

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

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'snotknown

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** 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

Molly Flynn, *soprano* (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

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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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