



NEC Festival

NEC Chamber Orchestra

Donald Palma, artistic director

Monday, November 11, 2024 7:30 p.m. NEC's Jordan Hall

NEC Festival 2024

This performance is part of the NEC Festival, which honors the legacy of John Heiss with a weeklong series of performances, discussions, and more.

Taking place from November 10–17, the festival celebrates visionary American composers Charles Ives (1874–1954) and Ruth Crawford Seeger (1901–1953)

— both recognized and often unheard.

Learn more about upcoming festival events at necmusic.edu/nec-festival-2024.

PROGRAM	

Ruth Crawford Seeger

(1901-1953)

Andante for Strings

Charles Ives

(1874–1954)

Symphony No. 3, "The Camp Meeting"

Old Folks Gatherin' – Andante maestoso Children's Day – Allegro Communion – Largo

Intermission

Franz Joseph Haydn

(1732 - 1809)

Symphony No. 44 in E Minor, Hob 1:44

 ${\it ``Trauer-Symphonie''}$

Allegro con brio

Menuetto e Trio: Allegretto

Adagio

Finale: Presto

American composer, educator, and musicologist **Ruth Crawford Seeger** was born on July 3, 1901 in East Liverpool, Ohio and died on November 18, 1953 in Chevy Chase, Maryland. Her musical education started with piano lessons at age six, and her first ambition was to become a concert pianist.

In New York City she studied with Charles Seeger, the "father" of the study of American folk music. In 1930 she became the first female composer to receive a Gugggenhei Fellowship, which enabled her to go to Europe (Paris and Berlin), where she learned about the trends in musical modernism being explored overseas. She married Seeger in Paris in 1932, and together they raised several children, the most famous of whom was her step-son Peter (Pete), an important figure in the popularization of American folk music in the 1950s.

Her *Andante for Strings* is derived from the third movement of her String Quartet of 1931, which received its premiere in 1933 to the critical acclaim of many, most notably fellow composer and mentor, Henry Cowell.

Composed in 1904, **Charles Ives**' *Symphony No. 3* looks back not only to the older European symphonic forms, but, more importantly, to Ives' childhood impressions of a disappearing spiritual world.

The program for the Third Symphony is conveyed by the subtitle "The Camp Meeting" and the individual movements, "Old Folks Gatherin'", "Children's Day", and "Communion". They are self-referential to Ives' childhood memories of camp meetings he attended where his father furnished the music and conducted the congregational and choral singing of hymns. Ives borrows several of these hymns to illustrate his childhood memories.

The origins of Symphony No. 3 are found in three organ piece Ives composed in 1901, when he was organist at Central Presbyterian Church in New York. The world premiere occurred on April 5, 1946, with Lou Harrison conducting. The next year, it won Ives the Pulitzer Prize for Music. He gave the prize money away (half of it to Harrison), saying "prizes are for boys, and I'm all grown up."

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Violin Bass Trombone

Darwin Chang §§ Colby Heimburger Alvin Tsz Yin Ho

June Chung

Lingyu Dong Flute Percussion

Michael Fisher **§ Subee Kim Jakob Schoenfeld

Hojung Kwon ‡

Hyunji Lee Oboe

Seungwon Park ‡‡ Kearsen Erwin Principal players
Caroline Smoak * Christian Paniagua ‡§ * Crawford Seeger

‡ Haydn larinet § Ives

Viola Clarinet
Inácia Afonso ‡ Cole Turkel

Wednesday Hsu §

Jeonghwan Yoon * Bassoon Double symbol for

Owen Schigiel principal 2nd violin

Cello

Alexander Davis-Pegis * French horn

Lexine Feng § Sage Silé ‡

Xinyue Zhu ‡ Qianbin Zhu §

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Donald Palma Andrés Almirall

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Chamber Orchestra

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 Bridgehampton Chamber Music Festival, the White Mountains Festival and is Music Director of the Symphony-bythe-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:

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

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 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, Susanna Ogata, guest artist Music by Frescobaldi, Lully, Corelli, Biber, and Muffat Wednesday, November 20, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

NEC New Music Ensemble, Stefan Asbury, conductor Brett Dean Carlo (1997); Binna Kim Stacked Emotions (2019); Sarah Gibson Soak Stain (2023); Gandolfi The Nature of Light (2012) Monday, December 9, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Burnes Hall

NEC Philharmonia, Hugh Wolff, conductor

Schoenberg Begleitungsmusik zu einer Lichtspielscene (Accompaniment to a Film Scene) Bartók Piano Concerto No. 3, Evren Ozel '25 AD, piano; Mahler Symphony No. 4 Jingdan Zhang '26 AD, soprano

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

Crawford Seeger/Ives Festival

NEC Contemporary Musical Arts Dept, Eden MacAdam-Somer, curator "I, Too, Sing America: Ruth Crawford Seeger and Other Untold Stories of America" special guest Raven Chacon - Diné composer, musician and artist Chacon American Ledger No. 1; Malek I, Too (commissioned work) and music by John Heiss, Ives, Ruth Crawford Seeger, Zorn, Peggy Seeger, and Gabe Boyarin Tuesday. November 12, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

Song and Verse, Brett Hodgdon, curator
"An Evening of American Song and Verse"
Wednesday, November 13, 2024 at 6:00 p.m., Burnes Hall

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

"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 String Quartet

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

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

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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 necmusic.edu/givenow

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.



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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