

TUBA MIRUM

Tuesday, November 14, 2023
Kilbourn Hall
7:30 PM



EASTMAN
SCHOOL OF MUSIC
UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER

PROGRAM

Whirlwind (2014)

Kevin McKenzie
(b. 1993)

Emma Catherine (2004)

Omar Thomas
(b. 1984)

Five Dances from *La Danserye*

La Mourisque
Bransle Quatre Bransles
Ronde
Ronde-Mon Amy
Pavane Bataille

Tielman Susato
(1510-1570)
arr. John Stevens

Hungarian March from *Le Damnation
de Faust, H. 111*

Hector Berlioz
(1803-1896)
arr. David Werden

Even When He is Silent (2011)

Kim André Arneson
(b. 1980)

Moondance (1989)

John Stevens
(b. 1951)

PERSONNEL

EASTMAN TUBA MIRUM

Dr. Justin Benavidez, director
Ethan Millington, assistant director

Tuba

Josh Budziak
Bec Caldwell
Addie Canning
Jeffrey Davison
Zoe Jones
Matt Langrell
Steph Magera
Kalin Mark
Ethan Millington
Angel Paz
Andrew Sieradzki

Nicholas Weir
Jack Whalen

Euphonium

Jack Altenbach
Darren Brady
Kathryn Carley
Jacob Ellgass
Will Hurtz
Nathanael Kumar
Benjamin Small

PROGRAM NOTES

Whirlwind (2014)

Kevin McKenzie

Whirlwind was written during the 2014 International Tuba and Euphonium Conference at Indiana University. It was intended to be a fun and exciting new work that shows off the virtuosity and range of the tuba quartet. The work was dedicated to the Boreas Tuba Quartet, as they were the main inspiration for the piece. The first recording was in May 2015 by a tuba quartet from the University of Memphis.

Emma Catherine (2004)

Omar Thomas

Emma Catherine was composed as a gift to my trombone professor at James Madison University, Dr. Andrew Lankford, and for his wife, Dr. Heather Lankford, as they were expecting the birth of their first child Emma Catherine Lankford. When spoken naturally, the syllables “Emma Catherine” fall into a rhythmic pattern of two shorter notes followed by two longer notes. This became the primary rhythmic motive of the piece. At the premiere in the spring of 2004, Emma had just been born, and was able to hear the lullaby written in her honor. The piece was originally written for trombone sextet and afterwards converted to a tuba quartet instrumentation via a commission by the University of Georgia Graduate Tuba-Euphonium Ensemble.

— Omar Thomas

Five Dances (2014)

Tielman Susato

La Danserye is a collection of 60 popular dances composed by Belgian Renaissance composer Tielman Susato while living in Antwerp in 1551. Susato captured folk melodies and combined them with dances to create his settings. The Five Dances performed on this program are often arranged for brass ensemble and brass quintet, and this tuba/euphonium ensemble arrangement was completed by John Stevens.

Hungarian March

Hector Berlioz

In 1846, Hector Berlioz orchestrated the *Rákóczy March* (also known as the *Hungarian March*) as a part of his concert-theater piece “The Damnation of Faust” based on a dramatic poem by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe. The piece was named for Ferenc Rákóczy II, leader of an 18th century uprising in the Hungarian struggle for independence from Austria. Although the

PROGRAM NOTES

march was originally composed by János Bihari, it found a wider audience due to Franz Liszt, who transmuted it into one of his Hungarian Rhapsodies. The arrangement for tuba/euphonium ensemble was completed by David Werden, former solo euphoniumist with the United States Coast Guard Band.

Even When He is Silent (2011)

Kim André Arneson

Even When He Is Silent is a work about hope in the darkest time of life. The text was written by an unknown Jewish person in a concentration camp in Cologne, Germany during World War II where the text was found scratched onto a wall. The piece was commissioned by the St. Olaf Festival in Trondheim, Norway, and premiered on July 30, 2011 by the Nidaros Cathedral Girls' choir.

I believe in the sun, even when it's not shining
I believe in love, even when I feel it not
I believe in God, even when He is silent

Moondance (1989)

John Stevens

Moondance, composed in the spring of 1989, was written for and commissioned by the Summit Tuba Quartet, whose members Roger Bobo, Daniel Perantoni, Harvey Phillips, and Gene Pokorny, are among the great virtuosos of the tuba. The work was conceived to feature each of the players individually in addition to the ensemble as a whole. One voice has the melodic lead a great deal of the time and there are solo cadenzas for the other parts. The work, about seven minutes in length, employs both the sonorous harmonies and rhythmic drive and power that can be generated by a group of tubas.

MEET THE ARTISTS

Directed by Associate Professor of Tuba and Euphonium Justin Benavidez, **Tuba Mirum** consists of members of the tuba and euphonium studio at the Eastman School of Music. The ensemble performs two concerts each year with repertory from Bach to Zappa, and the current members of the ensemble range from first year undergraduate students to doctoral students.

Tuba Mirum actively promotes the performance of underrepresented musical genres and composer identities. This includes unique and original music written for tuba/euphonium ensemble as well as arrangements.

Tuba Mirum was founded by Cherry Beauregard, former Professor of Tuba, and was named The Tuba + so that other instruments could be included. After about a year the name was changed to Tuba Mirum (“wondrous war-trumpet”, from the Latin Requiem Mass) at the suggestion of Eastman’s Director and Dean, James Undercofler.

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

Clay Jenkins, jazz trumpet

Hatch Recital Hall

Wednesday, November 29, 2023 at 7:30 PM

KILBOURN CONCERT SERIES

Third Coast Percussion

Kilbourn Hall

Thursday, November 30, 2023 at 7:30 PM

A Grammy winning Quartet of classically trained percussionists founded in 2005, Third Coast Percussion has performed hundreds of concerts across the country, presents an annual concert season at home in Chicago, teaches musicians of all ages and experience levels, and has commissioned dozens of new works by composers including Glenn Kotche, Chris Cerrone, Donnacha Dennehy, Timo Andres, David T. Little, Ted Hearne, and Augusta Read Thomas.

UPCOMING STUDENT ENSEMBLE CONCERTS

All student performances are free unless otherwise noted.

Eastman Jazz Lab Band

Kilbourn Hall

Wednesday, November 15, 2023 at 7:30 PM

Eastman Philharmonia

Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre

Wednesday, November 15, 2023 at 7:30 PM

Music of William Walton and Saint-Saëns

Brass Guild

Kilbourn Hall

Thursday, November 16, 2023 at 7:30 PM



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