

# Welcome

NEW ENGLAND CONSERVATORY

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# Blind Glass

NEC Wild Card Honors Ensemble

Zion Dyson, voice

Aaron Kaufman-Levine, alto saxophone

Caroline Jesalva, violin

Bram Fisher and Julian Seney, viola

Solomon Caldwell, bass

Noah Mark, drums

(Frank Carlberg and Dominique Eade, *faculty coaches*)

*All This and Not Ordinary*

Thursday, April 6, 2023

7:30 p.m.

NEC's Jordan Hall

PROGRAM

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*A Carafe that is a Blind Glass*

**Caroline Jesalva**

*Sound Museum* (part one)

*Dream Cycle*

(Dance a clean dream, and an Extravagant Turn Up)

**Aaron Kaufman-Levine**

*Red Spiral Staircase*

**Annette Peacock**

arr. Zion Dyson

*Dreams if time weren't*

**Noah Mark**

*It's not known*

*The World is Round...is Round....is Round*

**Zion Dyson**

Poem by Zion Dyson

*To Hold the World*

**Bram Fisher**

from *Bram's Mom's Songs*

Vertical Time

Pony Boy

Happy Dance

*The Difference is Spreading*

**Caroline Jesalva**

*Naomi in the Living Room  
Dinner Party*

**The Velvet Underground**

arr. Zion Dyson

*I'm Sticking with You*

*A Burst of Mixed Music*

Improvisation	<i>Orangutans are Orange Firestarters in the Night</i>
Zion Dyson	<i>I Don't Feel the Same</i>
Aaron Kaufman-Levine	<i>Concentric Connections</i>

*To Choose it is Ended*

Caroline Jesalva	<i>Sound Museum</i> (part two) <i>Pourquoi</i>
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**Upcoming Honors Ensemble Recitals**

**HONORS ENSEMBLE: NEWBURY TRIO**

Thursday, April 13, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

**HONORS ENSEMBLE: WIND QUINTET**

Thursday, April 27, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

**HONORS ENSEMBLE: QUARTET LUMINERA**

Wednesday, May 3, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

**HONORS ENSEMBLE: STRING QUARTET**

Tuesday, May 9, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

**HONORS ENSEMBLE: PIANO TRIO**

Thursday, May 11, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

**Blind Glass** explores an eclectic musical landscape, combining spoken word, improvisation and performance art within a multi-dimensional aesthetic world. Our goal is to re-imagine traditional performance in the following ways:

**Improvisation** – As improvisation begins in the language with which one is most familiar, we seek to explore the improvisational elements within the musical languages of our ensemble musicians.

**Sensations** – According to Kandinsky, “music is the ultimate teacher;” we seek to produce performances that evoke both visual and theatrical elements. We are fascinated by how sound activates and interacts with the visual world.

**Poetry** – We aim to explore how language and its natural rhythms influence musical sound. We are inspired by the poetic forms that come out of the Dadaist movement, and seek to move past the constraints of linguistic syntax.

**Storytelling** – Storytelling is the center of our vision—both from a musical and from an aesthetic standpoint. Our repertoire captures and intertwines a wide array of themes, such as the awe of the natural world and the whimsy of childhood. We vacillate between spoken word, sung text, wordless melodies, and traditional instrumental forms – juxtaposing order and chaos. We hope our audiences will come away from our performances reconsidering what music, language, and art can mean.

The name “Blind Glass” comes from the book *Tender Buttons* by Gertrude Stein.

## MEMBER BIOS

**Zion Dyson** is a senior at New England Conservatory where she studies Jazz Vocal Performance with a Concentration in Music Education. In 2019, she performed at the Monterey Jazz Festival both as a soloist and as the vocalist of the Next Generation Jazz Orchestra. Next year, she plans to attend the Harvard Graduate School of Education where she will explore research-informed approaches to music education. She believes music has the power to tell engaging, emotive stories, a concept which is paramount to the mission of Blind Glass.

**Aaron Kaufman-Levine** is a fourth-year undergraduate Jazz Saxophone major. Aaron has performed with the CYSO Jazz Orchestra and the nationally acclaimed 2018 Jazz Band of America and has won multiple awards for his playing including the Woody Herman Jazz Award, Outstanding Wind runner-up at Birch Creek, Outstanding Soloist honors at the Purdue Jazz Competition, 2nd prize in the Luminarts cultural foundation improvisation competition, and the Kiewit Wang Mentorship Award from the Jazz Institute of Chicago. Aaron has performed at the 2020 Chicago Jazz Fest, Constellation, Andy’s Jazz Club, Chicago Jazz Showcase, Distler Hall (Tufts), Killian Hall (MIT), Jordan Hall (NEC) and more. He is currently a presidential scholar at New England Conservatory.

**Caroline Jesalva** is a fourth-year undergraduate at New England Conservatory studying violin performance with Nicholas Kitchen. Caroline was the 2018 Rising Young Artist of the Chapel Hill Philharmonia Young Artist Competition, a two-time winner of the Philharmonic Association Concerto Competition, and a finalist in the Ronald Sachs International Music Competition. She is an alumna of the Brevard Music Festival, the Meadowmount School of Music, and has held fellowships with YellowBarn Young Artists, Bang-on-A Can, and Black House Collective. She founded *Blind Glass* ensemble in 2020 with the intention to create a collaborative space for musicians of all shapes and kinds. She loves making music and exploring the possibilities of sound with her amazing friends in Blind Glass.

**Bram Fisher** is an undergraduate student at New England Conservatory, studying viola with Martha Strongin Katz and Melissa Reardon, as well as composition with Stratis Minakakis. Previously, Bram studied at Eastman School of Music, where he received the Bernard Rogers Memorial Prize in composition. Bram plays a viola made by Douglas Cox, on generous loan from the Virtu Foundation. He is inspired by music which is surprising and multi-faceted and has loved collaborating and exchanging ideas with the unordinary friends who make up Blind Glass.

Violist **Julian Seney** has performed in venues such as Walt Disney Concert Hall, Carnegie Hall, the Beijing Concert Hall, and the Seoul Arts Center, under conductors Jeffrey Kahane, Michael Tilson Thomas, and Gustavo Dudamel, among many others. He is an alumnus of the Perlman Music Program, Lake Champlain Chamber Music Festival, and Carnegie Hall's National Youth Orchestra. He plays regularly with Callithumpian Consort and freelances as an improviser. He graduated from New England Conservatory, studying with Kim Kashkashian, and his previous mentors were Cindy Wu and Paul Coletti.

**Solomon Caldwell** is a Boston-based artist and musician who strives to live at the intersection of improvisation and composition creating something wholly new! As an avid chamber musician, Solomon has performed in places such as Alaska and Germany. As a bassist, Solomon's musical roots stem from an upbringing in classical music, having played in a variety of ensemble settings including: opera, ballet, film scoring and experimental. Solomon also has experience in other genres such as: jazz, rock, folk, and latin, all of which inform his musical language today as an improviser. Solomon is currently finishing his master's degree at New England Conservatory studying Contemporary Improvisation with Joe Morris and Carla Kihlstedt. Complimenting his performing work, Solomon also works as a teaching artist in the Boston area, focusing on cello and bass.

**Noah Mark** is a second-year Jazz drums major who, when not playing with Blind Glass, is making computer music, writing poetry, or playing the drums in various configurations and modes in Boston, Seattle, or elsewhere.

## Upcoming Student Recitals at NEC

*all programs subject to change*

Visit [necmusic.edu](http://necmusic.edu) for complete and updated concert information

**Puyuan Chen**, *trombone* (MM)

Student of Toby Oft

*Saturday, April 8, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., Eben Jordan*

<b>Molly</b>	<b>Flynn</b> ,	<i>soprano</i>	(BM)
Student	of	Michael	Meraw

*Saturday, April 8, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Brown Hall*

**Seunghee Lee**, *violin* (MM)

Student of Paul Biss

*Saturday, April 8, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Williams Hall*

**Jimin Park**, *soprano* (MM)

Student of Bradley Williams

*Saturday, April 8, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Burnes Hall*

**Chihiro Asano**, *mezzo-soprano* (GD)

Student of MaryAnn McCormick

*Monday, April 10, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Williams Hall*

**Adithya Muralidharan**, *cello* (GD)

Student of Yeesun Kim

*Monday, April 10, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Pierce Hall*

**Yulia Watanabe-Price**, *violin* (MM)

Student of Soovin Kim

*Monday, April 10, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Keller Room*

**Yvonne Cox**, *harp* (MM)

Student of Jessica Zhou

*Tuesday, April 11, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Williams Hall*

**Hyun Ji Lee**, *violin* (MM)

Student of Donald Weilerstein

*Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Williams Hall*

**Wenhao David Shou**, *piano* (MM)

Student of Meng-Chieh Liu

*Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Burnes Hall*

## **Upcoming Student Recitals at NEC**

*—continued*

**Ranfei Wang**, *piano* (BM)

Student of Vivian Hornik Weilerstein

*Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Pierce Hall*

**Jonathan Paik**, *jazz piano* (BM)

Student of Jason Moran and Bruce Brubaker

*Thursday, April 13, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Pierce Hall*

**Abisal Gergiev**, *piano* (BM)

Student of Wha Kyung Byun

*Saturday, April 15, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Williams Hall*

**Hyeokwoo Kweon**, *clarinet* (BM)

Student of Thomas Martin

*Saturday, April 15, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Burnes Hall*

**Dianne Seo**, *flute* (BM)

Student of Renée Krimsier

*Saturday, April 15, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Brown Hall*

**Anne Chao**, *flute* (BM)

Student of Renée Krimsier

*Sunday, April 16, 2023 at 12:00 noon, Burnes Hall*

**Joy Hsieh**, *viola* (MM)

Student of Mai Motobuchi

*Sunday, April 16, 2023 at 12:00 noon, Pierce Hall*

**Paolo Rosselli**, *French horn* (MM)

Student of Michael Winter

*Sunday, April 16, 2023 at 12:00 noon, Williams Hall*

**Xiaoqing Yu**, *violin* (BM)

Student of Paul Biss

*Sunday, April 16, 2023 at 12:00 noon, Brown Hall*

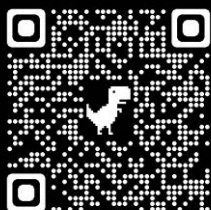
**Ye-Eun Hyun**, *piano* (MM)

Student of Wha Kyung Byun

*Sunday, April 16, 2023 at 4:00, Williams Hall*

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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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