

N | E | C

New England
Conservatory



Concert Program

necmusic.edu



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'.

Andrea Kalyn
President

Jazz Composers' Workshop Orchestra

Frank Carlberg, director
Joshua Gagnon, assistant

Tim Berne Residency Concert

Tuesday, February 11, 2025
7:30 p.m.
NEC's Jordan Hall

PROGRAM

All compositions by Tim Berne

Tim Berne
(b. 1954)

Van Gundy's Retreat

Tim Berne, alto saxophone
Charlie Watson, trumpet
Gabriel Nieves, tenor saxophone
Longfei Li, piano
Benedict Koh, bass
Mark Valdes, drums

Reception

Lenka Molcanyiova, tenor saxophone
Hidemi Akaiwa, piano

Huh?

Tim Berne, alto saxophone
Hidemi Akaiwa, piano

Not Sure

Tim Berne, alto saxophone
Pitiki Aliakai, voice
Sammy Davies, trumpet
Cooper Malanowski, trombone
Gabriel Nieves, tenor saxophone
Kai Burnes, guitar
Jake Walters, piano
Nick Isherwood, bass
Mark Valdes, drums

Doge Eat Doge
Sorry/Variations

Tim Berne, alto saxophone
Peikun Liu, guitar
Hannah Marks, bass
Carlo Kind, piano

Scanners
Semi-self Detached
Lost in Redding

Tim Berne, alto saxophone
NEC Jazz Composers' Workshop Orchestra

Jazz Composers' Workshop Orchestra

Woodwinds:

Joe Wagner, Theodore Goldman, Alexander Hussain,
Jett Gonzalez, Matthew Wessner

Trumpets:

Woody Pierre, Koki Renwick, Sammy Davies, Ben Kilpatrick

Trombones:

Joshua Gagnon, Cooper Malanowski, Nathan Rocha, Alvin Ho

Guitar:

Nadav Brenner, Niko Malinowski

Piano:

Domas Žeromskas

Bass:

Hannah Marks

Drums:

Victor Giraldez

Tim Berne was born in Syracuse, New York. He has said that he had no interest in playing an instrument until he attended Lewis & Clark College in Oregon. Hearing the album *Dogon A.D.* (1972) by Julius Hemphill turned his attention toward jazz. He was a fan of rhythm and blues, and it seemed to him that Hemphill was playing jazz with the soulfulness of R&B. In 1974, he went to New York to find Hemphill, who gave him saxophone lessons and advice on how to manage his career. Berne started the record label Empire in 1979.

For Empire, he recorded four albums with avant-garde jazz musicians such as John Carter, Alex Cline, Nels Cline, Olu Dara, Vinny Golia, Paul Motian, and Ed Schuller. His next two albums appeared on Soul Note in the early 1980s. In these sessions he worked with Motian, Schuller, Ray Anderson, Herb Robertson and others. He then got a contract with Columbia and recorded with Robertson, Hank Roberts, Bill Frisell and others. During this time he also recorded a duo album with Frisell and two albums with John Zorn. After two albums with Columbia, he signed with JMT, a label known for avant-garde jazz.

In the 1990s, he recorded in the trio, *Miniature*, with Roberts and Joey Baron, and in the band Caos Totale with Django Bates, Mark Dresser, Marc Ducret, Steve Swell, and Bobby Previte. He led a trio with Michael Formanek and Jim Black, then

added Chris Speed to form the quartet Bloodcount (which was occasionally a quintet with the addition of Ducret). PolyGram bought JMT and closed it. This motivated Berne to start Screwgun Records as the outlet for his albums.

Screwgun's first release was a 3-disc set by Bloodcount called *Unwound*, the music of which exemplified Berne's characteristic style of "explod[ing] the walls of traditional compositional form: instead of adhering to anything remotely resembling theme and variations, he intersperses thematic material—sometimes repeated, elongated, or truncated—with the careening pleasures of free improvisation." During the late 1990s he continued to perform with Bloodcount, formed Paraphrase, a trio with Drew Gress and Tom Rainey, and Big Satan, a trio with Ducret and Rainey.

In the early 2000s, Berne formed several groups, including the trio Hard Cell with Rainey and Craig Taborn, and the quartet Science Friction (Berne, Ducret, Rainey, and Taborn). He also collaborated with members of The Bad Plus for the project Buffalo Collision, with Nels Cline of Wilco for the critically acclaimed album *The Veil* in 2011, and with David Torn on several projects and recordings.

Berne formed the band Snakeoil with Matt Mitchell, Oscar Noriega, and Ches Smith, which released a self-titled album in 2012, and six more recordings, with slight personnel changes, over the next decade. During this time, he has also recorded with members of The Bad Plus as Broken Shadows, and in duos with several musicians. In 2023 he released *Oceans And* with Hank Roberts and Aurora Nealand.

Recently albums by other musicians interpreting Berne's music have begun to appear. These include *Førage* by Matt Mitchell, *Koi* by Gregg Belisle-Chi, and *Palm Sweat* by Marc Ducret.

– Wikipedia

Upcoming Concerts at NEC

Visit necmusic.edu for complete and updated concert and ticketing information

Liederabend LXXVI. Joel Ayau, curator

"Fables and Fairy Tales: Music from Russia"

Wednesday, February 12, 2025 at 6:00 p.m., Williams Hall

West African Art Music Festival

NEC Chamber Orchestra, Donald Palma, artistic director

Coleridge-Taylor Perkinson *Sinfonietta No. 1*; Fela Sowande *African Suite*

Wednesday, February 12, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

West African Art Music Festival

"An Evening of West African Vocal Music"

NEC Chamber Singers and Conductors' Choir, Erica J. Washburn conductor, join guest chorus, the African Choral Ensemble, Dr. John Dankwa, conductor and soloists; works by Ephraim Amu, Ayo Bankole, Laz Ekwueme, Vincent I. Ihaza, Ayo Oluranti, Christian Onyeji, SK Oretimehin, and Joshua Uzoigwe

Thursday, February 13, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Brown Hall

NEC Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Winds

Andrew McMahan, guest conductor and William Drury, conductor

Weill *Little Threepenny Music (Kleine Dreigroschenmusik)*; Husa *Smetana Fanfare*;

Mackey *Aurora Awakes*; Daugherty/Spede *Red Cape Tango*; Spittal *Dogtown Fanfare*;

Strauss *Serenade in E-flat Major*; Stanford/Holcombe *Symphony No. 6 in E-flat Major*

Thursday, February 13, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

Piano Department Concert, Bruce Brubaker, curator of piano programming

"Fauré and His Students", Part Two

Sunday, February 23, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

Contemporary Music Arts Dept. Concert

Tuesday, February 25, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

Composers' Series: Sid Richardson, curator

Arthur Berger Memorial Concert

Wednesday, February 26, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

NEC Jazz Orchestra. Ken Schaphorst, director

Thursday, February 27, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

Upcoming Concerts at NEC

—continued

Tuesday Night New Music

New music by NEC student composers, performed by their peers

Friday, February 28, 2025 at 8:00 p.m., Burnes Hall

First Monday at Jordan Hall, Laurence Lesser, artistic director - 40th season

Works by Berio, Ravel, and Schubert

Monday, March 3, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

Piano Department Concert, Bruce Brubaker, curator of piano programming

“Fauré and His Students”, Part Three

Tuesday, March 4, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

Undergraduate Voice Showcase

Wednesday, March 5, 2025 at 6:00 p.m., Williams Hall

NEC Symphony, Hugh Wolff and Timothy Ren '25 MM conductors

Wagner *Prelude and Liebestod* from *Tristan and Isolde*; Debussy *l'Après-midi d'un faun*

Kerr *Desolate Void, Ecstatic Flight*; Elgar *Enigma Variations*

Wednesday, March 5, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

NEC Symphonic Choir and Chamber Singers, Erica J. Washburn, conductor

“Voices of NEC” - competition-winning works by NEC alumni:

Berofsky *Thou art my Lute*; Bosba *this is the garden*; Cohen *Street Haunting*; Hahn *I*

Can't Breathe; Oberoi *Telescope*; Rindfleisch *Salmo de Alabanza*; Siegfried *One Heart*;

Sussman *Higaleh Nah*; Yee-Paulson *Song of Hope*

Thursday, March 6, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

Perkin Opera Scenes

Performances by graduate students in the NEC Opera Department

Thursday & Friday, March 6 & 7, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.,

Plimpton Shattuck Black Box Theatre

Jason Moran Residency Concert

Thursday, March 6, 2025 at 8:00 p.m., Williams Hall

Black Student Union & Castle of Our Skins

Saturday, March 8, 2025 at 8:00 p.m., Jordan Hall

Faculty Recital: Rachel Childers, French horn

Sunday, March 9, 2025 at 12:00 noon, Burnes Hall

Support the future of music at NEC!

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/give.

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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necmusic.edu/tonight

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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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