

N | E | C

New England
Conservatory



Concert Program

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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, which appears to be "Andrea Kalyn". The signature is stylized and fluid, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Andrea Kalyn
President

NEC Percussion Group

Will Hudgins, director

Monday, March 24, 2025

7:30 p.m.

NEC's Jordan Hall

PROGRAM

Casey Cangelosi

(b. 1982)

Sextet

Camden Briggs, Jacob Haskins,
Connor Willits, Patrick Sorah, Isabella Butler,
Abel Zhou

Jason Treuting

(b. 1977)

Extremes from Imaginary City

Jordan Fajardo-Bird, Isabella Butler,
Abel Zhou, Camden Briggs

Tōru Takemitsu

(1930–1996)

Rain Tree

Liam McManus, Camden Briggs,
Jacob Haskins

Andy Akiho

(b. 1979)

Pillar I from Pillars

Connor Willits, Gustavo Barreda,
Patrick Sorah, Lucas Vogelmann

Frederick Lesemann

(1936–2023)

Strike Zone

Gustavo Barreda, Patrick Sorah,
Connor Willits, Jordan Fajardo-Bird,
Jacob Haskins, Liam McManus,
Lucas Vogelmann

NEC Percussion Group

Gustavo Barreda

Camden Briggs

Isabella Butler

Jordan Fajardo-Bird

Jacob Haskins

Liam McManus

Patrick Sorah

Lucas Vogelmann

Connor Willits

Abel Zhou

Cangelosi Sextet

Cangelosi is a major force in percussion composition today. With this sextet he presents a theme that passes through various time signatures and is developed by addition, subtraction and inversion. The result is a fun romp through percussion sounds and colors.

Treuting *Extremes*

Treuting, a member of the percussion chamber group SO Percussion, composed *Extremes* as part of a larger work called *Imaginary City*. *Extremes* has a very unique construction, one that uses words as a platform for form and rhythmic construction. In this case, Treuting uses the names of 4 cities and bases rhythms on the syllables of Houston, Denver, Helena and Burlington. This unconventional concept brings us a listening experience that is as exciting as it is original.

Takemitsu *Rain Tree*

Tōru Takemitsu was a Japanese composer and writer on aesthetics and music theory. Largely self-taught, Takemitsu was admired for the subtle manipulation of instrumental and orchestral timbre. He is known for combining elements of oriental and occidental philosophy and for fusing sound with silence and tradition with innovation. His percussion trio *Rain Tree* is considered a masterpiece in the percussion repertoire.

Rain Tree is used as a metaphor of water circulating in the cosmos, and Takemitsu employed Messiaen's modes of limited transposition in order to construct the pitch collections evocative of cosmic imagery. Takemitsu's goal as an artist was to expand the possibilities of music, and to express himself through creation of a universal language. The title was suggested by a passage from the novel *Atama no ii, Ame no Ki* by Kenzaburo Oe: "It has been named the 'rain tree' for its abundant foliage continues to let fall rain drops collected from last night's shower until well after the following midday. Its hundreds of thousands of tiny leaves - finger-like - store up moisture while other trees dry up at once. What an ingenious tree, isn't it?"

Toru Takemitsu during an interview (1993):

"My music is like a garden, and I am the gardener. Listening to my music can be compared to walking through a garden and experiencing the changes in light, pattern, and texture. I do not like to emphasize too much with my music. Someone once criticized my music as getting to be very old fashioned. Maybe I am old, but I am looking back to the past with nostalgia. Composers are sometimes afraid to use tonality, but we can use anything from the tonal to the atonal -- this is our treasure. I can say that because I am Japanese!"

Akiho *Pillar I*

Pillar I is one movement of the eleven movement piece *Pillars* by trailblazing composer Andy Akiho. This genre-defying monumental work is groundbreaking in its use of sounds and rhythms and requires rhythmic precision of the highest order while taking the listener on a sonic journey of epic proportion. The composer writes:

“The inspirations for this work are deeply personal, and it was written for the performers more than the instruments.... The piece does not have a concrete narrative, although I have a personal storyline that fits my life journey, and I encourage the listener to experience the music in their own adventure.”

Lesemann *Strike Zone*

Frederick (Rick) Lesemann was an extremely admired composer in the Los Angeles area. He served on the faculty at USC for many years and was the recipient of grants and awards too numerous to list. His contributions to the composition department included an early interest in electronic music.

The NECPG presents tonight his piece entitled *Strike Zone*, written in 1995 for the USC Percussion Ensemble and director Erik Forrester. This somewhat minimalist work mixes pitched and non-pitched instruments in a mesmerizing puzzle that weaves in and out of the listener’s conscious. With its interesting sonic explorations and development of scales and arpeggios, Lesemann presents us with a fascinating dialogue of the percussive vocabulary.

Upcoming Concerts at NEC

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

ICA Showcase

Works by Donizetti, Poulenc, Bachelet, Franck, Mozart, Britten, Puccini and Gershwin are performed by Artist Diploma candidates Josie Larsen and Jingdan Dani Zhang (soprano), Joshua Brown (violin) and Yutong Sun and Evren Ozel (piano)

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

Faculty Recital: Mehmet Ali Sanlikol

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

NEC Composers' Series, Lingbo Ma '25 DMA, curator

"Echoes Through Time: A Tapestry of Voices", DMA composers showcase

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

Connections Chamber Music, Max Levinson, director

Thursday, March 27, 2025 at 8:00 p.m., Burnes Hall

NEC Saxophone Ensemble, Kenneth Radnofsky, director

Works by Maslanka, Ravel, Glazounov, Lauba, and Tchaikovsky

Thursday, March 27, 2025 at 8:00 p.m., Pierce Hall

Undergraduate Opera Studio, Michael Meraw, director

Purcell *Dido and Aeneas*

Friday & Saturday, March 28 & 29, 2025 (times vary)

Plimpton Shattuck Black Box Theatre

Josie Larsen, soprano (AD)

Student of Bradley Williams

Sunday, March 30, 2025 at 8:00 p.m., Jordan Hall

NEC Honors Ensemble: CMA

Monday, March 31, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

NEC Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Winds

Kevin Holzman, guest conductor and William Drury, conductor

Simon *Go down, Moses*; Maslanka *Symphony No. 4*; Rivello *As Time Bends the Path*;

Richardson *Sun Compass*; Minakakis *Vykinon*

Tuesday, April 1, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

NEC Baroque Orchestra, Guy Fishman, director

Wednesday, April 2, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

Upcoming Concerts at NEC

–continued

NEC Honors Ensemble: “Hear Your Story” (Jazz)

Thursday, April 3, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

NEC Brass Bash, James Markey, director

Andrew McCandless, trumpet, guest artist

Sunday, April 6, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

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

Works by Kreisler, Schubert, and Shostakovich

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

NEC Honors Ensemble: Elisa String Quartet

Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

Tuesday Night New Music

New music by NEC student composers, performed by their peers

Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at 8:00 p.m., Williams Hall

NEC Chamber Orchestra, Donald Palma, artistic director

Say *Chamber Symphony*, op. 62: Haydn *Cello Concerto in C Major*, Hob VIII:1

Claire Park, cello; Honegger *Symphony No. 2*

Wednesday, April 9, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

Sonata Night 56, Pei-Shan Lee, director

Thursday, April 10, 2025 at 6:30 p.m., Burnes Hall

[nec]shivaree, Stephen Drury, director

Thursday, April 10, 2025 at 8:00 p.m., Williams Hall

Song and Verse 3, JJ Penna, director

Friday, April 11, 2025 at 6:00 pm., Burnes Hall

NEC Honors Ensemble: Alira String Quartet

Saturday, April 12, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

Marion Rubin Berman ‘31 Piano Honors Concert

Sunday, April 13, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

NEC Honors Ensemble: Calandra Quartet

Monday, April 14, 2025 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.

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.

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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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