December 2021

MUSIC NEWS

Artur Satz Department of Music

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In The News

New Book Alert: Lines and Lyrics: An Introduction to Poetry and Song
Professor Matt Bailey Shea’s book was recently published by Yale University Press and is now available on Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and other bookstores. A copy will be available in Rush Rhees in the near future.

Franco Committee Student Composer/Performer Pair names UR Carillonneur Claire Janezic Grant Recipient
Grants are awarded to two collaborative composer-and-performer pairs for the composition and performance of new works for the carillon. All applicants (composers and performers) must be enrolled as full- or part-time students at an accredited North American college, university, or conservatory with a traditional carillon, as defined by the Guild of Carillonneurs in North America (GCNA), in the vicinity. There are no restrictions regarding compositional style, and the composer need not be a carillonneur. Membership in the GCNA is not required. Janezic recently became the first female UR undergraduate to graduate Carillonneur Status in the Guild of Carillonneurs of North America and was jointly awarded the grant along side Jacob Leibowitz from the Manhattan School of Music.

Reimagining Beethoven: Beethoven wins Platinum Award in LIT Talent Awards Competition
The LIT Talent Awards Program is an international competition that recognizes, celebrates, and honors music, film, dance, video, and talent excellence in the entertainment industry across local and international waters. The entry was scored 85+ out of 100 by an international judging panel and is now eligible to be considered for best instrumental performance. The competition received over 43,000 entries! More information on the entry and award can be found on the LIT Talent Awards website. University of Rochester was represented by the University of Rochester Orchestras, led by Rachel Waddell and the University of Rochester Chamber Singers, led by Julie Covach.

Musicians’ Wellness Speaker Series 2021-2022
This is a series put on by Eastman School of Music, but open to River Campus students, faculty, and staff that could benefit from learning about wellness in the music world. The next speaker series is scheduled for December 1, 2021 at 6pm (EST) and will focus on Peak Performance. The speakers are Ann McCulloch (’20 Simon) and Justin McCulloch (’21 DMA). Register to get the zoom link, with a monthly reminder of each new presenter! November’s discussion was focused around the Arts in Health field, featuring four alumni from the Eastman School: Todd Frazier (’92), Missy Fogarty (’91), Tracy Cowden (’00 DMA) and Gaelem McCormick (’92). The recording is available on YouTube.

Jennifer Kyker named panelist at the African Digital Humanities Symposium and awarded a Researcher Grant from Rochester
Kyker was featured as a panelist at the Second Annual African Digital Humanities Symposium at the University of Kansas on November 9, 2021. She was also recently awarded a Researcher Travel Mobility Grant from the College of Arts, Science and Engineering. With this grant, Kyker will spend a month in Zimbabwe to network with local musicians, conduct interviews with prominent Zimbabwean women musicians, and lay the foundation for a year long ethnomusicalological fieldwork trip in 2023-2024.

Concerto Competition Winners Announced
The annual Concerto Competition was held on November 18, 2021 in the Strong Auditorium. Thank you to all applicants and the judges: Professor Phillip Ying, Associate Professor of String Chamber Music, Eastman School of Music, Professor Elinor Freer, Associate Professor of Piano and Chamber Music, Eastman School of Music, and Dr. Rachel Waddell, Director of Orchestral Activities, Arthur Satz Dept. of Music. The results of this year’s competition are:

Winner (URSO) - Nicholas Achuthan - Rachmaninoff, Piano Concerto No. 2, Mvt. 1
Winner (URCO) - Anthony LaBarca - Elgar, Cello Concerto, Mvt. 1
Runner-Up - Yan Deng - Robert Schumann, Piano Concerto in a minor, Mvt. 1
Honorable Mention - Lindsey Brayer - Georges-Hue, Fantasia

River Campus Music Department Group on The Meliora Collective
The River Campus Music Department group is open to all current students, alumni, parents, and friends of the department. As a musician, you have distinguished yourself as someone who has a passion to expand your knowledge in the classroom, performance halls, and in the workforce. This group provides a space to connect and share information and experiences. Want to bounce ideas off like-minded people? Want to reconnect with fellow classmates? Need some friendly advice about the job climate? Want to promote an upcoming concert or showcase a recently published article? Join our group!

Hopeman Carillon Sunday Concert Series
Sundays are for Carillon on the Eastman Quad! Concerts are free and open to the public, from 5:00 - 5:30 every Sunday. Programs and more information can be found on the Hopeman Carillon Facebook Page. Did you know The Carillon Society at the University of Rochester plays 50 bells high in the dome of Rush Rhees library? Audience members sit 180 feet below the bells listening to music produced from more than 3 tons of metal! Have a request for a song? Contact the UR Carillon Society or visit them on Facebook. The Campus Times featured the Carillon concert series in an October 3, 2021 article.

The Landing at Brighton Senior Living Community is looking for students interested in sharing their talents! Volunteers are needed to play piano at dinner but additional opportunities are also available. Interested students should email Kristyn Wennegren, Lifestyles Director.

Email must include: your name, talent, a few available dates (preferred time is 3 PM, although other times are possible), fee, and length of performance.

All students interested must be masked and vaccinated.

Important Dates
December 8 - Last day of class for Fall 2021 term
December 9-11 - Reading Days
December 12-17 - Final Exams
December 23 - Final Grades due for Fall 2021 term

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Dec 8
Dec 9-11
Dec 12-17
Dec 23
Upcoming Concerts - all concerts are available via livestream for those unable to attend in person

December 3 @ 4:00 PM
Brass Choir Holiday Event - Munneryn Atrium in Goergen

December 3 @ 8:00 PM
Chamber Orchestra - Upper Strong

December 4 @ 6:00 PM
West African Drumming Ensemble - Spurrier Dance Studio

December 4 @ 8:00 PM
Chamber Singers/Concert Choir - Upper Strong

December 5 @ 7:00 PM
Rock Repertory Ensemble - Upper Strong

Elective Spotlight

Gospel Choir
MUSC 158 meets Tuesdays from 6:15 - 7:30 PM in Hutchison 140 with Director Julius Dicks. No experience or ability to read music required. One rehearsal per week. Two concerts per semester. In addition, there may be off-campus performances in local colleges, churches, and other venues in the greater Rochester community. 1 Credit

Choral Music
MUSC 148 meets Monday/Wednesday from 12:30 PM - 1:45 PM with Professor Honey Meconi. Choral singing is said to be the most popular form of musical participation in the world. In the United States alone, more than 42 million people sing in a chorus. This class will explore this rich world of music-making by examining choral music in both folk and art traditions. Repertoire will come from four continents and will cover music from the Middle Ages to the present, with both sacred and secular music included. No prerequisites.

Music in Christian Worship
MUSC 137A/RELC 138 meets Tuesday/Thursday from 9:40 - 10:55 AM with Professor Andrew Cashner. This course explores the changing functions and meanings of music in Christian worship practices, from the first-century house churches to contemporary megachurches. We will see how Christians developed music and ritual to embody their beliefs and structure their communities. We will listen closely to music ranging from Gregorian chant and liturgical music of Palestrina, Bach, and Mozart to Protestant hymns and psalms and contemporary evangelical worship music. The course will equip students to understand how people have used music to create relationships with God and with each other. Rather than presenting worship as a single, unchanging tradition or elevating one type of liturgy above all others, this course focuses on different Christian communities’ creative responses to times of crisis, including the COVID-19 pandemic. The course will emphasize Christianity's global dimensions, with special emphasis on the problems of intercultural missions and colonization and the contributions of women and people of color. The instructor is both a musicologist specializing in Christian worship and a practicing worship leader. No musical training or knowledge is required, nor is religious background or belief.

Story & Narrative in Symphonic Music
MUSC 143 meets Monday/Wednesday from 2:00 - 3:15 PM with Orchestra Director Rachel Waddell. This course explores the evolving role of orchestral literature in western music from the Classical period through film music today. Over the semester we examine several large-scale works in depth to better understand their context, structure, and significance. This course includes discussions on interpretation, as well as performance and conducting challenges. While the ability to read music is not required, students should be passionate about classical orchestral repertoire and its changing role over time.

Exploring Classical Music
MUSC 136 meets Monday/Wednesday from 10:25 - 11:40 AM with Professor Honey Meconi. This class explores the many genres of Western classical music, with examples drawn from the symphonic repertoire, chamber music, solo keyboard works, opera, choral music, and art song. Music from the Baroque to the present will be included. The emphasis will be on music being performed in Rochester during the semester. No prerequisites.