

# Great Music for a Great Space: Wanting Memories

# **NEC Chamber Singers**

Erica J. Washburn, conductor

with Kei Otake, cello Kira Daglio Fine, double bass Andrés Almirall, Native American flute Jordan Fajardo-Bird, Ross Jarrell, Danial Kukuk, Lucas Vogelman, percussion

Rafe Schaberg, Da-Yu Liu, piano

Jackie Hu '24 MM, conductor Maggie Storm '24 MM, conductor Calvin Isaac Wamser '24 MM, conductor

> Wednesday, October 18, 2023 7:30 p.m. NEC's Jordan Hall

#### PROGRAM

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Memories that haunt...

Ysaye M. Barnwell (b. 1946)

Spiritual, from urban scenes...creole dreams

Memories of yesteryear...

Johannes Brahms (1833–1897)

An die Heimat from Drei Quartette, op. 64

Rafe Schaberg, piano

Calvin Isaac Wamser '24 MM, conductor

**Charles Ives** (1874–1954)

Circus Band

Rafe Schaberg, Da-Yu Liu, piano

Eric Barnum (b. 1979)

Jenny Kiss'd Me

From whence we come...

Cecilia McDowall

Photo 51 (2020)

(b. 1951)

Ashley Chen, soprano soloist

Roxanna Panufnik (b. 1968) 99 Words for My Darling Children (2016)

Corey Gaudreau, narrator Kei Otake, cello Love lost...

Alfonso Peduto

from Dialogues before a Goodbye (2016)

I. Soft glance

Haijie Du, soprano soloist Jackie Hu '24 MM, conductor

North Country Folk Song

arr. Philip Wilby

Marianne (1983)

Love remembered...

Bosba '19

Remember Me (2016)

(b. 1997)

Yumeng Xing, soprano soloist

Rafe Schaberg, piano

Ysaye M. Barnwell

Wanting Memories, No. 4 from Crossings

Kira Daglio Fine, double bass Maggie Storm '24 MM, conductor

Memories to come...

**John David** (b. 1946)

arr. Peter Knight

You are the new day

**Brent Michael Davids** 

(b. 1959)

from Native American Suite (1995)

III. Zuni Sunrise Song

Andrés Almirall, Native American flute

Jordan Fajardo-Bird, Ross Jarrell,

Danial Kukuk, Lucas Vogelman, percussion

#### We are deeply grateful to

# Bob Winters, Rayna DeYoung, and the Concert Halls staff Lisa Nigris and the Recording and Performance Technology staff

Corey Gaudreau, narrator

Andrés Almirall, Native American flute

Kei Otake, cello

Kira Daglio Fine, double bass

Jordan Fajardo-Bird, Ross Jarrell, Danial Kukuk, Lucas Vogelman, percussion Rafe Schaberg and Da-Yu, piano

#### Barnwell Spiritual

Cain't no one know at sunrise how this day is going to end. Cain't no one know at sunset if the next day will begin.

In this world of trouble and woe a person had better be ready to go.
We look for things to stay the same but in the twinkling of an eye ev'ry thing can be changed.

Cain't no one know...

You know the troubles of the world fill our hearts with rage from Soweto to Stonewall, Birmingham and L.A. You know we're searching for hope that lies within ourselves, as we fight against misogyny, race, hatred, and AIDS.

Ysaye M. Barnwell

#### Brahms An die Heimat

Heimat!

Wunderbar tönendes Wort!
Wie auf befiederten Schwingen
Ziehst du mein Herz zu dir fort,
Jubelnd, als müßt' ich den Gruß
Jeglicher Seele dir bringen,
Trag' ich zu dir meinen Fuß,
Freundliche Heimat!

#### To My Homeland

Homeland!
Wonderful-sounding word!
How on feathery wings
you draw my heart toward you,
rejoicing, as if I must bring you the greeting
of every soul.
I turn my steps to you,
welcoming homeland!

Heimat!

Bei dem sanftklingenden Ton Wecken mich alte Gesänge, Die in der Ferne mich flohn; Rufen mir freudenvoll zu Heimatlich lockende Klänge: Du nur allein bist die Ruh', Schützende Heimat!

Heimat!

Gib mir den Frieden zurück, Den ich im Weiten verloren, Gib mir dein blühendes Glück! Unter den Bäumen am Bach, Wo ich vor Zeiten geboren, Gib mir ein schützendes Dach, Liehende Heimat!

Otto Inkermann (1823-1862)

#### Ives Circus Band

All summer long,
we boys dreamed 'bout big circus joys!
Down Main Street, comes the band, Oh!
"Ain't it a grand and glorious noise!"
Horses are prancing,
Knights advancing;
Helmets gleaming
Pennants streaming,
Cleopatra's on her throne!
That golden hair is all her own.

Where is the lady all in pink? Last year she waved to me I think, Can she have died? Can! that! rot! She is passing but she sees me not.

Where is the clown, that funny gink, Last year he winked at me I think, Can he have died? Oh can that rot! for he's still a-winkin' but he sees me not.

Charles Ives (1874-1954)

#### Homeland!

With that gentle-sounding note old songs awaken in me which have flown far away from me; they call me, full of joy, to alluring sounds of home. Only you are peace, sheltering homeland!

Homeland!
Give me back the peace
that I have lost in the distance,
give me your thriving happiness!
Beneath the trees by the brook,
where I was born long ago,
Give me a sheltering roof,
dear homeland!

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#### Barnum Jenny Kiss'd Me

Jenny Kiss'd Me, a deceptively simple lyric by English essayist and poet James Leigh Hunt, reflects on a fleeting moment in a manner at once light-hearted and poignant. The "Jenny" of the poem was Jane Welsh Carlyle, wife of fellow writer Thomas Carlyle, who upon hearing from Hunt about his recovery from a long illness, uncharacteristically leaped up and kissed him. The poem's narrator avoids bitterness by reflecting on something bright and memorable that happened to him, which in its way overshadows the more mundane miseries attendant on much of his life. Witty and defiant, the poet asserts that whatever else might have occurred, he mattered when Jenny kissed him.

— Eric Barnum

Jenny kiss'd me when we met,
Jumping from the chair she sat in;
Time, you thief, who love to get
Sweets into your list, put that in!
Say I'm weary, say I'm sad,
Say that health and wealth have miss'd me,
Say I'm growing old, but add,
Jenny kiss'd me.

James Leigh Hunt (1784-1859)

#### McDowall Photo 51

*Photo 51* (Seven Ages of Women) is based on the iconic image, known as "Photo 51", taken by Rosalind Franklin, the crystallographer, whose work was central to the understanding of DNA. I commissioned the poet and autor Séan Street to create a text based on this image.

"Photo 51" was the critical evidence in identifying the structure of DNA, revealing its double helix structure, in the very early fifties. Her work was overlooked when, four years after her death, three men—Wilkins, Crick and Watson—were awarded the Nobel Prize for the discovery of DNA. I knew a little of Rosalind Franklin and her remarkable work in this field but have taken this opportunity to discover more about her. 2020 was also the year of her centenary, and it seemed fitting to focus on her part in the discovery of DNA at this time. The number 51 has resonance for me, too, chiming with the year in which I was born. I find it fascinating to think of Rosalind Franklin's remarkable discoveries unfolding in my early years. The idea of the double helix plays a part in both the structure of Séan Street's poem and the texture of my a cappella work, *Photo 51*.

— *Cecilia McDowall* 

Image of a song on enduring winds,
Double Helix—a spiral of two strands
printing identity on Time, twining together.
Crystal gazing...And she said:
Science and life cannot and should not be separated.

Science gives a partial explanation of life in so far as it goes...Science and life a spiral of two strands twining together.

Image of a song on enduring winds, crystal gazing, a key turned, a door to be opened. And she said: Fact, experience, and experiment in so far as it goes...Science and life... two strands twining together.

Science gives a partial explanation of life in so far as it goes...Science and life as far as they go, as far as they both shall go.

Séan Street

#### Panufnik 99 Words for My Darling Children

My darling children,
What we know is ringed with darkness; God, however, sees it as light.
Find the courage to trust this Reality; remember God every day.
Strive to embrace all creations.
If we are with God when all is well, He will be with us when life wounds.
Seek what exalts you, and live "à toutes risques".
Life is a dream, but it is not our dream.
All that happens to you is sent from God.
Aspire to that state of bliss which inhabits all things.
For 'God is a beautiful being, and he loves beauty.'
Your true self is God.

Sir John Tavener

#### **Peduto** Soft Glance from Dialogues before a Goodbye

Dialogues is a meditation on the concept of loss. The three pieces in the collection are meant to enact the moment of parting between two souls, with each voice portraying a unique dialogue experienced before the disunion attempting to shine light on a different set of contrasting emotive qualities. Each of the three pieces is furthermore focused principally on a single emotional motif: grief (I), acceptance (II), and melancholy (III). Soft Glance was fully written in 2016: minimal sketches of Suddenly Here and Just Your Eyes were compiled then, then fully developed between December 2019 and January 2020.

— Alfonso Peduto

Soft glance now and don't stand still and savor despise in my eyes and

Whisper not turn now wait I'll go now quick I′11 wait

don't

stand still do not speak

Nο don't crawl now no don't talk now no don't fall

now

now

no

Nο there will be no sun now No there will be no spring now

No there will be no warmth

now

No don't turn there will be no light

now

Go now love Don't speak love Go now love Don't turn love

Hush now quiet eye fill this

voice and savor despise

in my voice and

Don't crawl don't talk don't turn I'll go now Don't stand

don't shake don't turn I'll go now

Don't speak don't fall

don't turn I'll go now Don't gaze

don't fear

don't turn I'll go now

#### Wilby (arr.) Marianne

Fare thee well my own true love, Fare thee well my dear, For the ship is waitin' and the wind blows free: And I am bound away to the sea, Marianne.

Had I got a flask of gin, Sugar here for two, And a big gold bowl to mix it in, I'd pour a drink for you, Marianne.

Yonder, don't you see the dove Sittin' in the sky, He's mournin' the loss of his own true love, As I do for you, my dear Marianne.

North Country Folk Song

#### Bosba Remember Me

In the Spring of our lives, we experience physical and emotional growth. We are dreamy, we have ambitions, and we go for experiences that – whether pleasant or unpleasant – force us to expand our views and horizons. In the Summer of our lives, we settle down, find love (paradise), and our identity is rooted in values and beliefs that arose from the Spring of our lives. However, one can't escape the perspective of Autumn and Winter. You can't grow without the palpable bittersweetness of the past. We look back only to remember that we have moved on. Humans constantly question why and how things could have happened differently, but, in the words of Blaise Pascal,

"The heart has its reasons, which reason does not know. We feel it in a thousand things. It is the heart which experiences God, and not the reason. This, then, is faith: God felt by the heart, not by the reason."

Life is a mystery, some experiences are imprinted on our minds and bodies forever. People come and go, but it is the way they left that stays. We are bound to forget and remember each other. Only time will tell and set us free.

- Bosba

in time of daffodils(who know the goal of living is to grow) forgetting why,remember how

in time of lilacs who proclaim the aim of waking is to dream, remember so(forgetting seem)

in time of roses(who amaze our now and here with paradise) forgetting if,remember yes

in time of all sweet things beyond whatever mind may comprehend, remember seek(forgetting find)

and in a mystery to be (when time from time shall set us free) forgetting me,remember me.

 $e.\ e.\ cummings$ 

#### Barnwell Wanting Memories

I am sitting here wanting memories to teach me to see the beauty in the world through my own eves.

You used to rock me in the cradle of your arms, you said you'd hold me till the pains of life were gone. You said you'd comfort me in times like these and now I need you, and you are gone.
So I am sitting here wanting memories...

Since you've gone and left me, there's been so little beauty, but I know I saw it clearly through your eyes.

Now the world outside is such a cold and bitter place, here inside I have few things that will console, and when I try to hear your voice above the storms of life then I remember that I was told.

Yes, I am sitting here wanting memories...

I think on the things that made me feel so wonderful when I was young, I think on the things that made me laugh, made me dance, made me sing. I think on the things that made me grow into a being full of pride; think on these things, for they are truth.

And I am sitting here wanting memories...

I thought that you were gone, but now I know you're with me; you are the voice that whispers all I need to hear.

I know a "please" and a "thank you", and a smile will take me far, I know that I am you and you are me and we are one,
I know that who I am is numbered in each grain of sand,
I know that I've been blessed again and over again.

Yes, I am sitting here wanting memories...

Ysaye M. Barnwell

#### David (Knight, arr.) You are the new day

You are the new day.

I will love you more than me and more than yesterday if you can but prove to me You are the new day.

Send the sun in time for dawn, Let the birds all hail the morning. Love of life will urge me say, You are the new day. When I lay me down at night Knowing we must pay, Thoughts occur that this night might stay yesterday.

Thoughts that we as humans small Could slow worlds and end it all Lie around me where they fall Before the new day.

One more day when time is running out for ev'ryone Like a breath I knew would come I reach for a new day.

Hope is my philosophy, Just needs days in which to be, Love of life means hope for me, Borne on a new day.

You are the new day.

John David

# Davids Zuni Sunrise Song from Native American Suite

*Native American Suite* is a percussive suite of three traditional Native American songs including a Lenape song (Delaware), an Apache song, and *Zuni Sunrise* song (Pueblo).

Zuni Sunrise Song celebrates the new day as it calls morning into existence.

(translation)
Wake, wake, awake!
The sun has come and the moon has gone.
We greet the sun with our morning song.
We are thankful for another day.
Wake, wake, awake!

The **NEC Chamber Singers** is an auditioned ensemble, open to all majors at NEC, of 24-28 musicians who perform challenging works from all style periods, with a particular emphasis on 19th-21st century a cappella works. The choir rehearses three times a week and experiences choral music-making in an intimate ensemble setting, typically in the round. Each NEC Chamber Singer is a musician seeking to understand the principles and nuance of superior choral artistry so that they may be prepared for professional opportunities and expectations outside of the Conservatory. The choristers diligently prepare their music outside of scheduled

rehearsals which makes the brief time spent together musically invaluable. The ensemble typically performs eight to ten times each academic year: on campus in the Conservatory's Jordan Hall and at off campus venues in and around greater Boston.

#### **New England Conservatory Choruses**

Erica J. Washburn, Director of Choral Activities
Timothy Goliger, Bailee Green, Jackie Hu, Maggie Storm,
Calvin Isaac Wamser, Ying Ting Lena Wong, Henri Youmans,
and Honghao Howard Zheng - graduate conductors
Sally Millar, administrator
Changjin Ha, Da-Yu Liu, Lingbo Ma, Rafe Schaberg, rehearsal pianists

### **NEC Chamber Singers**

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Ashley Chen Rafe Schaberg
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Corinne Luebke-Brown Yumeng Xing
Colin Miller Kerui Chris Yang
Yuanwei Ni Henri Youmans

Nicholas Ottersberg Enriquez Honghao Howard Zheng

**Andrés Almirall**, Native American flute, is NEC's performance librarian and a multi-instrumentalist. He received his B.M. in Music Education and a Certificate in Flute Performance from Appalachian State University, and his M.M. in Historical Musicology from Florida State University. When not copying bowings or practicing his instruments, he enjoys learning new languages and cuddling with his cat, Jiji.

**Corey Gaudreau** is a singer and teacher who is frequently praised for his mastery of language and style, especially in French and German song. He is a member of the voice faculty of New England Conservatory Preparatory School where he also teaches language diction classes.

Performing with opera companies throughout the United States, Gaudreau has sung and understudied a variety of leading and comprimario roles including Sid in Benjamin Britten's *Albert Herring*, Fiorello and Figaro in Rossini's *The Barber of Seville*, Aeneas in Henry Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*, Billy Bigelow in Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Carousel*, Yamadori in Puccini's *Madama Butterfly*, Masetto and Don

Giovanni in Mozart's *Don Giovanni*, Alvaro in Daniel Catàn's *Florencia en el Amazonas*, and Hannah before in the Florida premiere of Laura Kaminsky and Mark Campbell's *As One*.

Gaudreau was a Bonfils-Stanton Studio Artist and Apprentice Artist in two seasons with Central City Opera and Artist-in-Residence with Pensacola Opera and Opera on the James. A versatile singer with flexibility in various styles, he excels not only in opera, art song, and oratorio, but new music, jazz and musical theatre as well. He recently sang a program of the Great American Songbook at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston. He performs prolifically as a song recitalist and continues to be invited as a guest artist for NEC engagements. He sang Schumann's *Spanische Liebeslieder* in the First Monday Concert Series and recorded Pavel Haas' *Four Songs on Chinese Poetry* for an NEC Liederabend.

Corey Gaudreau has studied with Michael Meraw at NEC, Jason Ferrante, and Laura Mashburn. He has coached with Tanya Blaich, Cameron Stowe, Michael Baitzer, Warren Jones, Robert Tweten, and Kamel Boutros. Gaudreau attended the New England Conservatory where he received his Bachelor of Music degree and was a member of NEC Chamber Singers, and returned for the Master of Music program.

# Erica J. Washburn

Director of Choral Activities

Conductor and mezzo-soprano Erica J. Washburn has been Director of Choral Activities at New England Conservatory since 2009. Known for her student-centric approach to classroom and rehearsal instruction, and commitment to the performance of new music, she is the recipient of several outstanding alumni awards, including the distinguished honor of induction to the Westminster Choir College Music Education Hall of Fame.

As a conductor, Washburn has worked with Kansas City, MO based Cardinalis, the Yale Schola Cantorum, the East Carolina University Women's Chorale, and the Eastman Women's Chorus. She is a sought-after guest clinician who frequently leads state and regional festival choruses, and spent five summers as a conductor and voice faculty member for the New York State Summer School of the Arts School of Choral Studies.

Under her direction the NEC choirs have been featured on several live and prerecorded broadcasts, including the North Carolina based station WCPE Great Sacred Music, WICN Public Radio, and WGBH Boston. The choirs can also be heard in collaboration with the Boston Modern Orchestra Project on the BMOP/Sound recording *Paul Moravec: The Blizzard Voices* and, most recently, with the Tanglewood Festival Chorus and the Boston Symphony Orchestra on their Deutsche Grammophon recording of Shostakovich *Symphony No. 13* (due to be released on October 20)

Washburn's stage credits include appearances as Madame Lidoine in Francis Poulenc's *Dialogues of the Carmelites*, Rebecca Nurse in Robert Ward's *The Crucible*, Mother/Allison in the premiere of Lee Hoiby's *This is the Rill Speaking* and others. Her

recital and orchestral solo credits are numerous, and her live premiere from Jordan Hall of the late Richard *Toensing's Night Songs and Evening Prayers* with the New England Conservatory Symphonic Winds can be heard on Albany Records.

## **Upcoming Choral Music at NEC**

Visit **necmusic.edu** for complete and updated concert information

NEC PHILHARMONIA & SYMPHONIC CHOIR, David Loebel, conductor Pärt Fratres; Mozart "Great" Mass in C Minor, K. 427 - soloists: Yeonjae Cho, Josie Larsen, Ruoxi Peng, Shiyu Zhou, soprano; Suowei Wu, tenor; Hyungjin Son, baritone

Wednesday, November 8, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

NEC CHAMBER SINGERS, SYMPHONIC WINDS & NAVY BAND NE Erica J. Washburn, William Drury, conductors
Mechanics Hall Brown Bag Concert Series
Wednesday, December 6, 2023 at 12:00 p.m.
Mechanics Hall, Worcester, MA (admission free)
Audio streamed on wich

Lessons and Carols: NEC Symphonic Choir & Chamber Singers
Erica J. Washburn, conductor; Back Bay Ringers, Griff Gall, director
NEC brass and percussion; Thomas Handel, organ
Friday, December 8, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.,
Church of the Covenant, 67 Newbury Street, Boston, MA (admission free)

#### "INTO THE HOLIDAYS"

NEC Chamber Singers, Symphonic Winds, & Navy Band, NE perform works of the season – Erica J. Washburn and William Drury, conductors *Monday, December 11, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall* 

#### "WINTER IMAGININGS"

NEC Preparatory School's Youth Chorale and Children's Choir Erica J. Washburn and Laura Nevitt, conductors Thursday, December 21, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

#### Other Upcoming Concerts at NEC

Ken Schaphorst, conductor

Thursday, October 19, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

"CONNECTIONS" CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES, Max Levinson, director

Brahms Three Sonatas for Violin and Piano

Thursday, October 19, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Burnes Hall

#### **JOHN HEISS MEMORIAL CONCERT**

Faculty, alumni and current students celebrate the life of John Heiss on what would have been his 85th birthday. Reception in Brown Hall follows the concert.

Monday, October 23, 2023 at 4:00 p.m., Jordan Hall

#### TUESDAY NIGHT NEW MUSIC

New music by NEC student composers, performed by their peers *Tuesday, October 24, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Brown Hall* 

#### NEC PHILHARMONIA, Earl Lee, guest conductor

Schumann Manfred Overture; Shin Upon His Ghostly Solitude (2023);

Brahms Symphony No. 2 in D Major, op. 73

Wednesday, October 25, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

#### SONATA NIGHT 47, Pei-Shan Lee, director

All Brahms program in collaboration with Mai Motobuchi's viola studio *Thursday, October 26, 2023 at 6:30 p.m., Burnes Hall* 

#### NEC COMPOSERS' SERIES

Works by NEC faculty and alumni composers

Thursday, October 26, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

#### RESIDENCY CONCERT: THE MUSIC OF DAVE HOLLAND

Thursday, October 26, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Eben Jordan

#### "EMBRACING CORETTA: A CELEBRATION OF CORETTA SCOTT KING":

A sabbatical project by pianist Timothy Steele; program includes Rush *Dear Coretta* (premiere); works by Black composers and poets; performers include Sarah Joyce Cooper soprano; Neil Nelson, bass-baritone; Melissa Joseph, soprano; Daon Drisdom, tenor; Timothy Steele, piano, and others

Monday, October 30, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

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Please consider making a gift to support NEC at necmusic.edu/give.

Food and drink are not allowed in the concert hall, and photography and audio or video recording are prohibited.

Assistive listening devices are available for all Jordan Hall concerts; contact the head usher or house manager on duty or inquire at the Coat Room.

Latecomers will be seated at the discretion of management.



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Conservatory

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This list reflects those who contributed to The NEC Fund and our annual scholarship appeal between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023. J. D. de Veer

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