

N|E|C

New England
Conservatory

Concert Program

necmusic.edu

NEC Chamber Orchestra

Donald Palma, artistic director

Wednesday, October 9, 2024

7:30 p.m.

NEC's Jordan Hall

PROGRAM

Franz Schreker
(1878–1934)

Intermezzo, op. 8

Scherzo (1900) for string orchestra

Dmitri Shostakovich
(1906–1975)
arr. Rudolf Barshai

Chamber Symphony, op. 118a

Andante

Allegretto furioso

Adagio

Allegretto – Andante

Intermission

Josef Suk
(1874–1935)

Serenade in E-flat Major, op. 6

Andante con moto

Allegro ma non troppo e grazioso

Adagio

Allegro giocoso, ma non troppo presto

Austrian composer **Franz Schreker**, although not as well known today as he should be, was primarily an opera composer. He composed nine operas, and during the time of the Weimar Republic, the early 1900s, he was the most performed opera composer in the German speaking world, second only to Richard Strauss. He founded and directed the Vienna Philharmonic Chorus and took part in the premieres of important works by Zemlinsky and Schoenberg. His *Intermezzo* and *Scherzo*, both short studies, were composed in 1900. Both display his rich harmonic language and inventive characterizations. In 1920 Schreker was appointed director of the Hochschule für Musik in Berlin but lost the position in 1932 because of his Jewish origin. His music was officially banned by the Nazi Party.

Shostakovich's Tenth String Quartet, Op.118 was composed in 11 days in the summer of 1964. It is dedicated to his friend and collaborator, Moisey Weinberg, a prolific Polish composer and pianist who, after he fled to and settled in Russia during World War II, had a close relationship with Shostakovich. The quartet was premiered that same year in Moscow by the Beethoven Quartet. The great Russian violist and conductor, Rodolf Barshai, arranged several of Shostakovich's quartets for larger forces, always with the composer's approval. It is his version, renamed "Chamber Symphony" that will be performed this evening.

In the summer of 1892, Dvořák told his then student at the Prague Conservatory, **Josef Suk**, "It's summertime now. Go and make something lively for a change, to compensate for all those pomposities in minor." Suk took up the assignment and returned with his delightful Serenade in E-flat Major, a four-movement serenade modeled after Dvořák's Serenade in E Major. The four movements, in E-flat, B=flat, G and E=flat, delighted his teacher and Brahms as well, who arranged for Simrock to publish the work. Suk would go on to success as a composer and a violinist in the Czech Quartet and would later marry Dvořák's daughter, Otilie. – Donald Palma

NEC Chamber Orchestra
Donald Palma, artistic director

Violin

Darwin Chang
June Chung §§
Lingyu Dong †
Michael Fisher **
Evan Johanson §
Hojung Kwon
Seungwon Park
Caroline Smoak ††
Yixiang Wang *

Viola

Inácia Afonso §
Yeh-Chun Lin
Nicolette Sullivan-Cozza *
John Harry Clark †

Cello

Jihyeuk Choi §
Lexine Feng *
Xinyue Zhu †

Bass

Misha Bjerken

Principal players

* Schreker
† Shostakovich
§ Suk

Double symbol for principal 2nd violin

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*Associate Director of
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Jordan Lau
Student Librarian

Donald Palma
*Artistic Director of
Chamber Orchestra*

Andrés Almirall
Performance Librarian

The NEC Chamber Orchestra was created to provide the students with an opportunity to apply the principals of chamber music in a small orchestral setting. The participants are chosen by audition at the beginning of the academic year and remain together throughout. As the ensemble rehearses and performs without a conductor, leadership responsibilities are rotated for every work performed. This affords the students an opportunity to develop communication skills, take responsibility for musical decisions and broaden their aural and score reading capabilities. Participation in the program also allows them to explore a wide range of the incredibly rich chamber orchestra literature.

Donald Palma

Artistic Director

Donald Palma has an active career as double bassist, conductor, and educator. A native New Yorker, Don attended at the Juilliard School and at the age of nineteen joined Leopold Stokowski's American Symphony Orchestra. As a member of the newly formed contemporary music ensemble, Speculum Musicae, he went on to win the Naumburg Competition and secure management with Young Concert Artists. A founding member of the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, Don has toured the globe and recorded over fifty compact discs for Deutsche Grammophone, including the Grammy Award winning Stravinsky CD, *Shadow Dances*. Don has also been a member of the Los Angeles Philharmonic and played Principal Bass in the National Arts Centre Orchestra under Trevor Pinnock. He played principal bass for Leonard Bernstein on his recording of *West Side Story* and was a featured artist on Kathleen Battle's recording, *Grace*. As a performer devoted to contemporary music, he has played and conducted dozens of premieres and recordings of important works. Elliott Carter's *Figment III*, Mario Davidovsky's *Synchronism No. 11*, and Charles Wuorinen's *Spin-Off* are among the many works composed for him. He has conducted three critically acclaimed CDs of American music with the Odense Symphony in Denmark. Don has conducted the Xalapa Symphony, the Bridgeport Symphony, at the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and at the Teatro Colon in Buenos Aires. He recorded Stravinsky's *L'histoire du soldat* with Rogers Waters narrating which was released by SONY in 2018. Don also appears with Orpheus on Wayne Shorter's *Emanon*, which won a 2018 Grammy. He frequently performs with Mistral, the Walden Chamber Players, at the Bridgeton Chamber Music Festival, the White Mountains Festival and is Music Director of the Symphony-by-the-Sea in Beverly, MA.

Symphonic Music at New England Conservatory

Stanford and Norma Jean Calderwood Director of Orchestras Hugh Wolff is joined by Associate Director of Orchestras David Loebel, Chamber Orchestra founder Donald Palma, and a rich array of guest conductors and coaches for dozens of FREE orchestral concerts in NEC's Jordan Hall this year.

Visit necmusic.edu for complete and updated concert information:

NEC Symphony, David Loebel, conductor

Thomas *Sunburst*; Prokofiev *Suite No. 2 from Romeo and Juliet*

Beethoven *Symphony No. 7*

Wednesday, October 23, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

NEC Philharmonia, Stefan Asbury, guest conductor

Smetana *Vyšehrad* from *Ma Vlast*; Tania León *Pasajes*;

Shostakovich *Symphony No. 11, "The Year 1905"*

Wednesday, October 30, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

NEC Philharmonia, Hugh Wolff, conductor

Lee *Sukkot Through Orion's Nebula*; Schumann *Piano Concerto*;

Tchaikovsky *Symphony No. 2 "Ukrainian"*

Wednesday, November 6, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

Crawford Seeger/Ives Festival

NEC Chamber Orchestra, Donald Palma, artistic director

Crawford Seeger *Andante for Strings*; Haydn *Symphony No. 44*; Ives *Symphony No. 3*

Monday, November 11, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

Crawford Seeger/Ives Festival

NEC Symphony, David Loebel, conductor

Dvořák *Symphony No. 9 "From the New World"*; Ives *Symphony No. 2*

Wednesday, November 13, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

NEC Opera: Musto "Later the Same Evening"

NEC opera students are joined by members of NEC Philharmonia under the direction of Robert Tweten; Joshua Major is the stage director

Thursday & Friday, November 14 & 15 at 6:00 p.m.;

Saturday, November 16 at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, November 17, at 3:00 p.m.

Plimpton Shattuck Black Box Theatre

NEC Baroque Orchestra

Wednesday, November 20, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

Symphonic Music at New England Conservatory

–continued

NEC New Music Ensemble, Hugh Wolff, director

Monday, December 9, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Burnes Hall

NEC Philharmonia, Hugh Wolff, conductor

Schoenberg *Begleitungsmusik zu einer Lichtspielszene (Accompaniment to a Film Scene)*

Bartók *Piano Concerto No. 3*, Evren Ozel '25 AD, soloist; Mahler *Symphony No. 4*

Wednesday, December 11, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

NEC Lab Orchestra

Timothy Ren '25 MM, Jherrard Hardeman '25 GD, and Clancy Ellis '26 GD,

conductors - Esmail *Teen Murti*; Montgomery *Starburst*; Haydn *Symphony No 86 in D Major*; Mendelssohn *Symphony No. 5 in D Major, "Reformation"*

Thursday, December 12, 2024 at 8:00 p.m., Brown Hall

Other Upcoming Concerts at NEC

NEC Wind Ensemble, Patricia Cornett, guest conductor

"Inspiration from Song" - Martin y Soler *Divertimento No. 4*;

Sweelinck *Variations on "Mein junges Leben hat ein End"*; Horne *Deep River*;

Grainger *Lincolnshire Posy*; Grantham *Phantastische Spirites*;

Thursday, October 10, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

Faculty Recital: Tanya Blaich, piano, with Heidi Stober, soprano

Barber *Despite and Still*; Tailleferre *6 chansons françaises*; and songs by Maude White,

Elisabeth Lutyens, Ethel Smyth, Florence Price, Franz Liszt, Margaret Bonds, and B.E. Boykin

Tuesday, October 15, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

NEC Composers' Series, John Mallia, curator

Works by Haleh Abghari, Marti Epstein, John Mallia, Lautaro Mantilla, and Gavin Bryars

Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

NEC Jazz Orchestra, Ken Schaphorst, director

"The See'r: Charles Ives at 150" - Arrangements by Ken Schaphorst of some Ives

classics: *Three Places in New England*, *A Set for Theatre Orchestra*, *Ragtime Dance No. 4*, and others

Thursday, October 17, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan 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.

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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.

Stay connected 



necmusic.edu/tonight



Welcome to NEC!

I am thrilled to share New England Conservatory's 2024-25 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.


A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea Kalyn". The signature is stylized and fluid, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Andrea Kalyn
President

How can **you** keep the music playing?

Find out by visiting necmusic.edu/givenow.





Thank you to our generous community of donors who remain committed to elevating the NEC experience and make it possible for our students to continue their artistic pursuits. Every gift to **The NEC Fund** supports all pillars of an NEC education, from scholarship to community engagement, to our world-renowned faculty.



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