

Eastman School Symphony Orchestra

Neil Varon,
conductor

Noah Tobias Carver,
tenor

Saturday, October 3, 2026
Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre
7:30 PM



Eastman School of Music

~ PROGRAM ~
Eastman School Symphony Orchestra
Neil Varon, *conductor*

Egmont: Overture (1809-1810)

Ludwig van Beethoven
(1770-1827)
9'

Four Hymns (1914)

Ralph Vaughan Williams
(1872-1958)
17'

- I. Lord! Come Away!
- II. Who is the fair one?
- III. Come Love, Come Lord
- IV. Evening Hymn

Noah Tobias Carver, *tenor*
Israel Anselme, *viola*

Dedicated to the memory of Arthur B. Nyanfor II '25

~ INTERMISSION ~

Symphony No. 9 in E minor,

op. 95, B. 178, "From the New World" (1893)

Antonín Dvořák

(1841-1904)
40'

- I. Adagio - Allegro molto
- II. Largo
- III. Molto vivace
- IV. Allegro con fuoco



Arthur B. Nyanfor II, a recent graduate of the Eastman School, passed away unexpectedly earlier this year. Arthur was a violist who studied in the studio of Professor George Taylor. During his time at Eastman, he performed with the Eastman Philharmonia and was an active participant in chamber music and early music ensembles, bringing his talent and dedication to every rehearsal and performance. He was also a valued member of the Black Students Union at Eastman, contributing to the community and culture of our school beyond the practice room.

Arthur was a young man of remarkable talent, discipline, and warmth, with a bright musical future ahead of him. Arthur leaves behind a family and community who loved him dearly, and a wide circle of friends, classmates, and mentors at Eastman who will remember both his artistry and his joyful spirit.

~ TEXTS ~

I . Lord! Come Away!

Lord! Come away!
Why dost Thou stay?
Thy road is ready; and Thy paths, made straight
With longing expectation, wait
The consecration of Thy beauteous feet!
Ride on triumphantly!
Behold we lay our lusts and proud wills in Thy way!

Hosanna! Welcome to our hearts! Lord, here
Thou hast a temple too; and full as dear
As that of Sion, and as full of sin:
Nothing but thieves and robbers dwell therein;
Enter, and chase them forth, and cleanse the floor!
Crucify them, that they may never more
Profane that holy place
Where Thou hast chose to set Thy face!
And then, if our stiff tongues shall be
Mute in the praises of Thy Deity,
The stones out of the temple wall
Shall cry aloud and call
“Hosanna!” and Thy glorious footsteps greet!
- **Jeremy Taylor** (1613-1667)

II. Who is this fair one?

Who is this fair one in distress,
That travels from the wilderness,
And press'd with sorrows and with sins,
On her beloved Lord she leans?

This is the spouse of Christ our God,
Bought with the treasures of his blood,
And her request and her complaint
Is but the voice of ev'ry saint:

“O let my name engraven stand
Both on Thy heart and on Thy hand;
Seal me upon Thine arm and wear
That pledge of love for ever there.

Stronger than death Thy love is known
Which floods of wrath could never drown,
And hell and earth in vain combine
To quench a fire so much divine.

But I am jealous of my heart,
Lest it should once from Thee depart;
Then let my name be well impress'd
As a fair signet on Thy breast.

Till Thou has brought me to Thy home,
Where fears and doubts can never come,
Thy countenance let me often see,
And often shalt Thou hear from me:

Come, my beloved, haste away,
Cut short the hours of Thy delay,
Fly like a youthful hart or roe
Over the hills where spices blow.”
- **Isaac Watts** (1674-1748)

III. Come Love, Come Lord

Come Love, come Lord, and that long day
For which I languish, come away.
When this dry soul those eyes shall see
And drink the unseal'd source of Thee,
When glory's sun faith's shades shall chase,
Then for Thy veil give me Thy face.
- **Richard Crashaw** (1613-1649)

IV. Evening Hymn

O gladsome Light,
O Grace Of God the Father's face,
The eternal spendour wearing;

Celestial holy, blest,
Our Saviour, Jesus Christ,
Joyful, joyful in Thine appearing:

Now ere day fadeth quite,
We see the evening light,
Our wonted hymn outpouring;

Father of might unknown,
Thee, His incarnate Son,
And Holy Spirit adoring.

To Thee of right belongs
All praise of holy songs,
O Son of God, Lifegiver;

Thee, therefore, O Most High,
The world doth glorify,
And shall exalt for ever.
- **Robert Bridges** (1844-1930)

~ MEET THE ARTIST ~

Noah Tobias Carver (he/him) is a tenor and disability rights advocate creating impactful musical experiences and working to protect and expand disability rights and awareness for disabled musicians and the public.

Carver has enjoyed success as a soloist both in recordings and live performance. He was featured as the tenor soloist in Anton Bruckner's *Mass No. 3 in F minor*, WAB 28, performed in December 2025 at Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre with the Eastman Chorale, Eastman-Rochester Chorus, and Eastman School Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Dr. William Weinert. Carver has also sung with the Eastman Bach Cantata Series, most recently as the tenor soloist in Johann Sebastian Bach's cantata *O Ewigkeit, du Donnerwort*, BWV 60, conducted by Xintong Li. As a winner of the 2026 Eastman Concerto Competition, he will perform Ralph Vaughan William's song cycle *Four Hymns* at Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre on October 3, 2026 with the Eastman School Symphony Orchestra under conductor Neil Varon.

Carver can be heard on a recording of Noel da Costa's piece "Two Songs for Julie Ju (Part 2)" with collaborative pianist Dr. Brock Tjosvold on the album *In Plain Sight: The Black Anthology*, released in August 2026 by Lexicon Classics. He was also the tenor soloist in a performance of Ralph Vaughan William's *Serenade to Music* with the University of Rochester Chamber Orchestra, Chamber Singers, and Concert Choir under the baton of Dr. Mark E. M. L. Powell. A Jack Kent Cooke Young Artist, Carver performed in 2022 on National Public Radio's *From the Top* (Show 415) singing Henry Purcell's "Music for a While" from his opera *Oedipus*, Z.583 with collaborative pianist Gary Magby.

In addition to his work on the concert stage, Noah serves as Second Vice President and Director of Operations for Judy's League, a grassroots organization dedicated to raising awareness of the current threats to the disability rights laws upon which 80 million Americans nationwide rely. He previously served as President of the Empire Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind of New York State (2025–26) and as a board member of the National Association of Blind Students (2024–25).

Carver is currently in his fourth year at the Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester, where he is pursuing a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance and studying with Professor Robert Swensen. Previous to his university training, Carver studied under voice teacher Gary Magby and pianist Paul Sullivan. Originally from Beals Island, Maine, Carver enjoys returning to his island roots by spending time lobsterfishing aboard his father's commercial lobsterboat, F/V Noah's Ark.

~ **PERSONNEL** ~
Eastman School Symphony Orchestra

Violin I

Mizuki Sakonju,
concertmaster
Momo Kobayashi
Asher Koh
Elizabeth Wnek
Ben Rosenthal
Omiyo Hossain
Saybren Long
Jediel Sarfo
Gunnar Henry
Pablo Merino Villaescusa
Galen Belding
Stella Hartmann
Alexandra Derkaloustian
Yiran Zheng

Violin II

Karen Orita,
principal
Jan Calabuig Sans
Winter Wu
Meghna Thumri
Lucy Hartzler-Beachy
Wensong Miao
Joshua Park
Satchit Mainali
Abby Tai
Jason Nguyen
Elliott Levine
Shiyi Hu

Viola

Liam DeRosa,
principal
Peyton Crony
Jordan Becker
Xavier Semien
Aurora Sandner
Griffin Pochop
Evangeline Silker
Samuel Rollence
Graciela Vignart
Ellsie Seward
Seth Israel
Daphne Huerta

Violoncello

Oooju Robinson,
principal
Francesca Kim
Emilia Prini
Nathan Russ
Diego Dahle
Aaron Seo
Mario Domingo Aguado
Julia Ungvari
Caleb Ryu
Milo Tobin

Double Bass

Harley Genus,
principal
Patrick Markes
Max Clark
Alexander Clark
Colin Andrews

Flute

Manami Chiba
Hannah Jung
Audrey Mitchell
Maia Nemes

Oboe

Hannah Lundahl
Lily Ortiz
ShaoEn Tang
Mckinley Surface

Clarinet

Ryan Beiter
Kelsey Waters

Bassoon

Alistair Picken
Faith Weigand

Horn

Maggie Eidel
Alex Gagne
Aidan Koch
Allen Reddick
Aliza Small

Trumpet

Ben Craven
Wesley Duncan
Kai Mahone
Logan Manildi

Trombone

Elijah Bursch
Thomas Magland
Nic Ries

Tuba

Jonathan Miller

Timpani

Eli Kim
Chance Park

Percussion

Caleb McCree

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.



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