

*An Evening of  
American Song and Verse*

Brett Hodgdon,  
pianist and coach

Wednesday, November 13, 2024  
6:00 p.m.  
Burnes Hall

PROGRAM

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**Charles Ives**  
(1874–1954)

*Songs My Mother Taught Me*

Yoomin Kang, mezzo-soprano

**Robert Lowry**  
(1826–1899)  
arr. Aaron Copland  
(1900–1990)

from *Old American Songs, Set 2*  
*At the River*

Sianna Monti, mezzo-soprano

**Ned Rorem**  
(1923–2022)

*Early in the Morning*  
*I am Rose*  
*O You Whom I Often and Silently Come*  
*See How They Love Me*

Daniela Pyne, soprano  
Yechan Min, baritone

**Ruth Crawford Seeger**  
(1901–1953)

from *Five Songs: Poems of Carl Sandburg*  
*Home Thoughts*  
*Joy*

Yoomin Kang, mezzo-soprano

**Charles Ives**

*The Children's Hour*

Sianna Monti, mezzo-soprano

*Two Little Flowers (and dedicated to them)*

Daniela Pyne, soprano

**John Musto**

(b. 1954)

*Two By Frost*

Nothing Gold Can Stay

The Rose Family

Anna Poltronieri Tang, soprano

**Robert Lowry**

arr. Ives

*At the River*

Yechan Min, baritone

**Charles Ives**

from *Five Street Songs*

Down East

Anna Poltronieri Tang, soprano

## **Songs My Mother Taught Me**

Songs my mother taught me in the days long vanished,  
Seldom from her eyelids were the tear drops banished.  
Now I teach my children each melodious measure;  
Often tears are flowing from my memory's treasure.

*Alfred Heyduk*

Translation by Natalie Macfarren

## **At the River**

Shall we gather by the river,  
Where bright angels feet have trod,  
With its crystal tide forever  
Flowing by the throne of God?

Yes, we'll gather by the river,  
The beautiful, the beautiful river,  
Gather with the saints by the river  
That flows by the throne of God.

Soon we'll reach the shining river,  
Soon our pilgrimage will cease,  
Soon our happy hearts will quiver  
With the melody of peace.

Yes, we'll gather by the river,  
The beautiful, the beautiful river,  
Gather with the saints by the river  
That flows by the throne of God.

*Robert Lowry*

## **Early in the Morning**

Early in the morning  
Of a lovely summer day,  
As they lowered the bright awning  
At the outdoor café,

I was breakfasting on croissants  
And café au lait  
Under greenery like scenery,  
Rue François Premier.

They were hosing the hot pavement  
With a dash of flashing spray  
And a smell of summer showers  
When the dust is drenched away.

I was twenty and a lover  
And in paradise to stay,  
Very early in the morning  
Of a lovely summer day.

*Robert Hillyer*

### **I Am Rose**

I am Rose my eyes are blue  
I am Rose and who are you?  
I am Rose and when I sing  
I am Rose like anything.

*Gertrude Stein*

### **O You Whom I Often and Silently Come**

O you whom I often and silently come where you are that I may be with you,  
As I walk by your side or sit near, or remain in the same room with you,  
Little you know the subtle electric fire that for your sake is playing within me.

*Walt Whitman*

### **See How They Love Me**

See how they love me – green leaf, gold grass,  
swearing my blue wrists tick and are timeless.  
See how it moves me – old sea, blue sea,  
curving a half-moon round to surround me.  
See how it loves me – high sky, blue sky,  
letting the light be kindled to warm me.  
But you rebuke me, oh Love –  
Love that I only pursue.  
See how they love me.

*Howard Moss*

## Home Thoughts

The sea rocks have a green moss.  
The pine rocks have red berries.  
I have memories of you.

Speak to me of how you miss me.  
Tell me the hours go long and slow.

Speak to me of the drag on your heart,  
The iron drag of the long days.

I know hours empty as a beggar's tin cup on a rainy day,  
empty as a soldier's sleeve with an arm lost.

Speak to me ...

## Joy

Let a joy keep you.  
Reach out your hands  
And take it when it runs by,  
As the Apache dancer  
Clutches his woman.  
I have seen them  
Live long and laugh loud,  
Sent on singing, singing,  
Smashed to the heart  
Under the ribs  
With a terrible love.  
Joy always,  
Joy everywhere--  
Let joy kill you!  
Keep away from the little deaths.

*Carl Sandburg*

## The Children's Hour

Between the dark and the daylight,  
When the night is beginning to lower,  
Comes a pause in the day's occupations,  
That is known as Childrens' Hour.

I hear in the chamber above me  
the patter of little feet

The sound of a door that is opened  
and voices soft and sweet.

From my study I see in the lamplight  
Descending the broad hall stair,  
Grave Alice and laughing Allegra  
and Edith with golden hair.

*Henry Wadsworth Longfellow*  
excerpt from *Between the Dark and the Daylight*

### **Two Little Flowers (and dedicated to them)**

On sunny days in our backyard,  
two little flowers are seen,  
One dressed, at times, in brightest pink  
and one in green.  
The marigold is radiant,  
the rose passing fair;  
The violet is ever dear,  
the orchid, ever rare;  
There's loveliness in wild flow'rs  
of field or wide savannah,  
But fairest, rarest of them all  
are Edith and Susanna.

*Charles Ives and Harmony Twitchell (Mrs. Charles Ives)*

### **Nothing Gold Can Stay**

Nature's first green is gold,  
Her hardest hue to hold.  
Her early leaf's a flower;  
But only so an hour.  
Then leaf subsides to leaf.  
So Eden sank to grief,  
So dawn goes down to day.  
Nothing gold can stay.

### **The Rose Family**

The rose is a rose,  
And was always a rose.  
But the theory now goes  
That the apple's a rose,  
And the pear is, and so's  
The plum, I suppose.  
The dear only knows  
What will next prove a rose.  
You, of course, are a rose -  
But were always a rose.

*Robert Frost*

### **At the River**

Shall we gather by the river,  
Where bright angel feet have trod,  
With its crystal tide forever  
Flowing by the throne of God?  
Gather at the river!  
Yes, we'll gather by the river,  
The beautiful, the beautiful river,  
Yes, we'll gather at the river  
That flows by the throne of God.  
Shall we gather? Shall we gather at the river?

### **Down East**

Songs! Visions of my homeland,  
come with strains of childhood,  
Come with tunes we sang in school days  
and with songs from mother's heart;  
Way down east in a village by the sea,  
stands an old, red farm house  
that watches o'er the lea;  
All that is best in me,  
lying deep in memory,  
draws my heart where I would be,  
nearer to thee.



Ev'ry Sunday morning,  
when the chores were almost done,  
from that little parlor  
sounds the old melodeon,  
"Nearer my God to Thee, nearer to Thee,"  
With those strains a stronger hope  
comes nearer to me.

*Charles Ives*

### **Upcoming Concerts at NEC**

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

**Sonata Night 53**, Pei-Shan Lee, director

Sonatas for Cello and Piano, a collaboration with the studio of Paul Katz

**Thursday, November 14, 2024 at 6:30 p.m., Burnes Hall**

*Crawford Seeger/Ives Festival*

**NEC Jazz Studies and Song Lab**

"Ives in Song"

**Thursday, November 14, 2024 at 8:00 p.m., Jordan Hall**

*Crawford Seeger/Ives Festival*

**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, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.;**

**Saturday, November 16, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, November 17, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.**

**Plimpton Shattuck Black Box Theatre**

*Crawford Seeger/Ives Festival*

**"An Evening of Chamber Music"**

Ives *Third Violin Sonata*, Donald Weilerstein, violin; Vivian Hornik Weilerstein, piano; Crawford Seeger *Chant, 1930*, NEC Chamber Singers, Erica J. Washburn, conductor; Agócs *Sun and Shield* (US premiere), Melissa Reardon, viola; Katherine Balch *different gravities*; Ives *Piano Trio*, Trio Eris (NEC Piano Trio in Residence) Escot *Jubilation*, Meraki Strng Quartet

**Friday, November 15, 2024 at 8:00 p.m., Jordan Hall**

## **Upcoming Concerts at NEC**

*–continued*

### **Tuesday Night New Music**

New music by NEC student composers, performed by their peers

*Tuesday, November 19, 2024 at 8:00 p.m., Brown Hall*

### **Liederabend LXXIV, JJ Penna, curator**

“The White Light Project” – songs by Sankarem, Schubert, Boulanger, Gordon, Harbison, Schumann, Messiaen, and Puts

*Wednesday, November 20, 2024 at 6:00 p.m., Williams Hall*

### **NEC Baroque Orchestra, Susanna Ogata, guest artist**

Music by Frescobaldi, Lully, Corelli, Biber, and Muffat

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

### **BSO Prelude: What I Hear**

Kevin Puts, composer

*Thursday, November 21, 2024 at 5:30 p.m., Brown Hall*

### **NEC Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Winds and Symphonic Choir**

Joseph Higgins, guest conductor; William Drury, conductor

G. Gabrieli *Canzon per Sonar Septimi Toni No. 2*; Bernstein *Profanation*

Copland *Variations on a Shaker Melody*; Shaw *and the swallow*;

Grantham *Southern Harmony*; Gulda *Konzert fur Violoncello und Blasorchester*,

Amit Peled '99, cello; Stanford/Bettany *At the Abbey Gate*

*Thursday, November 21, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

### **Connections Chamber Music, Max Levinson, director**

*Thursday, November 21, 2024 at 8:00 p.m., Burnes Hall*

### **Gunther Schuller Legacy Concert, Kenneth Radnofsky, curator**

“Every Day in the Forever Musical Life of Gunther Schuller”, a 99th birthday celebration - Schuller *Songs*; Ives *Three Songs*; Sanlikol *Songs of the Conjuror* (world premiere); works by Ellington, Mingus, Monk, and Bergonzi

*Friday, November 22, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

### **NEC Undergraduate Opera Seminar: Opera Scenes, Michael Meraw, director**

*Sunday & Monday, November 24 & 25, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.*

## **Upcoming Concerts at NEC**

*—continued*

### **Faculty Recital: Kenneth Radnofsky, saxophone**

“A Question of Identity” - world premieres of commissioned works: Trester *Neshot Hayil (Women of Valor)* and Amram *Three Poems of Sonia Sanchez*; Schulhoff *Hot-Sonate*; Ravel *Kaddisch*; Joplin *Bethena Waltz*; Stravinsky *Three Pieces for clarinet*; Eric Dolphy *Improvisations on 'God Bless the Child'*

*Sunday, November 24, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

### **Faculty Recital: Borromeo String Quartet**

*Monday, November 25, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

### **NEC Saxophone Ensemble, Kenneth Radnofsky, director**

“Women and the Vote for Saxophone” - 100th Anniversary Memorial Concert for Elise Hall - works by Trester, Price, Loeffler, Perry, Decruck, Tower, and Garrop

*Tuesday, November 26, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

### **First Monday at Jordan Hall, Laurence Lesser, artistic director - 40<sup>th</sup> season**

Beethoven *Trio in E-flat Major, op. 38*; Monk *Bolivar Blues, Round Midnight, Evidence*; Mozart *Serenade No. 12 in C Minor, K. 388/384a*

*Monday, December 2, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

### **NEC Percussion Group, Will Hudgins, director**

*Tuesday, December 3, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

### **Tuesday Night New Music**

New music by NEC student composers, performed by their peers

*Tuesday, December 3, 2024 at 8:00 p.m., Williams Hall*

### **NEC Opera: Handel Scenes and Shakespeare Monologues**

*Tuesday, December 3 at 7:30 p.m., & Thursday, December 5 at 6:00 p.m.*

*Plimpton Shattuck Black Box Theatre*

### **NEC Symphonic Choir and NEC Youth Chorale, Erica J. Washburn, conductor**

Duruflé *Requiem*, Thomas Handel, organ

*Thursday, December 5, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Church of the Covenant*

*67 Newbury Street, Boston*

### **NEC Jazz Orchestra, Ken Schaphorst, conductor**

*Thursday, December 5, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

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and photography and audio or video recording are prohibited.  
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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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