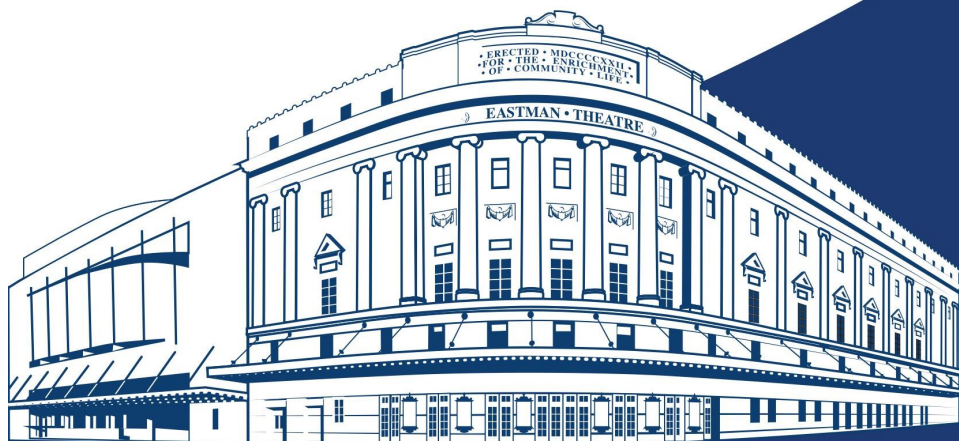


EASTMAN SUMMER SERIES

HORN INSTITUTE FACULTY RECITAL

Elizabeth Freimuth
Mark Houghton
Peter Kurau
Nikolette LaBonte

Wednesday, July 2, 2025
Kilbourn Hall
7:30 PM



EASTMAN
SCHOOL OF MUSIC
UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER

PROGRAM

Overture to *The Magic Flute*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756-1791)
arr. Alan Civil

Elizabeth Freimuth, horn
Mark Houghton, horn
Peter Kurau, horn
Nikolette LaBonte, horn

Légende (1966)

Robert Planel
(1908-1994)

“Maria” from *West Side Story* (1957)

Leonard Bernstein
(1918-1990)
arr. David Elliott

Mark Houghton, horn
Priscilla Yuen, piano

Sonata for Horn and Piano (2019)

Allegro moderato
Adagio
Allegretto

David Temperley
(b. 1963)

Peter Kurau, horn
Priscilla Yuen, piano

PROGRAM

Konzert for Horn and Orchestra in A minor, Op. 28

Kurt Atterberg
(1887-1974)

Allegro pathetico

Elizabeth Freimuth, horn
Priscilla Yuen, piano

Adagio

Allegro molto

Nikolette LaBonte, horn
Priscilla Yuen, piano

Three Quartets

Anton Wunderer
(1850-1906)

Meisterschützen

Schützenliebschen: Polka Française

Polka: Ständchen

Elizabeth Freimuth, horn
Mark Houghton, horn
Peter Kurau, horn
Nikolette LaBonte, horn

PROGRAM NOTES

Légende (1966)

Robert Planel

Légende by French composer Robert Planel is a work of expressive depth and lyrical beauty, written for horn and piano in the grand French tradition. Blending noble song-like lines with moments of drama and introspection, the piece invites both performer and listener on a poetic journey. Originally conceived in the context of conservatory performance, it has since become a staple of the horn repertoire, admired for its elegant phrasing, technical nuance, and emotional resonance.

“Maria” from *West Side Story* (1957)

Leonard Bernstein

Originally sung by Tony in *West Side Story*, “Maria” expresses the wonder and intensity of new love through one of Bernstein’s most iconic melodies. In this arrangement, the horn captures the vocal warmth and lyrical sweep of the original, while the piano supports with rich harmonies that reflect Bernstein’s blend of classical and jazz-inspired idioms.

Sonata for Horn and Piano (2019)

David Temperley

David Temperley is a professor of music theory at Eastman. The composer writes: My *Sonata for Horn and Piano* was commissioned by Peter Kurau and written in 2019. I was very honored when Peter invited me to write the piece and delighted when he recruited Chiao-Wen to accompany him. The piece reflects my usual approach to composition: incorporating rock and pop elements—harmonic, melodic, rhythmic—into an essentially classical / Romantic language. In the first movement, the syncopations and bluesy melodic gestures of rock will be readily apparent. In the second (slow) movement, the rock influence lies largely in the way the melody sometimes moves rather freely against the harmonic accompaniment. The third movement features a rhythmic pattern called the “Scotch snap”—a short-long pattern, with the short note on the beat; it has roots in Scottish and English music (as the name suggests) but appears a lot in modern popular music as well. You can hear more of my music at davidtemperley.com.

MEET THE ARTISTS

Elizabeth Freimuth is the principal horn of the Cincinnati Symphony and Pops Orchestras. Before joining the CSO in 2006, Elizabeth was principal horn of the San Francisco Ballet Orchestra (2005-2006), principal horn of the Kansas City Symphony (2000-2005) and assistant principal horn of the Colorado Symphony (1998-2000).

Elizabeth has performed as the featured soloist with the Cincinnati Symphony, Kansas City Symphony, Butler County Symphony (PA), Johnson City Symphony Orchestra (TN), Overland Park Symphony (KS) and the Lakewood Symphony (CO). She has also performed as a guest principal horn with the Chicago Symphony, San Francisco Symphony, Pittsburgh Symphony, Minnesota Orchestra, St. Paul Chamber Orchestra and the Saint Louis Symphony. She was a Featured Artist at the International Horn Symposium, Memphis 2013 and a featured artist at the International Women's Brass Conference, Northern Kentucky 2014.

Ms. Freimuth will start teaching in Rice University as Professor of horn in the fall of 2025. In 2011, Elizabeth Freimuth joined the Adjunct Horn faculty at the University of Cincinnati's College Conservatory of Music. From 2000-2003, Ms. Freimuth was the Adjunct Professor of Horn at the University of Missouri in Kansas City Conservatory of Music. She has also given numerous master classes and has done guest teaching at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music, The Eastman School of Music, The University of Evansville, San Francisco Conservatory, Dayton University, Ohio State University, University of Northern Colorado, and the University of Northern Iowa and Interlochen School of the Arts. In 2011, she was the distinguished featured artist and clinician at Blast of Brass, a summer brass intensive for students in Dallas, TX.

Annually, she performs with the Sun Valley Summer Symphony in Sun Valley, ID and has also performed with the Grand Teton Music Festival, Sunflower Music Festival and Chataqua Music Festival Orchestras. As a chamber musician, Elizabeth is an active member in concert:nova, a Cincinnati-based chamber ensemble. She has also been a member of the Chamber Music Society of Kansas City, the principal horn of the Kansas City Chamber Orchestra and has performed with the Burning River Brass chamber ensemble. Elizabeth is a graduate and recipient of the coveted Performer's Certificate of the Eastman School of Music (B.M.) and a graduate of Rice University Shepherd School of Music (M.M.) where she studied horn with Verne Reynolds, W.Peter Kurau and William VerMeulen respectively.

MEET THE ARTISTS

Mark Houghton has been a member of the horn section of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra since 2014. Previously, he held principal horn posts in the Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra, the Phoenix Symphony and the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra. Houghton is a prizewinner of national solo horn competitions, and has appeared as a guest artist or soloist with many notable orchestras and music festivals.

Raised in a musical family with horn-playing parents, Houghton began on piano, and started horn at age 11. He attended the Eastman School of Music, earning a bachelor's degree with a performer's certificate as a student of W. Peter Kurau. Further training included professional studies with William VerMeulen. A passionate educator, Houghton has presented numerous clinics and masterclasses across the nation, and currently serves as Adjunct Professor of Horn at Duquesne University.

Houghton is part-owner of Houghton Horns, a family business whose mission is to spread the joy of music through providing the highest level of products, services, and resources to the brass playing community.

Nikolette LaBonte is the newly appointed Principal Horn of the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra and is an accomplished orchestral player having had the opportunity to perform with orchestras across North America including guest principal engagements with the New York Philharmonic, San Francisco Symphony, Vancouver Symphony, Tucson Symphony, and an extended engagement with the Baltimore Symphony as Visiting Guest Principal Horn. In addition to her regular performances in Calgary, she also serves as principal horn of the Music in the Mountains summer festival and comes to Calgary from the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra where she served as Associate Principal Horn. Nikolette has also held positions with the Fort Worth Symphony as Acting Principal Horn and the Hawaii Symphony as Acting Assistant Principal Horn.

Active as an educator, Ms. LaBonte was the Instructor of Natural Horn at the Eastman School of Music, served on the faculties of the Eastman Horn Institute and Carnegie Hall's NYO-USA, and has been a guest lecturer at institutions including Oberlin Conservatory, SUNY Potsdam, the University of Maryland, and the University of Texas at Austin. Nikolette is also an award-winning soloist and was a participant in the prestigious ARD International Competition in 2021, the only American horn player invited.

MEET THE ARTISTS

Originally from South Florida, Ms. LaBonte received both her bachelor's and master's degrees from the Eastman School of Music under the tutelage of W. Peter Kurau. Outside the concert hall, Ms. LaBonte is active in promoting classical music throughout the community. She serves as the Assistant Artistic Director of the Kendall Betts Horn Camp, is on the Horn Call Editorial Board of the International Horn Society, and has presented performances and lectures as a member of the International Horn Society and the International Women's Brass Conference. Away from the horn, she enjoys hiking, bicycling, and scuba diving, although she must reserve the latter for her visits to more tropical destinations.

Peter Kurau is Professor of Horn at the Eastman School of Music, and performed for 30 years as a member of the horn section the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra— 11 years as Assistant/Associate/Utility horn, and the last 19 as principal horn, retiring from the latter position on September 2023. He has been honored by the International Horn Society as a recipient of the Punto Award, and has served on the IHS Advisory Council, and as Secretary/Treasurer, and Vice-President of the Society. He was the host of the 1997 symposium, held at the Eastman School.

His alumni hold positions in major orchestras, military ensembles throughout the United States, including the US Army Field Band, the US Army Band ["Pershing's Own"], the Marine Band ["President's Own"], the US Navy Band, and the orchestras/symphonies of Utah, Calgary, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Pittsburgh, Pacific, Syracuse, Rochester, Charlotte, and Tulsa, among others, and at major universities, including the Eastman School and Colburn School.

In 1997, he was selected by the United States Information Agency to serve as an Artistic Ambassador, presenting concerts and classes in Kazakstan, Serbia-Montenegro, Macedonia, and Syria. He has performed and taught at numerous music festivals brought the US, Europe, and Asia, and has served as an adjudicator for the Jeju International Horn Competition, the Fischhoff Chamber Music Competition, the IHCA, and the competitions sponsored by the IHS.

He resides with his wife of 45 years, soprano Pamela Kurau, in Honeoye Falls, NY, along with "several" feline companions.

MEET THE ARTISTS

Pianist **Priscilla Yuen** enjoys a rich and varied career as a soloist, collaborator, teacher, and administrator. Currently Assistant Professor of Accompanying at the Eastman School of Music, Ms. Yuen regularly supports instrumentalists and singers from across the Eastman community as they prepare for recitals, competitions and recordings. Additionally, she serves on the piano faculty at the Rochester Institute of Technology and as pianist at John Calvin Presbyterian Church in Rochester, NY.

As a collaborative pianist, Ms. Yuen has performed at colleges and universities across the United States, as well as at venues such as the Kennedy Center and New York City's Yamaha Hall. Since 2016, Ms. Yuen has performed extensively across the country with Eastman faculty trombonist Mark Kellogg.

A native of St. Louis, Ms. Yuen received her undergraduate training at the University of Missouri where she studied with Dr. Peter Miyamoto and her Master of Music degree in Piano Accompanying and Chamber Music from the Eastman School, studying with Dr. Jean Barr. As a graduate student, she was awarded first prize at the Jesse Kneisel Competition as well as the Barbara M.H. Koeng Award for her work with vocal accompanying.

Ms. Yuen served as staff pianist and arts/administrative coordinator at the New York State Music Festival for eleven summers. She also served as Director of Operations at the Odyssey Chamber Music Festival in Columbia, MO as well as a piano fellow for The Quartet Program.

UPCOMING EASTMAN SUMMER CONCERTS

All summer performances are free unless otherwise noted.

EASTMAN SUMMER

Horn Institute

Kilbourn Hall

Thursday, July 3, 2025 at 2:30 PM

EASTMAN SUMMER

Horn Institute

Howard Hanson Hall

Friday, July 4, 2025 at 9:00 AM

EASTMAN SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Bob Sneider, jazz guitar

Hatch Recital Hall

Monday, July 7, 2025 at 7:30 PM

EASTMAN SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Charles Pillow, jazz saxophone

Hatch Recital Hall

Tuesday, July 8, 2025 at 7:30 PM

EASTMAN SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Clay Jenkins, jazz trumpet

Kilbourn Hall

Wednesday, July 9, 2025 at 7:30 PM

EASTMAN SUMMER

Jazz Student Small Ensembles

Kilbourn Hall

Thursday, July 10, 2025 at 3:30 PM

EASTMAN SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Hats + Heels Duo

Hatch Recital Hall

Thursday, July 10, 2025 at 7:30 PM



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



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