



Selected Coverage March 2010

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Broadway World
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HIGHLIGHTS

The New York Times (March 7)

An Adagio for Strings, and for the Ages

Samuel Barber's Adagio for Strings begins softly, with a single note, a B flat, played by the violins. Two beats later the lower strings enter, creating an uneasy, shifting suspension as the melody begins a stepwise motion, like the hesitant climbing of stairs. In around eight minutes the piece is over, harmonically unresolved, never coming to rest. If any music can come close to conveying the effect of a sigh, or courage in the face of tragedy, or hope, or abiding love, it is this.

In the quieter classical realm this week Barber's anniversary will be marked by two New York performances of the Adagio in its original form as the slow movement of his string quartet, Opus 11. (After writing the quartet in 1936, Barber later adapted it for string orchestra and created a choral setting, Agnus Dei.) The Ying Quartet, resident ensemble of the **Eastman School of Music**, performs the chamber version at the Morgan Library & Museum on Tuesday.

"The score looks so clear, like a counterpoint exercise," said Phillip Ying, first violinist of the Ying Quartet, "and the power of it is in the economy of means." Of interest to connoisseurs of Barber's original music is that the Ying Quartet's performance will include the first hearing in many decades of a third movement that Barber wrote and later suppressed. The quartet is usually performed with a short coda that Barber substituted as the finale of the work.

The members of the Ying Quartet, in residence at the **Eastman School** in Rochester, learned about the unpublished movement when they spent time with the cellist Orlando Cole, who had been a friend of Barber's since their student days at Curtis. Cole, who died in January at 101, was a longtime faculty member at Curtis who performed many of Barber's works, including the string quartet in its full three-movement version. (*Also reported by The New Yorker, City Week, El Paso Inc.*)

Playbill Arts (March 25)

Eastman Virtuosi Present New York City Concert March 27

Eastman Virtuosi, the esteemed faculty-based chamber ensemble from the top-rated **Eastman School of Music**, offers a concert of Telemann, Poulenc, Dvorak and Currier at Merkin Concert Hall March 27.

"An Eastman presence in New York City is crucial," said Douglas Lowry, Dean of the **Eastman School of Music**. "Eastman Virtuosi's March 27 concert represents our official re-entry into the New York area. With Eastman's venturesome outlook on the training of America's young musicians, and an influential musical reach that extends worldwide, we look forward to evolving a presence in the nation's cultural capital that is as stimulating and provocative as our students and alumni." (*Also reported in All Things Strings, Broadway World, Yahoo!, NY Daily News.com, when.com, CultureMob, Time Out New York, NYC.com, Bachtrack, City Arts*)

Times Union (March 1)

Ying Quartet digs down deep

There's a wealth of string quartet on the American music scene today, but based on Saturday evening's concert in Skidmore College's new Ladd Concert Hall, the Ying Quartet is one of the finest. The group is normally in residence at the **Eastman School of Music** in Rochester, and is spending several days on the campus in Saratoga Springs as part of an annual string festival.

The New Yorker (March 2)

Classical Music: Sam I Am

The centenary of the composer Samuel Barber is being celebrated in a rather muted fashion in the city in which he enjoyed his biggest triumphs. The Morgan Library & Museum is pitching in, however, presenting a performance of the String Quartet by the Ying Quartet on the night of the composer's birthday.

It's Samuel Barber's centennial year, but performances of his music are surprisingly few and far between. The vibrant string quartet, based at the **Eastman School of Music**, helps redress the balance by performing the String Quartet—which includes the immortal "Adagio for Strings"—on Barber's birthday at the Morgan Library & Museum, part of a concert that also features Sebastian Currier's "Next Atlantis" and Beethoven's Quartet in C-Sharp Minor Op. 131. *(Also reported by West Side The Apple Spirit, City Week)*

Broadway World (March 3)

The Hartt School Welcomes World Renowned Artists

Wednesday, March 10, from 5:30 PM- 7:30 PM, Carol Rodland from **Eastman School of Music** presents a Viola Master class in Room 201 of the Fuller Music Center. Rodland made her solo debut with the Philadelphia Orchestra at the age of seventeen. She subsequently won first prizes at the Washington International Competition, the Artists' International Auditions, and the Juilliard Concerto Competition, as well as the Universal Editions Prize at the Lionel Tertis International Viola Competition. . . . In 2008, Ms. Rodland was appointed to a tenured professorship at the Eastman School of Music. For further information, please visit www.carolrodland.com.

Medina Journal Register (March 3)

Concert series seeks support

Members of the committee for the Eastman Concert Series spoke to the Albion school board Monday about their plans.

. . . The April 11 concert will be held at the First Presbyterian Church and feature a quintet made up of faculty members from the **Eastman School of Music** and the **Eastman Community Music School**.

Ithaca Journal (March 4)

Cornell organ meant to inspire new generations

The Cornell Baroque Organ was designed based on original documentation by designer Arp Schnitger and early 20th century studies and recordings. Cornell collaborated in the research with the University of Gothenburg, Sweden, and the **Eastman School of Music** in Rochester.

AFP via Yahoo! (March 5)

Opera's Rising Stars Perform in Murfreesboro at 17th Annual Orpheus Vocal Competition

Dr. Brundage explains that this competition has the largest cash awards of any competition in the U.S. The panel of judges consists of DeeAnn Gorham, professor of voice and opera at Texas A&M University at Commerce; Benton Hess, professor of voice and music director for the Eastman opera at the renowned **Eastman School of Music** in New York; and John Kramar, professor of voice at the University of East Carolina and assistant director at Opera Chataqua.

The Korea Times (March 8)

Maestro Hahm Shin-ik's Humble Journey to Fame

It's well known that the ruthless and vulgar conductor Kang Mae from MBC's hit drama "Beethoven Virus" was based on world-renowned Maestro Hahm Shin-ik. But Hahm cringed when asked if he saw himself in the TV character. . . . "It's not easy leading a huge group of talented musicians," said the professor, who has led dozens of top American, Far Eastern and North and South American orchestras. "There is that unsolvable problem between an orchestra and music director because they're never going to be satisfied with each other." . . .

While studying at Rice University on a scholarship, Hahn juggled multiple part-time jobs, from driving delivery trucks to serving food at restaurants. He then pursued further studies at the **Eastman School of Music**, during which he founded the Gibbs Orchestra in Rochester, New York.

Broadway World (March 8)

Eastman School of Music Presents

EASTMAN VIRTUOSI at Merkin Hall, 3/27

On Saturday, March 27, 2010 at 8:00 PM, the **Eastman School of Music** - one of the nation's premier music institutions, named "Hottest School for Music" by Newsweek - presents its esteemed faculty-based chamber ensemble, Eastman Virtuosi, in concert at Kaufman Center's Merkin Concert Hall. The program features works by Georg Philipp Telemann, Francis Poulenc and Anton Dvorak, as well as the New York premiere of Sebastian Currier's Pulse (2002).

"An Eastman presence in New York City is crucial," said Douglas Lowry, Dean of the Eastman School of Music. "Eastman Virtuosi's March 27 concert represents our official re-entry into the New York area. With Eastman's venturesome outlook on the training of America's young musicians, and an influential musical reach that extends worldwide, we look forward to evolving a presence in the nation's cultural capital that is as stimulating and provocative as our students and alumni."

City (March 10)

Musician of the Year: Kenneth Grant

Since 1964 the alumni chapter of Mu Phi Epsilon has awarded a Musician of the Year award to a deserving **Eastman** faculty member. Past honorees have include Howard Hanson, Christopher Seaman, Jeff Tyzik, and the Ying Quartet. This year's honoree, Kenneth Grant, is associate professor of clarinet at **Eastman**, as well as principal clarinet of the RPO.

The New York Times (March 11)

Barber's Centenary, Celebrated Intensely

On Tuesday, the centenary of Barber's birth, the Ying Quartet offered a searing rendition of the Adagio in its performance of the Op. 11 quartet in Gilder Lehrman Hall at the Morgan Library & Museum. (In the foyer Barber's autographed

manuscript of "Essay for Strings" was on display, a recent gift from the collector Robert Owen Lehman.)

The quartet, the resident ensemble at the **Eastman School of Music**, then played the original third movement. Phillip Ying, the violist, said Barber had struggled to compose a suitable movement to follow the Adagio. He discarded this earlier version, "Andante mosso, un poco agitato," in favor of a revised (and more effective) coda. In both, Barber borrowed rhythmic and thematic motifs from the first movement.

Victoria Advocate (March 11)

Break of Reality returns to perform in Victoria

This Saturday, take a break from reality with Break of Reality. The New York-based band, co-founded by Victoria's own Ivan Trevino, is coming back to the city for a performance at the Victoria College Auditorium this weekend.

Break of Reality is an instrumental rock band that started out as a side project for Trevino and his classmates while they attended **Eastman School of Music** in New York. Now the band, which also includes cellists Patrick Laird, Philip Borter and Martin Torch-Ishii, fits in concerts in various part of the country in between finishing up their schooling, Trevino said. After their Victoria performance, Break of Reality will head to Austin to play South by Southwest at Club 115 on March 20.

Columbia Missourian (March 11)

Musicians set to perform at Plowman Chamber Music Competition

Musicians from across the nation will be in Columbia this weekend for the fourth Plowman Chamber Music Competition. Eighteen non-professional ensembles will compete for a grand prize of \$5,000.

The Red Line Saxophone Quartet is coming from Rochester, N.Y., where members Brandon Kies, Gai Qun, Doug O'Connor and Quinn Lewis are students at the **Eastman School of Music**. In the 2008 Plowman Competition, Red Line was given one of the judges' special recognition awards.

“They made a huge impression on us back in 2008 because they performed with their music memorized, which is extremely rare for chamber music, especially for saxophone quartets,” Tsuruta said. (*Note: Red Line Saxophone Quartet was awarded First Place in the Plowman Competition.*)

Tallahassee Democrat (March 11)

Tallahassee Bach Parley to perform

The Tallahassee Bach Parley, Tallahassee’s baroque music ensemble, continues its concert season with guest artist William Porter, organ, performing J.S. Bach’s “The Art of the Fugue.” Porter has a distinguished performing and teaching career of organ, harpsichord, and improvisation and teaches at the **Eastman School of Music** and McGill University.

Strings Magazine (March 15)

News From the String World: Eastman Virtuosi Debuts Sebastian Currier’s ‘Pulse’

The **Eastman Virtuosi**, the Eastman School of Music’s faculty-based chamber ensemble, will perform the New York premiere of Sebastian Currier’s *Pulse* on March 27 at the Kaufman Center’s Merkin Concert Hall. The program will also include works by Georg Philipp Telemann, Francis Poulenc, and Antonín Dvořák. kaufman-center.org/merkin-concert-hall

City Newspaper (March 17)

Classical Preview: Women in Music Festival

The **Eastman School of Music's** annual Women in Music Festival highlights the accomplishments of distaff musicians and composers from the past, and aims to also celebrate the women composers of the present. "One cannot deny the fact that some women had - and still have - to fight really hard for their music to be heard in the first place," says Eastman professor Dr. Sylvie Beaudette, founder of the Women in Music Festival. "Others, very successful in their lifetime, were totally ignored in music history books until recently."

... This year's composer-in-residence is Emma Lou Deimer. An **Eastman** alum, Deimer graduated from the school with her doctorate in composition in 1960. She has been published since 1957 in a variety of genres. Her awards and honors include a Ford Foundation Young Composers Grant, an NEA Scholarship, and a Kennedy Center Friedheim Award, as well as

numerous others. The festival will honor Deimer with a concert of her music on Tuesday, March 23, at 8 p.m. at the Christ Episcopal Church. The concert will include choral and organ works by Deimer, as well as the world premiere of "Quartet on Themes by Howard Hanson" by members of Ossia, Eastman's new music ensemble. (*Also reported by the Democrat and Chronicle and Batavia Daily News.*)

The Daily News (March 17)

'Film Lost and Found' series begins Thursday

In the years before the development of synchronized sound on film, motion picture screenings of “silent films” were hardly silent, often including live music, commentary or even a traveling showman, according to Joanne Bernardi, professor of film and media studies at the University of Rochester.

Bernardi and her colleagues will recreate such experiences during "Film Lost and Found: The Experience of Pre- and Silent Cinema," a series of events scheduled March 18 to 21. The project is a collaboration between the University of Rochester, its **Eastman School of Music**, and the George Eastman House International Museum of Photography and Film. . . .

The historic Dryden Theatre is the venue for the program’s silent feature film, *The Poor Little Rich Girl*, accompanied by The Flower City Society Orchestra and conducted by Dr. Philip C. Carli, a film expert and musicologist. The evening begins — as was the custom at the time — with a pre-program of shorts (commercials, newsreels, animations) featuring new scores by composition students from the University of Rochester’s **Eastman School of Music**. The student composers are in a year-long Film Scoring class taught by Michaela Eremiášova and Jairo Duarte-López, candidates for a doctorate in composition at Eastman. (*Also reported by the Democrat & Chronicle*)

The Daily News (March 18)

GCC to host Eastman Wind Ensemble

Rochester's Eastman Wind Ensemble will perform May 1 in the Stuart Steiner Theatre at Genesee Community College, 1 College Rd. The one-night only concert begins at 7:30 p.m.

In the early 1950s, Frederic Fennell -- a former conductor of the Genesee Symphony Orchestra -- was a young faculty member at Rochester's **Eastman School of Music**, brainchild of Kodak founder George Eastman. Fennell loved concert band music, and so founded the Eastman Wind Ensemble, which became one of the world's leading wind ensembles. . . .

The Ensemble celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2002 with a conference of international scope, including the premiere of a new work, the gathering of composers and performers from around the world, and the release of a multi-CD set of recordings compiled from sessions in Japan, Rochester and elsewhere. The Ensemble's current director, Mark Davis Scatterday, was also introduced in 2002 as conductor of the group. Scatterday is Professor of Conducting and Chair of the Conducting and Ensembles Department at the University of Rochester's **Eastman School of Music**.

The Boston Globe (March 19)
Energy and intellect: Jazz sextet pays respect to the music of Stockhausen and Sun Ra

A pair of star charts, the kind used in astrology readings, adorn the cover of the latest recording by the almost decade-old, New York-based Respect Sextet. One chart is for Karlheinz Stockhausen, the avant-garde composer, born in 1928 in Germany. The other is for Sun Ra, the jazz visionary and leader of the Arkestra, who was presumably born in Alabama in 1914 — although there is ambiguity on that score.

Sun Ra's birth certificate was never found, explain Respect trumpeter Eli Asher and saxophonist Josh Rutner in a conversation in a Manhattan coffee shop. With the specific time of Sun Ra's birth unknown, the chart they had made for him is half blank, while Stockhausen's has the full set of symbols and web of connecting lines. . . .

So when Asher and pianist Red Wierenga floated the pun-driven concept of a record called "Sirius Respect: The Respect Sextet Play the Music of Sun Ra and Stockhausen," the rest of the band — fellow composers and free spirits who trained together at the **Eastman School of Music** in Rochester — signed on happily.

. . . For "Sirius Respect," the band — which includes Ted Poor on drums, James Hirschfeld on trombone, and Malcolm Kirby on bass — picked items from Sun Ra's catalog with plenty of swing, like "Angels and Demons at Play." The Stockhausen pieces are mostly from his 1975 zodiacal suite, "Tierkreis."

Democrat & Chronicle (March 21)
Eastman alumni filling niche in classical music

German composer Helmut Lachenmann might be contemporary classical music's J.R.R. Tolkien. . . .

While a map and character outline is helpful for deciphering Tolkien's writing, Lachenmann's scores include pages of explanations for the musicians. He rarely leaves anything to chance, though; Lachenmann travels to meet musicians in person to teach his new techniques for their instruments. It's like learning to play music all over again.

Signal Ensemble, a recently formed contemporary music ensemble based in New York City and directed by the **Eastman School of Music's** Brad Lubman along with cellist alumni Lauren Radnofsky, will perform a full concert of Lachenmann's ear bending works in Rochester this week. It celebrates Lachenmann's upcoming 75th birthday and is one of three concerts Signal is doing across New York state, including the University of Buffalo and at the Miller Center in NYC. It hopes to give Lachenmann, a composer largely active in Europe, due notice in the United States. (*Also reported by City newspaper and the Batavia Daily News*)

Winston-Salem Journal (March 22)
Soprano Renée Fleming to perform with Winston-Salem Symphony

Fans of the best opera singing should have plenty to cheer about on Sept. 27. That's when Renée Fleming, an oft-recorded soprano noted for her performances at the Metropolitan Opera and other major houses, will perform with the Winston-Salem Symphony in Reynolds Auditorium. . . . Fleming has long been interested in such nonoperatic genres as jazz, which she might have sung on tour had she not decided to pursue graduate studies at both the

Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y., and the Juilliard School.

Syracuse New Times (March 25)

Poetry in Motion

Author Margaret Atwood has said that her two favorite types of music are opera and country-western, because both tell stories. Over the past few years, soprano Eileen Stempel and pianist Sylvie Beaudette have been working to make Atwood's own poetry into music, to tell a story too seldom heard: that of women composers. The duo's latest CD, (In)Habitation (Centaur Records), features musical settings for select Atwood poems by six leading contemporary female composers: Libby Larson, Tania León, Lori Laitman, Judith Cloud, Amanda Harberg and Elisenda Fábregas.

A concert and official CD release party, sponsored by the Society for New Music, will be held Sunday, March 28, 2:30 p.m., in the Hosmer Auditorium at the Everson Museum of Art, 401 Harrison St. (In)Habitation is available for \$16 at centaurrecords.com or at amazon.com. The album's release coincides with March as Women's History Month and with the sixth annual Women in Music Festival, going on in Rochester, which Beaudette founded in 2005 at the University of Rochester's **Eastman School of Music**, where she also teaches. *(Also reviewed by the Democrat & Chronicle)*

Democrat & Chronicle (March 25)

Ying Quartet performs Beethoven quartets Sunday

The Ying Quartet, the **Eastman School of Music's** string-quartet-in-residence, presents its third recital of Beethoven's Quartets this season at 3 p.m. Sunday in Kilbourn Hall, 26 Gibbs St.

Democrat & Chronicle (March 26)

Eastman Music students perform for community

Eastman School of Music students need to get out of the classroom and the concert hall every so often to brush up on their people skills because, after all, music is a performance art that strives to connect with an audience. In fact, improving those skills is actually part of the curriculum at the college. Each year, through a program called "Music for All," chamber ensembles from the school go out to local elementary schools, senior

centers and other civic venues to perform and educate.

More than 40 groups of chamber students were out in the community Thursday. Peter Kodzas, director of the program, said students worked for more than a semester on their performances and presentations.

Democrat & Chronicle (March 26)

Opera Gala at Eastman Theatre

The **Eastman Opera Theatre** is presenting an Opera Gala featuring scenes from works including Strauss' "Ariadne auf Naxos," Mozart's "Don Giovanni" and "Cosi fan Tutte," and Donizetti's "L'elisire D'Amore." *(Also reported by 13 WHAM-TV)*

WXXI (March 26)

Composer Robert Morris experiences nature as music

On Monday, March 29th in Kilbourn Hall, composer Robert Morris will introduce new works, including a piece inspired by the Chimney Bluffs at Sodus Bay. He's taught at the **Eastman School** for thirty years. It's an anniversary concert, but not a retrospective. Morris says he's still moving in new directions, as WXXI Brenda Tremblay reports.

WXXI (March 26)

Rochester's Classical Idol Contest spotlights rising opera singers

On Saturday March 27th at the Hochstein Performance Hall, an audience will witness Rochester's Fourth Annual Classical Idol singing contest in which a dozen young opera singers will compete for a \$2,000 top prize. WXXI's Brenda Tremblay is hosting the show. Two of the judges are Benton Hess of the **Eastman School of Music** and Julia Figueras, Music Director of Classical 91.5. Brenda asked Julia and Benton to explain, using a couple of sample audition tapes, what they'll be listening and watching for during Saturday night's contest.

Grand Rapids Press (March 28)

Profile: Musician and conductor Nancy Summers-Meeusen

For nine years, Summers has led the West Michigan chapter of the New Horizons International Music Association, a nationally

known music program for mature adults founded in 1991 by Roy Ernst of **Eastman School of Music** in Rochester, N.Y.

Cincinnati Enquirer (March 28)

Piano summit honors Chopin, Schumann

The festival, to take place in Werner Recital Hall, will include recitals and master classes conducted by three important pianists from the world of teaching and performing: Ian Hobson, Robert Weirich and Nelita True. True, who serves on the faculty of the **Eastman School of Music** in Rochester, N.Y., will lead a master class at 4 p.m. Wednesday.

WHEC TV - News 10NBC (March 31)

Open rehearsal for the Rochester City Ballet

If you like the ballet, you have a chance to see the Rochester City Ballet up close and personal. There is an open rehearsal this Friday. The dancers are working with renowned ballet master and Joffrey Ballet Authority Cameron Basden. She is in town staging a work called "Valentine" by Gerald Arpino that will be performed by RCB at a later date.

The ballet dancers won't be the only ones on stage. They'll be joined by solo bass player James Van Demark - an **Eastman School of Music** professor. And he has to learn more than just the music. Basden says that is what makes this collaboration unique.

Tulsa World (March 31)

Bob Sheppard to highlight OSU Jazz Festival

Internationally renowned multi-woodwind jazz musician Bob Sheppard will perform at Oklahoma State University's 2010 Jazz Festival on April 10 in Stillwater. . . . A graduate of the **Eastman School of Music** at the University of Rochester (N.Y.), Sheppard also is an educator at the University of Southern California.

City Newspaper (March 31)

Music Profile: Byron Stripling

When trumpeter Byron Stripling returns to the **Eastman School of Music**, he'll have some valuable lessons to teach aspiring big band players. Stripling attended Eastman in the early 1980's, but did not graduate. The lessons he'll impart have a lot to do with the difference between education and experience.

Rochester Business Journal (March 31)
Hoffman to narrate Eastman Theatre documentary

Academy Award-winner and Rochester area native Philip Seymour Hoffman will narrate a new WXXI-TV documentary, "Restoring a Masterpiece: The Renovation of the Eastman Theatre." The one-hour documentary aims to capture the fascinating story of the Eastman Theatre and documents its recent restoration.

Historic photographs, film and video—including live performances from **Eastman School** and the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra Inc. among others—are featured. The film premieres on WXXI-TV in June. A graduate of Fairport High School, Hoffman has starred in "Capote," "Charlie Wilson's War," "Doubt" and "Pirate Radio."

WXXI, **Eastman School of Music** and the RPO will present a special screening of the documentary on at 7 p.m. April 13. (*Also reported by the Democrat & Chronicle, Batavia Daily News, WHEC-TV*)

(Note: There are numerous references every day in the media identifying musicians and scholars as Eastman School of Music alumni or current or former faculty; this report includes selected clippings.)