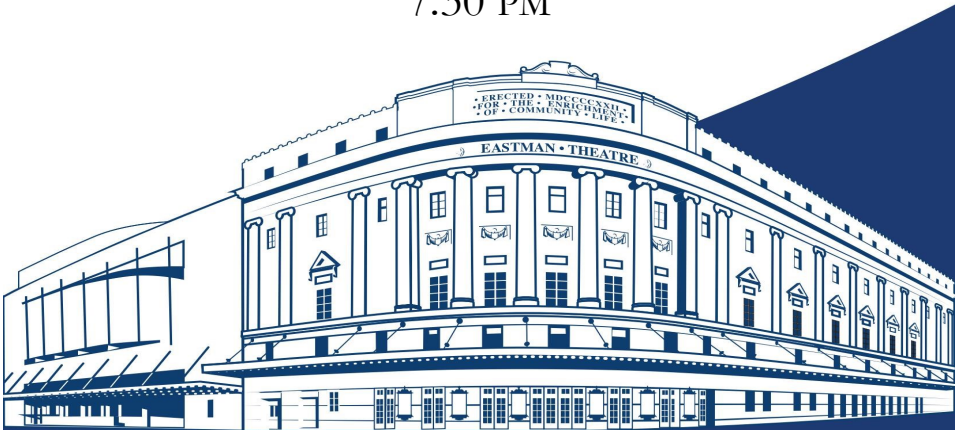


GUEST ARTIST RECITAL

**CLIFFORD LEAMAN &
JOSEPH LALLO,
SAXOPHONE**

**NICHOLAS SUSI,
PIANO**

Monday, September 18, 2023
Kilbourn Hall
7:30 PM



EASTMAN
SCHOOL OF MUSIC
UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER

PROGRAM

Seventh Heaven (2022) Matthew Orlovich
Brillante (b. 1970)
Fugitivo
Con ritmo

Lullaby for the Innocent (2022) Catherine Likhuta
(b. 1981)

Traces (2021) John Fitz Rogers
Schools of Thought (b. 1963)
Entrainment
Shard
if then

The Lily-colored Jasmine Flowers (2022) Fang Man
(b. 1977)

Three Dances (2022) Braxton Blake
Rondo (b. 1954)
Sarabande
Tarantella

These works are made possible by an ASPIRE grant from the Office of the Vice President for Research at the University of South Carolina, and the Faculty of Fine Arts and Music, University of Melbourne.

MEET THE ARTISTS

Critics have hailed **Clifford Leaman** as “an artist of the first order...intuitive, exciting, and enthralling.” (Paul Wagner, *The Saxophone Journal*) Leaman reveals himself to be {an} artist of technical brilliance and emotional commitment.” “The range of colors is impressive...” (Jack Sullivan, *American Record Guide*) Associate Dean, Director of Graduate Studies, and Professor of Saxophone at the University of South Carolina, Leaman is in great demand as a soloist and clinician and has performed and taught throughout the United States, Canada, Italy, Spain, France, Slovenia, Croatia, Sweden, Australia, Thailand, Taiwan, and China. Leaman has recorded four compact discs with piano, and two discs with percussionist Scott Herring as the RoseWind Duo. In addition to his work with piano and marimba, Leaman has performed as a concerto soloist with numerous Wind Ensembles and Orchestras and has recorded concerti by Brant, Bassett, and Dahl. He has given masterclasses at major schools of music and conservatories across the globe, including the Northwestern, Eastman, Michigan, North Texas, Florida State, Paris, Boulogne-Billancourt, Strasbourg, Aragón, Escola Catalunya, Beijing Central, Shanghai, and the Sichuan Conservatories, among many others. An avid supporter of contemporary music, Leaman has commissioned and given the world premiere performances of over 35 works, including concerti by William Bolcom, Leslie Bassett, Frank Ticheli, Stacy Garrop, and Michael Colgrass. Leaman is an artist-clinician for D’Addario and the Conn-Selmer Company, Inc. and Key Leaves and performs exclusively on Selmer saxophones and D’Addario Reserve reeds.

Joseph Lallo is the Saxophone Lecturer at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music and Artistic Director of the Melbourne International Saxophone Festival. He has premiered over 40 works for saxophone, and his 2021 recording for ABC Classic was included in their ‘Best of Australian Classical Music’ playlist. In 2022, Joseph completed his PhD, ‘The Performer/Curator: Expanding the Parameters of Artistic Expression and Creativity in a Concert.’ His work explores how our experience of music can serve as a model for our connection with each other and the world around us, with recent performances including *Sound of Water*, *What is a City?* and *Her Lover’s Shadow*. Joseph is a member of the chamber music ensembles Collide, with cellist Yelian He and pianist Yasmin Rowe, and Duo Obax, with oboist Briana Leaman. He has performed and given masterclasses throughout Europe, North America

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and the Asia Pacific, including concerts with the Strasbourg Philharmonic Orchestra, Orchestra Victoria and China's Xiamen Philharmonic Orchestra. A graduate of Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, Joseph was awarded the Catherine Grace McWilliam Bequest for achieving the highest result in his Bachelor of Music. As the winner of the Donovan-Johnston Travel Scholarship, he went on to study with Marie-Bernadette Charrier at the Bordeaux Conservatoire de Musique in France, and later completed both a Masters of Saxophone Performance and a Masters of Orchestral and Opera Conducting in Strasbourg with Philippe Geiss and Theodor Guschlbauer. Joseph is a Selmer Saxophones Artist and a D'Addario Woodwind Artist, and performs on Series III Alto & Soprano Saxophones, Selmer Mouthpieces, and D'Addario Reserve Reeds.

Described in *The WholeNote* as “an innovative musician and aggressive thinker with a gift for keyboard brilliance,” pianist **Nicholas Susi** enjoys a multifaceted career as performer, clinician, adjudicator, and lecturer. His artistry has been recognized through top prizes in such competitions as the NFMC Young Artist Award, while his research has been awarded prestigious grants from the Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst amongst others. Noteworthy appearances include two concerts for the Princess von Hohenzollern, his semifinalist recital during the 2014 International Franz Liszt Piano Competition (Utrecht, The Netherlands), and concerto solos with several orchestras across the United States and Europe. His debut recording, *Scarlatti Now*, has received critical acclaim and international radio airplay. Dr. Susi is Assistant Professor of Piano at the University of South Carolina. He received his doctorate from the University of Michigan, with previous studies at the University of Kansas and Hochschule für Musik und Tanz Köln. Primary teachers include Zena Ilyashov, Jack Winerock, Nina Tichman, and Arthur Greene. For more information, please visit www.nicholas-susi.com.

Dr Matthew Orlovich (b. 1970) is a freelance composer based in Sydney, Australia. He studied composition at the University of Sydney under the supervision of Associate Professor Eric Gross and Professor Peter Sculthorpe, gaining the degrees of BMus (1st Class Honours & University Medal) and PhD. Published by Alfred Music, Morton Music, Reed Music and Waratah Music, his catalogue of scores has garnered the interest and

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admiration of performers and audiences worldwide and includes music for solo instrumentalists, large and small ensembles, choirs, bands and orchestras. Highlights of the catalogue include *Lo, there is light!* (commissioned by The Harvard University Choir, USA), *Crazy Logic* for saxophone and piano (performed by Gerard McChrystal and Mary Dullea at Wigmore Hall, London), *Tides of Ocean* (performed by the Asia Pacific Youth Choir at Milan Expo), *Aviation* (performed by BBC Singers, London), *Carnival Capers* (commissioned by soloist Barry Cockcroft for performance with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra at the World Saxophone Congress XVI, Scotland), *Communion of Reparation for Our Lady of Sorrows* (commissioned for performance by the Sydney Conservatorium Chamber Choir upon the occasion of the centenary of the Sydney Conservatorium of Music), *Butterflies Dance* (performed by Latitude 34 at the inaugural Gondwana World Choral Festival, Sydney), *Flying Colours* (a saxophone concerto commissioned for performance by the United States Navy Band, Washington D.C.) and *Escapade* (a concerto for saxophone and band performed by soloist Jérôme Laran with L'orchestre d'harmonie H2O, Toulouse, France). Matthew's most recent contributions to the repertoire include a new saxophone and tuba work for Ensemble Phantasmagoria (Portugal), two new a cappella works for Sydney Philharmonia Choirs, a festive choral work for Acappellago (Chicago, USA), a Vivaldi-inspired setting for the choir and soloists of London College of Music (UK), a setting of poetry by Søren Kierkegaard for soprano saxophone and choir commissioned by Brisbane Chamber Choir (QLD, Australia), and a concertino commissioned for premiere performance by the Sydney Conservatorium Saxophone Orchestra with soloist Dr. Michael Duke.

Catherine Likhuta is a Ukrainian-Australian composer, pianist and recording artist. Her music exhibits high emotional charge, programmatic nature, rhythmic complexity and Ukrainian folk elements. Catherine's pieces have been played extensively around the world, including highly prestigious venues such as Carnegie Hall, Glyndebourne Opera House, numerous International Horn Symposiums and World Saxophone Congresses, as well as many festivals and conferences. Her works have been commissioned and performed by prominent symphony orchestras (such as Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Queensland Symphony Orchestra, The Ohio State University Symphony Orchestra and Orchestra

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of the National Radio of Ukraine), chamber ensembles (such as Atlantic Brass Quintet, Ensemble Q, ICE, Lyrebird Brass, NU CORNO and U.S. Army Field Band Horns) and soloists (including former presidents of the North American Saxophone Alliance Griffin Campbell and the International Horn Society Andrew Pelletier). Catherine has held residencies at Tyalgum Music Festival, North Carolina NewMusic Initiative, University of Missouri Kansas City, University of Georgia, The Ohio State University, Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, Cornell University, Syracuse University and other institutions. She is a two-time winner of the International Horn Society Composition Contest (virtuoso division) and a recipient of several awards, including two grants from the Australia Council for the Arts. Her music can be heard on Albany, Cala, Common Tone, Equilibrium, Mark and Summit Records. Horn virtuosa Denise Tryon's album *Hope Springs Eternal* featuring Catherine's piece *Vivid Dreams* was awarded the 2022 American Prize in Instrumental Performance.

Composer **John Fitz Rogers's** music has been performed and commissioned by ensembles, festivals, and venues such as Alarm Will Sound, Bang on a Can Marathon, Third Coast Percussion, American Modern Ensemble, Ear Taxi Festival, Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, National Cathedral, the Albany, Louisville, Charleston, and Tulsa Symphony Orchestras, South Carolina Philharmonic, New York Youth Symphony, World Saxophone Congress, Bennington Chamber Music Conference, the MATA, Rockport, Bumbershoot, Bravo! Vail, and Bowling Green festivals, Festival of New American Music, Phillips Collection Concert Series, and the College Band Directors National Association and the Percussive Arts Society national conferences. Rogers's recordings include *Once Removed*, a collection of his chamber music, and *Magna Mysteria*, for soprano, choir, and chamber orchestra, both on Innova Recordings.

Rogers has received many fellowships and awards, including those from ASCAP, New Music USA, the American Composers Forum and the Jerome Foundation, Music at the Anthology and the Mary Flagler Cary Trust, National Flute Association, MacDowell Colony, South Carolina Arts Commission, and the Massachusetts Cultural Council, as well as the Heckscher Foundation Composition Prize. A dedicated advocate for

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contemporary music, Rogers founded and directed the Southern Exposure New Music Series, which received a Chamber Music America / ASCAP Award for Adventurous Programming. He holds degrees in music from Cornell University, the Yale School of Music, and Oberlin College, and is a Professor of Composition at the University of South Carolina School of Music as well as composition faculty at the Vermont College of Fine Arts.

Hailed as “*inventive and breathtaking*” by the New York Times, **Fang Man** is a Chinese-born American composer who has been influenced by both Eastern and Western musical and literary traditions, often borrows materials and ideas from traditional Chinese operas, instrumental music, and folk music, blending them with Western techniques and forms. Her music has been performed by the San Francisco Symphony and Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra New Music Group both under the baton of maestro Esa-Pekka Salonen, as well as Camerata Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Basel Sinfonietta, American Composers Orchestra (ACO), Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra, National Orchestre de Lorraine, Minnesota Orchestra, Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra, among others. In 2019-20, she was featured as the composer-in-residence with the Mannheimer Philharmoniker under maestro Boian Videnoff (Germany). She was the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship, Koussevitzky Foundation Commission, League of American Orchestras/ the Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation Commission, an Underwood/ACO Commission, Toru Takemitsu Award (Japan), Opera America Discovery Grant, the National Endowment for the Arts Award, among other recognitions. She has been invited to new music festivals such as the Festival d'Aix-en-Provence, Centre Acanthes (France); Darmstadt New Music Festival, and residencies such as at the Hermitage Artist Retreat in Florida, Aldeburgh Music Centre (UK), and Civitella Ranieri Music Foundation (Italy).

Fang studied with Steven Stucky and Roberto Sierra at Cornell University, where she earned a Doctor of Musical Arts degree. She also studied at IRCAM-Paris and Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing. She is currently an Associate Professor of Composition at the University of South Carolina' School of Music. She has recently written new works for Nexus Quartet (Sydney, Australia), Duo Imaginaire (Germany) and HD Duo (Sydney, Australia), plus music for premiere performances at Contrasti Festival (Trento, Italy) and Hot Air Music Festival (San Francisco, USA).

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Braxton Blake was raised in Galveston, Texas, where he first studied composition and theory with Francis J. Pyle, and thereafter at the University of Houston, studying composition with Michael Horvit and Thomas Benjamin, with additional concentration in piano and conducting. He received the degrees Master of Music and Doctor of Philosophy from the Eastman School of Music, where he studied with Samuel Adler, Warren Benson, and Joseph Schwantner, and served as music director of the Musica Nova Ensemble. Mr. Blake has participated in various music festivals, including the Aspen Music Festival, the Bayreuth Festival, and the Dartington Festival, (studies in composition with Peter Maxwell Davies and conducting with Diego Masson). While living in Stuttgart, he studied composition with Milko Kelemen at the Staatliche Musikhochschule. His professional engagements include serving as music director for the Erick Hawkins Dance Company, New York, with which he toured extensively throughout the United States, as well as guest conducting appearances with Ensemble Modern, Frankfurt, Musik Fabrik, the Stuttgart Philharmonic, the San Francisco Contemporary Music Players, the South German Radio Choir, the Contemporary Music Alliance Stuttgart, the Koechlin Ensemble, Ensemble 20, the Stuttgart Ballet, the Studio Ensemble Stuttgart, and Musica Nova Stuttgart. He has recorded extensively for the South German Radio and the labels Muza and Col Legno. Mr. Blake's commissions include those from the Sonderjyllands Symfoniorkester (Denmark), the Galveston Symphony, the Vail Valley Foundation, the Cities of Mannheim and Stuttgart, Ensemble GelberKlang, the Stuttgart Philharmonic, the West German Radio (Cologne), the Stuttgart Ballet, and the University of Michigan. His works have been recorded for CD and broadcast by the Southwest German Radio and can be heard on the labels Ars-Musici, Troy, and Albany. Mr. Blake is a recipient of the Wladimir and Rhoda Lakond Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

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

ROCHESTER FRINGE FESTIVAL

Dave Rivello Ensemble RED

Kilbourn Hall

Thursday, September 21, 2023 at 7:30 PM

What happens when the 13-member Dave Rivello Ensemble plugs in? DRE I RED! Sharp angles contrasted with smooth textures and combined with dynamic solos make for an evening of continuous color. This is an extension of the Dave Rivello Ensemble, which is celebrating 30 years as a band in Rochester, and continues to be Rivello's vehicle for his original work, as well as his main orchestral voice. From the beginning, this ensemble has blurred lines, and crossed genres—come get lost in DRE | RED!

ROCHESTER FRINGE FESTIVAL

Varemba: Mbira Music of Zimbabwe

Hatch Recital Hall

Thursday, September 21, 2023 at 7:30 PM

Varemba presents the sacred spirit music of the Zimbabwean mbira dzavadzimu. Born to a family of indigenous wisdom keepers and decolonization movement actors, Moyo Mutamba is a musician, storyteller, and community builder. He is joined by Eastman faculty member Jennifer Kyker and vocalist/percussionist Memory Makuri, who performed for many years as a back-up singer and dancer for the legendary Thomas Mapfumo and the Blacks Unlimited.

UPCOMING STUDENT ENSEMBLE CONCERTS

All student performances are free unless otherwise noted.

Eastman Wind Orchestra

Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre

Friday, September 22, 2023 at 7:30 PM

With music from Carolyn Bremer, Dwayne Milburn, and Frank Ticheli



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



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