# EASTMAN HORN CHOIR

W. Peter Kurau, director

Wednesday, September 11, 2024

Kilbourn Hall
11:30 AM



## **PROGRAM**

Mitten wir im Leben sind ("Though in the midst of Life we be") from *Kirchenmusik, Op. 23* 

Felix Mendelsohn (1809-1847) arr. Verne Reynolds

## REFLECTIONS

Jonathan Baldo, Professor of Humanities

**Remembering 9/11** (2002)

Steven Morrell ('92E)

SFC J.G. Miller ('06E), horn

## REFLECTIONS

George Taylor, Professor of Viola, and UR Chaplain

Wo ist ein so herrlich Volk from Fest- und Gedenksprüche Op. 109 ("Festive and Memorial Music") Johannes Brahms (1833-1897) trans. Verne Reynolds

## REFLECTIONS

Kate Sheeran, Joan and Martin Messenger Dean of the Eastman School

America the Beautiful

Samuel A. Ward (1848-1903) trans. SFC J.G. Miller

The 9/11/2001 attacks have forever changed our country and the world we live in. We in the Horn Studio wanted to offer a brief concert to commemorate the ongoing significance of this event, to honor the lives lost, and to provide some solace to the burdens we continue to bear. Even though most of our current students were not alive when it happened, it was an event of such magnitude that should never be forgotten. Thank you for spending time with us today, both in Kilbourn Hall and via the live stream, and we hope that this event provides comfort and renewal.

—Peter Kurau, Professor of Horn

## PERSONNEL

## **EASTMAN HORN CHOIR**

W. Peter Kurau, director

Jackson Cadengo Amelia Caruk Morgan Chalmers Lilah Costanzo Aliceyn Covington Jacob Factor Jack Finlay Andrew Foster Aaron Fulton Kasey Gibbons Nicholas Grey August Haller Lea Helsel Nathan Howton Abbey Jemison Suzie Lee Nicole Keller Mary Kimble Abigail Konopik Kyle Schober Diego Solis Aby Stumpf Danica Tuohy John Wellmann Jennelle Williams Sam Wood Miles Woods Zirui Claire Zhao

Ethan Millington, tuba

#### MEET THE ARTISTS

From Mozart to military music, conducting to composition, The Who to woodwind quintets and everything else in between, Sergeant First Class **J.G. Miller** enjoys every aspect of the music industry.

Born in Colorado into a family of musicloving medical professionals, he aspired to follow in their footsteps; however, he quickly discovered he enjoyed spending time in the practice room far more than the laboratory.



He holds a doctorate from The University of Southern California, a master's from The University of Arizona, and degrees in Performance and Education from The Eastman School of Music, where he received the Performer's Certificate.

A member of The United States Army Field Band, SFC Miller logs thousands of miles each year with this premier touring concert band, performing free concerts for the public, connecting citizens with their Army, and honoring veterans.

He was the first to be elected to the position of Military Liaison to the International Horn Society. He has performed and presented at several IHS symposium on topics including metallurgical archeology, horn in the rock genre, and copyright law for young arrangers.

Prior to service, he was the brass leader for The Who's Quadrophenia and More Tour; additionally, Miller performed in Los Angeles studio orchestras on major motion picture soundtracks including "The Amazing Spider-Man," "Oblivion," and "Snow White and the Huntsmen." He has performed with orchestras in Maryland, Virgina, California, Arizona, New York, and Pennsylvania.

An active educator, Miller has been involved with Kendall Betts Horn Camp and Cormont Music since 2002 as staff, faculty, board member, and currently serves as Vice President.

As a composer and arranger, Miller's works compositions have been performed around the world. He was honored to compose "The United

#### MEET THE ARTISTS

States Cyber Command March," premiered by The United States Army Field Band at the National Security Agency in 2018. He serves as Vice President of Veritas Musica Publishing, founded by American composer Wayne Lu.

His horn teachers include Peter Kurau, James Thatcher, Daniel Katzen, and the late Kendall Betts. He also studied horn construction, repair, tooling, and acoustical engineering under Walter Lawson, Bruce Lawson and Kendall Betts while working for Lawson Horns.

With as much time as he spends on the road, there's no place quite like home: he enjoys spending time at home with his spouse, three children, and dog in Maryland. His hobbies include motorcycling, St. Louis baseball, eSports, and visiting national parks.

The Eastman Horn Choir was founded in 1968 by Verne Reynolds, Professor Emeritus of Horn at the Eastman School of Music, who served as its director until his retirement in 1995. From its inception, the Choir's mission has been threefold: to provide an expanded ensemble experience for the horn students; to acquaint them (through transcriptions) of the breadth of quality repertoire (with a particular emphasis on the glorious vocal music of the German and Italian Renaissance) within our musical culture; and to encourage contemporary composers to create original works for multiple horns. In addition to compositions and commissions by such notable composers as Samuel Adler, Jeff Tyzik, John Cheetham, David Diamond, James Willey, Daniel Baldwin, Pamela Marshall, and Jennifer Bellor, the Choir's repertoire in recent years has expanded to include transcriptions from the classical, romantic, and modern eras. Many of these transcriptions are the product of the creativity and entrepreneurship of current members and alumni of the horn studio.

The Choir has been featured on the "Eastman at Washington Square," "Music at St. Andrew's," and "Music at St. John" series, on the annual Brass Cavalcade during Meliora Weekend, and on a biennial tribute to St. Hubert (patron saint of the hunt, from which the horn derives much of its repertoire) in a formal concert in the Eastman Theatre. In addition, the Choir is honored to be featured in an annual holiday concert on "Live from Hochstein" (broadcast live on WXXI-FM 91.5, a National Public Radio affiliate.)

## MEET THE ARTISTS

In 2002, the Choir was a featured ensemble (the only collegiate choir in the world so honored) at the 34th International Horn Symposium held in Lahti, Finland, where it presented three performances to critical and popular acclaim. As a result of its successes there, the Choir was invited to present three performances at the 36th International Horn Symposium, held in July 2004 in Valencia, Spain.

The 29 students within the Choir are enrolled as applied horn students at the Eastman School, and are pursuing collectively 5 various degrees and majors, and range from undergraduate students to doctoral students. Geographically diverse, they represent 14 different states, and 4 countries at present (2024).

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

## KILBOURN CONCERT SERIES

## William Prince

Kilbourn Hall

Friday, September 13, 2024 at 7:30 PM

A Juno Award-winning artist, William Prince is storytelling singer/songwriter from Peguis First Nation (Canada) who sidesteps cliches to provoke thought and facilitate discovery. His baritone vocals pay tribute to his late father and his genuine delivery acknowledges the hundreds of hours he's spent on stage.

## **EASTMAN RANLET SERIES**

## Ying Quartet

Kilbourn Hall

Sunday, September 15, 2024 at 3:00 PM

Music of Wolf, Puccini, Pierre Jalbert, and Schumann

## **FACULTY ARTIST SERIES**

# **Composition Faculty Showcase**

Kilbourn Hall

Monday, September 16, 2024 at 7:30 PM

## UPCOMING STUDENT ENSEMBLE CONCERTS

All student performances are free unless otherwise noted.

## Eastman Wind Ensemble

Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre

Monday, September 16, 2024 at 7:30 PM

Music of Plog (World Premiere), Sierra, and Bronnenkant

## **ROCHESTER FRINGE FESTIVAL**

## Eastman Percussion Ensemble

Sproull Atrium

Tuesday, September 17, 2024 at 7:30 PM

\*Tickets are required and can be purchased through Rochester Fringe Festival



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

