larsson  
(1908-1986)

Alina Liebschner, Kruspe 4-valve single B-flat horn

Concertino for Horn and Band  
Lorenzo Sansone  
(1881-1975)

Aliceyn Covington, Sansone 4-valve single B-flat horn

Concerto for Horn and Orchestra No. 1  
in E-flat Major, Op. 11  
Richard Strauss  
(1864-1949)

III. Allegro

Morgan Chalmers, Alexander 4-valve single B-flat horn

Elegia für Naturhorn  
Hermann Baumann  
(1934)

(1984)

Erin Futterer ('20E), Seraphinoff natural horn, c. 1994  
(reproduction of Antoine Halari model, c. 1810)

This performance is dedicated to the memory of Helen Valenza (1932-2023)

Quartetten für vier Hörner  
Franz Strauss  
(1822-1905)

I. Adagio  
V. Rondino à la chasse

Morgan Chalmers, Alexander 4-valve single B-flat horn  
Aliceyn Covington, Sansone 4-valve single B-flat horn  
Lea Helsel, Carl Geyer 5-valve single B-flat horn  
Alina Liebschner, Kruspe 4-valve single B-flat horn
IN MEMORIAM

Helen Valenza loved music. She knew from an early age growing up in Mayville, NY that she wanted to play the flute. As a teenager, she took the train by herself once a month to the “Big City” Rochester to take flute lessons from Joseph Mariano at the Eastman School of Music. At seventeen, she was accepted into Eastman School, studied under Joseph Mariano and Frederick Wilkins, and earned her Bachelors of Musical Arts with a performer’s certificate in flute. She taught music in the public schools until the birth of her first child, then gave private lessons for the rest of her life. She taught hundreds of young—and not so young—students, making a large impact on many of their lives.

Helen also played in many other professional capacities. She has been a soloist with the Eastman-Rochester Orchestra, the Eastman Philharmonia, and Chautauqua Festival Orchestra, and has played with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra. She was the first woman to have been hired to play in the many traveling shows that came through Rochester, including The Man of La Mancha and Carnival!, and played in the pit band for the Ice Capades. She was the again first woman ever hired to play with the Monroe County Park Band, which she did for many years.

Later in life, she became interested in baroque flutes. She attended and performed at many seminars throughout the country, and started what became an extraordinary collection of flutes that illustrated the instrument’s development over time from about 1750. A selection of her flutes were twice displayed at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, where she gave performances on them. She developed a lecture-recital showcasing various flutes in her collection and the evolution of the flute as an instrument, explaining the characteristics of the individual flutes and playing music on each one typical of the period in which the flute was made. Some of the venues she gave her lecture-recital at included the Baroque Performance Institute at Oberlin College, the National Flute Association Convention, and other colleges, music schools and flute clubs.
Helen also played for many years as the first flute in the Brighton Symphony Orchestra, helped create, along with her husband, the Genesee Early Music Society, later becoming its president, and was a long time member of Morning Musicale. Her last performance was for the 90th anniversary of Morning Musicale, when she herself was 90.

While doing all of the above, she also raised two children, Dann and Janet, and was always there for and supportive of them. She was a wonderful, energetic, determined and caring woman who, as well as music, loved cooking, gardening, and her various Scottish Terriers.

Helen died peacefully on September 11th, 2023. She is predeceased by her husband, Charles R. Valenza, and survived by her children, Dann Valenza and Janet (Scott) Mayo; her grandchildren Thalia (Jonathan) Mayo-Lackey and Daniel Mayo; brother Dann Rothra, and several nieces and nephews. She will be greatly missed.

**ABOUT THE HORN COLLECTION**

The Charles Valenza Historic Horn Collection is a prestigious amalgam of 31 horns spanning from the 18th to the 21st century. As were Chuck’s wishes, these horns (which supplement the rich horn inventory the School had already assembled) are not meant to be viewed solely in a museum setting, but rather to be resource materials for the students to be used in research and performance. Through the generosity of his late wife, Helen, the collection is presently on long-term loan to the Eastman School. Tonight’s performance features 6 horns selected from the complete collection.
MEET THE ARTISTS

Morgan Chalmers, from Clarence, New York, is a junior undergraduate horn performance major at Eastman, studying under Peter Kurau. Morgan is very involved in ensembles at Eastman, including Brass Guild, Horn Choir, Harmonie, Empire Film and Media Ensemble, and the Bells N’ Roses Horn Quartet. She regularly subs with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and just recently won a position on the sublist for Symphoria in Syracuse, NY.

Aliceyn Covington is from Blairsville, Georgia and is a junior at ESM, majoring in Horn Performance and Music Education. She recently participated in the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival through the Yale School of Music where she studied with Jeff Scott and William Purvis and performed various works for woodwind quintet and chamber orchestra alongside 30 other young musicians. She enjoys performing in the community with her horn quartet “Bells N’ Roses” and her low brass trio “Minus 2”.

Dr. Erin Futterer, ESM 2020, is a versatile and adventurous horn player, educator, writer and performer. She is one half of the singer/songwriter duo, Erin & Ross [Falzone], in which she sings, composes songs and lyrics, and plays horn and piano. The duo performs and presents masterclasses on improv and 'creative collaboration' at a wide variety of educational and entertainment venues across the United States, including leading universities, regional horn workshops, and, most recently, the 2023 International Horn Symposium in Montreal. Their first album, A New Kind of Old, is available along with other original content at erinandrossmusic.com. Erin is also nearing completion of the biography of her mentor, famed horn teacher and player, Frøydis Ree Wekre, with whom she studied as a Fulbright scholar.

Lea Helsel, from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, is a junior undergraduate horn performance major at Eastman. Lea is a member of several ensembles at Eastman including Brass Guild, Horn Choir, her brass quintet “Alvum Animo”, and the “Bells N’ Roses” Horn Quartet. When Lea is not at school, she freelances around the Pittsburgh area, having played with groups such as the Pittsburgh Ballet Theater and Pittsburgh Musical Theater.
Alina Liebschner, originally from Pearland, Texas, is a third year undergraduate studying French Horn Performance and German Modern Language and Culture at the Eastman School of Music. She participates in many Eastman ensemble like the Eastman Philharmonia, Wind Ensemble, Brass Guild, Horn Choir, and performed numerous times with both her wind quintet, the “Mousai Quintet”, and her Horn Quartet, “Bells N' Roses”, in the Rochester area for outreach programs. Alina was also apart of the World Youth Wind Orchestra Program in Schladming, Austria as apart of their annual music festival and featured at the Schwarzwälder Horntage in Staufen, Germany this past summer.

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

FACULTY ARTIST SERIES

Alexander Kobrin, piano
Hatch Recital Hall
Wednesday, November 1, 2023 at 7:30 PM

Over the course of eight concerts, Professor Kobrin will present all 32 of Beethoven’s piano sonatas throughout the 2023-24 academic year. Kobrin will perform on a Shigeru Kawai piano, generously on loan to Eastman for this concert series.

FACULTY ARTIST SERIES

Mark Kellogg, trombone
Hatch Recital Hall
Sunday, November 5, 2023 at 7:30 PM

UPCOMING STUDENT ENSEMBLE CONCERTS

All student performances are free unless otherwise noted.

Chamber Jazz Ensemble
Hatch Recital Hall
Monday, October 30, 2023 at 7:30 PM

EMuSE with Jon Christopher Nelson
Hatch Recital Hall
Thursday, November 2, 2023 at 7:30 PM

EASTMAN OPERA THEATRE

A Double Bill: Mythology Through a New Lens!
Kilbourn Hall
November 2 – November 4, 2023 at 7:30 PM | November 5, 2023 at 2:30 PM
*Tickets are required and can be purchased on EastmanTheatre.org
**Pre-opera lectures will be in Ray Wright Room one hour before each performance.

Music of Nkeiru Okoye and Jake Heggie
For the most up to date information on Eastman concerts and events, scan this code to visit our online calendar.