



UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER

**Eastman
School of Music**

100 YEARS | 1921-2021

Eastman Philharmonia

**Neil Varon
and Timothy Long,
conductors**

Joy Harjo, narrator

**James VanDemark,
double bass**

Monday, December 5, 2022
Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre
7:30 PM

~ PROGRAM ~
Eastman Philharmonia
Neil Varon and Timothy Long, *conductors*

The Barber of Seville: Overture (1816)

Gioachino Rossini
(1792-1868)
8'

Nicholas Sharma, *conductor*

How Bright the Sunlight (2022)

Anthony Davis
(b. 1951)
15'

Timothy Long, *conductor*
Joy Harjo, *narrator*
James VanDemark, *double bass*

World Premiere

*Commissioned by the Howard Hanson Institute for American Music in Celebration
of the 100th Anniversary of the Eastman School of Music, with support
from the National Endowment for the Arts*

~ INTERMISSION ~

Symphony No. 6, op. 68,

F major "Pastorale" (1808)

Ludwig van Beethoven
(1770-1827)

- I. Erwachen heiterer Empfindungen
bei der Ankunft auf dem Lande
- II. Szene am Bach
- III. Lustiges Zusammensein der Landleute
- IV. Gewitter, Sturm
- V. Hirtengesang, frohe und dankbare Gefühle nach dem Sturm
- 39'

~ PERSONNEL ~

Eastman Philharmonia

Violin I

Lily Dunlap,
concertmaster
Rebecca Villalta
Luke Lee
Jory Lane
Emma Milian
Emily Palmer
Andres Carrero
Emilie Tupper
Artur Korotin
Jessica Zhuang
Leo Liao
Eric Wang
Jiayu Zhu
Leila Fanien
Madeleine Nysetvold
Alisha Stafford

Violin II

Jenny Choi,
principal
Noah Arcenas
Cate Carson
Suwon Kim
Nicholas Garcia-Hettinger
Grace Belsie
Angelina Phillips
Ashni Budge
Chloe Yofan
Qiyue Zhang
Lydia Newton
Anatole Keshwani
Mateo Garza
Mengxiao Hong
Shisheng Song
Yu-Jen Weng
Abreal Whitman

Viola

Sophia Moreira,
principal
Ally Keller
Lucy Gelber
Clayton Trumbull
Jafre' Chase
Komkrit Suriya
Lizzy Macintosh
Juliana Kilcoyne
Megan Wike
Wednesday Hsu
Jane Vourlekis
Qiongwen Zhang
Ben Barron
Hannah Esquivel
Xinyue Xu
Fanshu Sun
Douglas Rodriguez

Violoncello

Hannah Scarborough,
principal
William Harris
Isaac Pagano-Toub
Dylan Jowell
Jacob Hinton
Haeun Choi
Phoebe Chu
Alfred Western
Juewen Zhang
Noah Janowicz
Cori Trenczer
Taylor Yoon
Rafael Rock
Cole Leonard

Double Bass

Janae Gaddy,
principal
Riley Collier
Camilla Carvalho
Madame Wynter McCray
Ziyuan Qin
Luke Black

Flute

Emily Claman
Jahshanti Henry
Sean Marron

Oboe

Gabriela Fry
Alexander Kang
Maxx Mejia
Brendan Shirck

Clarinet

Eric Butler
Ethan Morad
Scott Shao

Bassoon

Jia-Lin Lee
Austin Struble

Horn

Amanda Friedman
Alana Knowles
Azriel Ressler
Cristina Vieytez

Trumpet

Jess Green
Eve Shanks
Dror Yaniv

Trombone

Joshua Brown
Owyn Haylings
Will Hurtz
Ben Jalensky

Timpani

Anders Wong

Percussion

Ben Blaesing
Fletcher Leonard
Kaiwen Luo
Irene Yang

Harp

Catherine Reid

Laptop

Luke Poeppel

~ TEXTS ~

How bright the sunlight when I went in to the story field.
In it were planted stories of ev'ry human who had ever been,
of ev'ry earth, of ev'ry nation that had risen and fallen in and out of time.

Like anything of value worth keeping,
this field of becoming must be tended.
There are new stories emerging even as those who have reached their time
decay journey toward renewal.

In these times when so many have forgotten the original teachings
that bind us together in harmony,
the story field was becoming overgrown with fear and greed.
Weeds of worry were growing taller than the skies.

I lifted my mind from my song making
and shaded my eyes to see into the distance, beyond history.
The horizon was scarlet as it predicted rain.
I could hear the laughter of children playing at the border of time.
They lived for joy. I listened with concern for safety as clouds of war
darkened just beyond the doorway.

The cries of suffering from the water humans who lived in oceans,
to the winged humans who live high above us, shook the earth.

The leaves of a tall corn plant touched my shoulder,
beckoned me closer.
She was a matriarch and stunning in her green dress,
ripe in her corn milk fertility.
As she spoke, her words were pollen glittering in the sunlight:

Today, we have gathered and we see that the cycles of life continue.
We have been given the duty to live in balance and harmony
with each other and all living things.
So now, we bring our minds together as one as we give greetings
and thanks to each other as People.

Now our minds are one.

We are all thankful to our Mother, the Earth,
for she gives us all that we need for life.
She supports our feet as we walk about upon her.
It gives us joy that she continues to care for us
as she has from the beginning of time.
To our Mother, we send greetings and thanks.

Now our minds are one.

We give thanks to all the waters of the world
for quenching our thirst and providing us with strength.
Water is life!
We know it's power in many forms:
waterfalls and rain,
mists and streams,
rivers and oceans.
With one mind, we send greetings and thanks to the spirit of water.

Now our minds are one.

We turn our minds to all the Fish life in the water.
They were instructed to cleanse and purify the water.
They also give themselves to us as food.
We are grateful that we still can find pure water.
So, we turn now to the Fish and send our greetings and thanks.

Now our minds are one.

And now we turn toward the vast fields of Plant life.
As far as the eye can see, the Plants grow, working many wonders.
Since the beginning of time, the grains, vegetables,
beans, and berries have helped the people survive.
They sustain many life forms.
With our minds we gather together to give thanks
and to look forward to seeing Plant Life
for many generations to come.

Now our minds are one.

Now we turn to all the Medicine herbs of the world.
From the beginning, they were instructed to take away sickness.
They are always waiting and ready to heal us.
We are happy there are still among us those special few
who remember how to use those plants for healing.
With one mind, we send greetings and thanks to the Medicines
and to the keepers of the Medicines.

Now our minds are one.

We gather our minds together and send greetings and thanks
to all the Animal life in the world.
They have many things to teach us as people.
We see them near our homes and in the deep forests.
We are glad they are still here and we hope that it will always be so.

Now our minds are one.

We are all thankful to the powers we know as the Four Winds.
We hear their voices in the moving air as they refresh us
and purify the air we breathe.
They help to bring the change of the seasons.
From the four directions they come,
bringing us messages and giving us strength.
With one mind, we send our greetings and thanks to the Four Winds.

Now our minds are one.

Now we turn to the West where our Grandfathers,
the Thunder beings, live.
With lightning and thundering voices
they bring with them the water that renews.
We bring our minds together as one to send greetings and thanks
to our Grandfathers, the Thunderers.

Now our minds are one.

We now send greetings and thanks to our eldest Brother, the Sun.
Each day without fail he travels the sky from east to west,
bringing the light of a new day.
He is the source of all the fires of life.
With one mind, we send greetings and thanks to our Brother, the Sun.

Now our minds are one.

We put our minds together and give thanks
to our oldest Grandmother, the Moon, who lights the nighttime sky.
She is the leader of women all over the world,
and she governs the movement of the ocean tides.
By her changing face we measure time,

and it is the moon who watches over the arrival of children here on Earth.
With one mind, we send greetings and thanks
to our Grandmother, the Moon.

Now our minds are one.

We give thanks to the Stars who are spread across the sky like jewelry.
We see them in the night, helping the Moon to light the darkness
and bringing dew to our gardens and growing things.
When we travel at night, they guide us home.
With our minds gathered together as one,
we send greetings and thanks to all the Stars.

Now our minds are one.

Now we turn our thoughts to the Creator, or Great Spirit,
and send greetings and thanks for the gifts of Creation.
Ev'rything we need to live a good life is here on this Mother Earth.
For all the love that is still around us,
we gather our minds together as one
and send our choicest words of greetings and thanks to the Creator.

Now our minds are one.

We have now arrived at the place where we end our words.
Of all the things we have named,
it was not our intention to leave anything out.
If something was forgotten,
we leave it to you to send such greetings and thanks in your own way.

Now our minds are one.

We move forward with thanksgiving in the story field.

So it will be.

- Excerpts from the Haudenosaunee Thanksgiving address

~ MEET THE ARTISTS ~

“Some people seemed destined to lead unconventional lives, and **James VanDemark** is certainly one of them,” said the New York Times in the first of its three profiles on VanDemark. Performer, academic, boxer, producer, and entrepreneur—these are the principal roles VanDemark has successfully played in a highly diverse career spanning nearly four decades.

VanDemark's performing career has included solo appearances with the New York Philharmonic, St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, Buffalo Philharmonic, Mostly Mozart Festival Orchestra (Lincoln Center), Minnesota Orchestra, National Symphony of Mexico, Netherlands Radio Symphony, Quebec Symphony Orchestra, Symphony Nova Scotia, and many more. Chamber music appearances have included the Cleveland, Guarneri, Muir, Colorado and Ying Quartets, the Gryphon Trio, violinist Yehudi Menuhin, as well as legendary pianists Andre Watts, Yefim Bronfman, Alfred Brendel, and Gary Graffman. VanDemark has been featured on Lincoln Center's "Great Performers Series" on four separate occasions, and has been heard in recital on the BBC, RTE (Ireland), SFB (Berlin), and the Bayerische Rundfunk (Munich).

VanDemark is also the recipient of commissioned works by many composers, including three Pulitzer Prize winners: Gian-Carlo Menotti, Joseph Schwantner, and Christopher Rouse. VanDemark has also given the American premieres of concerti by Nino Rota and Edvard Tubin, and the German premiere of the *Concerto for Double Bass* by Hans Werner Henze.

VanDemark's arts and culture projects have been featured in the New York Times, Connoisseur Magazine, on the MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour, the BBC, CBC, NPR, and in many other media outlets around the world. In considerable demand as a speaker on entrepreneurial skills in music at colleges across the United States and Canada, VanDemark has also received great acclaim for his frequent role as narrator with many prominent symphony orchestras, including more than 40 performances with the Rochester Philharmonic and 15 with the Texas Festival Orchestra. Most recently VanDemark was commissioned by Georg Solti Prize winner Yaniv Dinur to rewrite *Peter and the Wolf* as a comic work for an adult audience. The work was premiered in October 2019.

Appointed to the Eastman School of Music at the age of 23, VanDemark was the youngest faculty member ever appointed to a professorial position at a major American music school. His students perform in many of the world's great orchestras—the New York Philharmonic, Cleveland Orchestra, Pittsburgh Symphony, Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, Philadelphia Orchestra, Rochester Philharmonic, Buffalo Philharmonic, Vienna Chamber Orchestra, Tokyo Chamber Orchestra, Singapore Symphony, Hong Kong Philharmonic—and many more. His students have also been nominated for—and won—numerous Grammy awards in various categories, including classical, contemporary, jazz, and bluegrass.

VanDemark's students have also held positions at major music schools, including Indiana University, Oberlin Conservatory, Eastman School of Music, Louisiana State University, Carnegie-Mellon, Peabody Conservatory, University of Delaware, NYU's Steinhardt School of Music, Michigan State University, University of Colorado, University of Alabama, University of Tennessee, and many others.

Joy Harjo is an internationally renowned performer and writer of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. She served three terms as the 23rd Poet Laureate of the United States from 2019-2022.

The author of nine books of poetry, including the highly acclaimed *An American Sunrise*, several plays and children's books, and two memoirs, *Crazy Brave* and *Poet Warrior*, her many honors include the Ruth Lily Prize for Lifetime Achievement from the Poetry Foundation, the Academy of American Poets Wallace Stevens Award, two NEA fellowships, and a Guggenheim Fellowship. As a musician and performer, Harjo has produced seven award-winning music albums including her newest, *I Pray for My Enemies*. She is Executive Editor of the anthology *When the Light of the World was Subdued, Our Songs Came Through—A Norton Anthology of Native Nations Poetry* and the editor of *Living Nations, Living Words: An Anthology of First Peoples Poetry*, the companion anthology to her signature Poet Laureate project. She is a chancellor of the Academy of American Poets, Board of Directors Chair of the Native Arts & Cultures Foundation, and is the first Artist-in-Residence for Tulsa's Bob Dylan Center. She lives in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Upcoming Concerts

Events are free unless otherwise noted.

Tuesday, December 6

Eastman Jazz Lab Band

Rich Thompson, director
Kilbourn Hall • 7:30PM

Wednesday, December 7

Musica Nova

Music of Knussen, Read Thomas, Haas, and Lubman
Brad Lubman, Georgia Mills, and Luke Poeppel, conductors
Kilbourn Hall • 7:30PM

Monday, December 12

Eastman Wind Ensemble & Eastman Wind Orchestra

Music of Lyons, Grainger, Sweelinck, Schoenberg, Puckett, and Schwantner
Mark Davis Scatterday, Luke Camarillo, and Mason St. Pierre, conductors
Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre • 7:30PM

Monday, December 12

Eastman New Jazz Ensemble

Dave Rivello, director
Kilbourn Hall • 7:30PM

Tuesday, December 13

Eastman Collegium Musicum

Paul O'Dette and Christel Thielmann, conductors
Kilbourn Hall • 7:30PM

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.

Information about upcoming Eastman concerts and events can be found at:

www.esm.rochester.edu/calendar

Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre fire exits are located along the right and left sides, and at the back of the hall on each level. In the event of an emergency, you will be notified by the stage manager. If notified, please move in a calm and orderly fashion to the nearest exit.

Restrooms are located on each level of Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre. Our ushers will be happy to direct you to them.

Please note: The use of unauthorized photographic and recording equipment is not allowed in this building. We reserve the right to ask anyone disrupting a performance to leave the hall.

Supporting the Eastman School of Music:

We at the Eastman School of Music are grateful for the generous contributions made by friends, parents, and alumni, as well as local and national foundations and corporations. Gifts and grants to the School support student scholarships, performance and academic facilities, educational initiatives, and programs open to the greater Rochester community. Every gift, no matter the size, is vital to enhancing Eastman's commitment to excellence. For more information on making a gift, please visit www.esm.rochester.edu/advancement or contact the Advancement Office by calling (585) 274-1040. Thank you!