

NEC Festival

Chamber Music and Sonatas: *Gunther Schuller*and the Spirit of Collaboration

NEC Festival 2025

This performance is part of the NEC Festival, which will celebrate the legacy of Gunther Schuller, president of NEC between 1967 and 1977 with a week-long series of concerts and discussions. In addition to reflecting on his work as a composer, conductor and scholar, the legacy of Gunther Schuller's influence on NEC will be demonstrated through a range of collaborative presentations.

Learn more about the NEC Festival here.

PROGRAM

Gunther Schuller from Piano Trio (1984)

(1925–2015) III. With Swing

Charles Ives from Piano Trio

(1874–1954) II. TSIAJ ("This scherzo is a joke"): Presto

Trio Eris Andrew Chen, piano KJ McDonald, violin Annie Hyung, cello

Gunther Schuller Fantasy for Solo Harp (1969)

LiShan Tan, harp

from Sonata for Oboe and Piano (1951)

II. Lento III. Rondo

Kelly Osterberg, oboe Pualina Lim, piano

Arnold Schoenberg Phantasy for Violin and Piano (1952) (1874–1951)

Evan Johanson, violin Yoshino Toi, piano

Intermission

Tarquinio Merula

(1526-1600)

Ciacona

Fabritio Caroso

(1526-1600)

Furioso all'italiana from Nobiltà di Dame (1600)

Renaissonics

John Tyson, recorders

Eden MacAdam-Somer, violin Douglas Freundlich, lute

Daniel Rowe, cello

Miyuki Tsurutani, harpsichord

Anthony Coleman

Cross Currents 1982

CMA Music Ensemble

Milana Živanović, Serbian flute

Elias Shane, harp Vasiliy Bolgov, violin

Eden MacAdam-Somer, viola, coach

Solomon Caldwell, bass David Harewood, piano

Junho Kim, vibraphone, glockenspiel

Ethan Iverson

Weary Blues

Impossible Rag

Ethan Iverson, piano

Mark Zaleski, clarinet

Ashley Tsai, Ava Kenney, violin

Yu-Heng Wang, viola Eric Schindler, cello

Merula Ciacona Caroso Furioso all'italiana

Gunther Schuller's vision of a complete musician included a large Historical Performance Department at NEC which opened worlds of brilliant repertoires and allowed students to explore the naturalness in which classical artistry and improvisation coexist - regaining our heritage.

Renaissonics began partially as an outgrowth of Gunther's vision at NEC. Having the opportunity to work in a community of Classical, Jazz, Contemporary Improvisation, Renaissance and Baroque musicians and even Renaissance dance classes with Dr. Julia Sutton, provided fertile ground for a Renaissance ensemble. Renaissonics tours internationally performing Renaissance chamber music, dance music and improvisations.

In the Ciacona, originally a risqué dance-song probably introduced from the New World, Merula's shifting rhythmic patterns exhibit a Renaissance version of Gunther's concept of the 'democratization of the beat'.

Famed dancer and choreographer Fabritio Caroso's treatise *Nobiltà di Dame* gives a unique insight into the resplendent world of the Italian Renaissance. Caroso provides dance instruction and music for each dance but only in the simplest arrangements: in tablature for a lute or in notation for one melody instrument, knowing that the musicians would spontaneously characterize the dramatic meters and characters of the dance.

— *John Tyson*

Coleman Cross Currents 1982

Cross Currents 1982 was written as one section of *Streams*, the multi-movement piece I wrote for NEC's 150th anniversary in 2018. The title comes from a compilation of Eastern European writing that I pilfered while working at Transbooks, a very strange company that gave weekend work to many of the musicians of the early Downtown New York scene.

My time in (ex-) Yugoslavia between 1981 and 1987 really marked me. To the degree that I can say that I am nostalgic, I am nostalgic for that time and place. Every once in a while, this emerges in my work. I would say that it's a kind of thread. As someone who has derived a lot of their thoughts about signification and meaning from the work of Roland Barthes, I want to say that this work is more about my experience of Eastern European music than it is about any day-to-day experience I had in Eastern Europe. Or for that matter, any actual, particular Eastern European music. I wish I could find the perfect quote from Barthes to summarize this...

But I would be remiss if I didn't at least mention the work of Zygmunt Krauze, especially his First Piano Concerto and his piece *Folk Songs.* — *Anthony Coleman*

Upcoming Concerts at NEC

all programs subject to change

Visit necmusic.edu for complete and updated concert information

NEC Festival: "Contemporary Musical Arts Today – A Global Vision Realized" Eden MacAdam-Somer and Hankus Netsky, curators Tuesday, November 18, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

Tuesday Night New Music

New music by NEC student composers, performed by their peers *Tuesday, November 18, 2025 at 8:00 p.m., Williams Hall*

NEC Festival

NEC Symphony, David Loebel, Clancy Ellis '26 GD, conductor Chadwick *Jubilee* from *Symphonic Sketches*; Strauss Overture to *Die Fledermaus*; Stravinsky Suite from *The Firebird*; Joplin (arr. Schuller) *Overture to Treemonisha*; Schuller *Seven Studies on Themes of Paul Klee*

Wednesday, November 19, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

NEC Opera: Jonathan Dove "Flight"

NEC opera students are joined by members of NEC Philharmonia under the direction of Robert Tweten; Joshua Major is the stage director *Thursday-Saturday, November 20-22 at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, November 23 at 3:00 p.m. Plimpton Shattuck Black Box Theatre*

NEC Jazz Orchestra, Ken Schaphorst, director

Guest artists include Fred Hersh, Carl Atkins, George Schuller, Mehmet Ali Sanlıkol, and George Lernis

Thursday, November 20, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

NEC Festival: "Of Reminiscences and Reflections – Celebrating Gunther Schuller's 100th Birthday" - Live performances, recorded audio, projected images, and commentary featuring Gunther Schuller and others, celebrating Schuller's deep effect on numerous musicians and the path of 20th and 21st century music Friday, November 21, 2025 at 8:00 p.m., Jordan Hall

NEC Festival: Faculty Recital: Kenneth Radnofsky, saxophone Gunther Schuller 100th Birthday Concert Saturday, November 22, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Burnes Hall

Upcoming Concerts at NEC

-continued

Song and Verse, Brett Hodgdon, curator

An evening of German Lieder

Monday, November 24, 2025 at 6:00 p.m., Williams Hall

Joint Faculty Recital: Cameron Stowe, piano and Corey Gaudreau, baritone

"Homage: Works Inspired by Legendary Singers"

Barber Three Songs; Britten Winter Words; Ravel Histoires naturelles

Poulenc Hommage à Edith Piaf; La fraîcheur et le feu

Monday, November 24, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

First Monday at Jordan Hall, 41st season

"Divine Arcana" - von Biber "Mystery" sonatas; Lang Glory (2014);

Mozart (arr. Schuller) *Grand Sextet Concertante*; and works by Hildegard von Bingen, Pärt, and Messiaen

Monday, December 1, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

Chamber Music Gala

Tuesday, December 2, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

Tuesday Night New Music

New music by NEC student composers, performed by their peers

Tuesday, December 2, 2025 at 8:00 p.m., Williams Hall

NEC Opera: Handel Scenes and Shakespeare Monologues

Wednesday, December 3 & Thursday, December 4, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

Plimpton Shattuck Black Box Theatre

NEC Percussion Group, Will Hudgins, director

Wednesday, December 3, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

NEC Chamber Singers, Symphonic Winds, Navy Band Northeast

"Into the Holidays"

Monday, December 8, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

NEC New Music Ensemble, Stefan Asbury, conductor

Harvey Mortuos Plangos, Vivo Voco; Byström Rebellion in Greenery; Mallia Plexus 2;

Reich New York Counterpoint for Clarinet and Tape; Murail Winter Fragments;

Abrahamsen Winternacht

Monday, December 8, 2025 at 8:00 p.m., Burnes Hall

Upcoming Concerts at NEC

-continued

NEC Jazz Composers' Workshop Orchestra, Frank Carlberg, director Tuesday, December 9, 2025 at 8:00 p.m., Brown Hall

NEC Chamber Singers, Symphonic Winds, Navy Band Northeast "Into the Holidays" (repeat) - Audio streamed on wicn Wednesday, December 10, 2025 at 12:00 noon, Mechanics Hall, Worcester

Liederabend LXXVIII Cameron Stowe and Tanya Blaich, curators All-Ravel program *Wednesday, December 10, 2025 at 6:00 p.m., Williams Hall*

NEC Philharmonia, Hugh Wolff, conductor

Handel *Concerto Grosso*, op. 6 no. 4; Bartók *Music for Strings, Percussion and Celesta*; Beethoven *Violin Concerto in D Major*, op. 61, Joshua Brown AD, violin *Wednesday, December 10, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

NEC Conductors' Choir

Works by Chatman, Gilkyson, Hazzard, Parry, Poulenc, Trumbore, and Victoria conducted by Estel Haejin Park, Noah Scecina-White, and Louis Shriber, all '27 MM students of Erica J. Washburn

Thursday, December 11, 2025 at 8:00 p.m., Burnes Hall

Sonata Class Recital, Vivian Hornik Weilerstein, faculty Thursday, December 11, 2025 at 5:30 p.m., Williams Hall

Faculty Recital: **Paula Robison, flute** with **Paavali Jumppanen, piano** "An Hour of Bach and Mozart" Sunday, December 14, 2025 at 6:00 p.m., Williams Hall

NEC Lab Orchestra

Clancy Ellis '26 GD, Joseph Bozich '27 GD and Leonard Bopp '27 GD conductors *Tuesday, December 16, 2025 at 8:00 p.m., Brown Hall*

Borromeo String Quartet Seminar Recital Wednesday, December 17, 2025 at 8:00 p.m., Brown Hall

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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.



necmusic.edu/tonight



Welcome to NEC!

I am thrilled to welcome you to New England Conservatory's 2025–26 concert season — a celebration of the power that music has to inspire and connect us to one another.

Whether you are seated in one of our concert halls or watching online, we hope the performances of our students, faculty, and guest artists uplift you.

Above all, we thank you for supporting our students as they cultivate their artistry and contribute to the world through music.



Andrea Kalyn President



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



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