NEC New England Conservatory

Concert Program

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Tuesday Night New Music

Tuesday, February 13, 2024 8:00 p.m. Brown Hall

PROGRAM

Linxi Chen	<i>i into the body of a whale, transfigured into a bubble</i> (2024) Diego Martinez, double bass Linxi Chen, electronics
Yangfan Xu	In a Mellow Mood (2022)
	K. J. McDonald, violin
Quinn Rosenberg	Equinox (2023)
	Tara Hagle, violin
	Philip Rawlinson, viola
Dohyun Kim	Butterflies (2023)
	Beginning Sin air a in the main
	Singing in the rain Destiny
	Sarah Cho, clarinet
	Michelle Jung, cello
	Isabella Butler, vibraphone
Yuanwei Ni	Peregrinate (2023)
	Honor Hickman, flute

Coco Chapman

from *Mood Ring Suite* (2024) I. Black and White IV. Blue and Red V. Teal

> Coco Chapman, mezzo-soprano Tomer Rozen, piano

It is a student-run, faculty-supervised concert series that offers the opportunity to hear music by the next generation of composers: current New England Conservatory composition students. This year, the series is directed by Changjin Ha and Stellan Connelly Bettany, under the supervision of composition chair Michael Gandolfi.

Upcoming Tuesday Night New Music concerts

Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at 8:00 p.m., Burnes Hall Tuesday, April 16, 2024 at 8:00 p.m., Brown Hall Tuesday May 7, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., in Jordan Hall

Chen *i* into the body of a whale, transfigured into a bubble (2024)

I into the body of a whale, within the endless abysm and darkness, breath seems to depart from me. I listen to the sound of a whale, its vibrations dissect my body, light seeping into my form, tracing a path through the sinews of my bones, caressing and eroding. I meld, and cuddled its body, melding as one, like a bubble. -Linxi Chen

Xu In a Mellow Mood

In a Mellow Mood was written for the "THE LAB: Inspired by Bach and Beyond" hosted by violinist Jennifer Koh in 2022. The contrapuntal voicing aspects of the piece were learned from Bach's partitas and sonatas for solo violin. – *Yangfan Xu*

Rosenberg Equinox (2023)

Equinox (2023) is a love letter to the ways natural phenomena and human experiences intertwine and mimic one another. We are not separate from the ecosystems which surround us; we are a part of them. -Quinn Rosenberg

Kim Butterflies (2023)

Butterflies is a piece inspired by the enchanting love story of two main characters, drawing inspiration from the classic film *Singing in the Rain*. It consists of three movements and the duration is 12 minutes. In the first movement, using the vibraphone with the bow and clarinet melodies expresses the heart flutter of the two main characters meeting for the first time. The second movement portrays the main characters expressing their love through ballet, with the music mirroring the graceful movements of their dance. They were as beautiful as two butterflies. The third movement intensifies with more impassioned melodies than the preceding two movements, expressing their profound and destined love for each other.

– Dohyun Kim

Ni Peregrinate (2023)

While composing this work, I wished to go beyond the limit of flute techniques. I challenged myself by trying out novelties in all aspects such as range, speed, and techniques. This is a work with powerful dynamics represented by various contrasts and struggles. Quoting Camus as my muse: "There is scarcely any passion without struggle. The struggle itself towards the heights is enough to fill a men's heart." – Yuanwei Ni

Chapman Mood Ring Suite (2024)

I wrote this piece about a personal relationship that, while over by the time I started writing this, really affected me. I thought composing would be a good way to process my feelings, so when I arrived back on campus after summer break, I improvised what would become the last movement of this cycle. I was hoping to work with my studio teacher on vocal writing, as I have been writing songs with lyrics for as long as I can remember but have always been too embarrassed to share them with any of my teachers. This set's allegorical style allowed me to share this deeply personal message

with my studio teacher, who encouraged me to keep writing songs for the cycle. I decided to dedicate each movement to a different time in the relationship and the feelings that accompanied that time, naming them after colors, as I have synesthesia. Some of the movements, such as Black and White, are named after colors that are most associated with the feelings I capture, while others, like Teal, are named after colors I associate with the harmonic canvas I am using. A big thanks to Tomer for bringing these portraits to life! — *Coco Chapman*

Black and White

You're virtuous, you're pure, you're clean; Me? Not so much. I am obscene, Broken, splintered from all the things I've seen; Prayed to a god, but does He know what I mean? And how do we know that He's a king, not a queen? I've heard too much to make sense of it, So instead I sit, Captivated by your piano skills And the way you used to heal the ills that now you cause; It's your loss, But it's always me who pays the cost, So play the notes, play the notes, Paying no attention to who's standing right outside your field of vision, In your periphery; Guess I've always been too small for you to see.

Blue and Red

Cold As ice, I hope I never melt again; Wouldn't it be nice If you left me a kiss Or a box of chocolates like you left her, But you're different now, And you never cared Like you did 'bout her, So why'd you lie, And why'd you try to be With me?

I'm so cold; I've got nowhere to go, no place to call home, Since you left me alone; And if, The sad truth is if You came back tonight And tried to let me in, I would be fooled again; 'Cause I am dumb like that, And I am just a fool; When will I learn? When will I learn? And I am just like that, Same fool I was with you; About to burn Out in the cold, Yearning for you.

Teal

Where do we go from here? Lost myself in your atmosphere; Flew up high to the stratosphere; How, oh, how did I end up here?

Lonely, floating, knowing I'm not the only one it's been done to.

A million years, light years away, since I last saw you; Where are you now? Lost everyone somehow; They all found some way out.

Now I wait In the corner Feeling sober Like a loner Getting boreder, On the border Of calling, Of caving

And slaving. Growing, growing, unknowingly, Hoping, coping, processing things, Processing you...

Processing you.

Coco Chapman

Upcoming Concerts at NEC

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

LIEDERABEND LXX, Songs from Russia and Ukraine Joel Ayau, director *Wednesday, February* 14, 2024 at 6:00 p.m., Williams Hall

CMA DEPARTMENT: "The Music of Chris Connor and Mahalia Jackson" curated by Hankus Netsky and Ran Blake *Wednesday, February* 14, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

NEC WIND ENSEMBLE, Mary Schneider, guest conductor Mozart Divertimento No. 3 in E-flat Major, K. 166; Etezady Anahita; Stucky Voyages for cello and wind orchestra; Sierra Fandangos Thursday, February 15, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

JAZZ DEPARTMENT: "Max Roach Centennial" curated by Nasheet Waits *Thursday, February* 15, 2024 at 8:00 p.m., Burnes Hall

THE ARTHUR BERGER MEMORIAL CONCERT, Sid Richardson, curator Works by NEC faculty Kati Agócs, Stratis Minakakis, Arthur Berger, Rodney Lister, and Sid Richardson *Thursday, February 22, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

CORETTA SCOTT KING TRIBUTE CONCERT presented by NEC's Black Student Union Monday, February 26, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

PIANO DEPARTMENT CONCERT: Ives 150 Bruce Brubaker, curator of piano programming The first in a two concert series featuring the piano works of Charles Ives; NEC piano students perform his shorter and early works *Tuesday, February 27, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

NEC CHAMBER ORCHESTRA, Donald Palma, artistic director Herbert Elegy; Mozart Divertimento for Oboe, Two Horns and Strings; Bartók Divertimento Wednesday, February 28, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

SONG AND VERSE 2, Brett Hodgdon, director Wednesday. February 28, 2024 at 8:00 p.m., Burnes Hall

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Your gift to The NEC Fund has a direct and immediate impact on student scholarships, NEC's world-class faculty, and a collaborative and innovative learning environment rooted in the highest level of musical excellence. Please consider making a gift to support NEC at <u>necmusic.edu/give</u>.

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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N E C New England Conservatory

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Welcome to NEC!

I am thrilled to share New England Conservatory's 2023-24 concert season—a celebration of the power of music to connect and inspire one another.

Whether you are seated in one of our concert halls or watching online, we hope you are uplifted by the performances of our students, faculty, and guest artists.

Above all, we thank you for your support of our students as they cultivate their artistry and contribute to the world through music.

Andrea Kalyn President

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