Eastman Horn Choir: A Cornucopia of Holiday Delights

W. Peter Kurau, director

December 6, 2023
12:10PM
PROGRAM

Cor Carols II (2021)     Leonard Schwartz
Alleluja                   Samuel Scheidt
                          transc. Verne Reynolds
Alleluia                  Randall Thompson
                          transc. J. G. Miller
March, from The Nutcracker Suite     Peter Ilyitch Tchaikovsky
                          transc. Christopher Jones
Symphony of Carols for Eight Horns     Kerry Turner
II. Coventry Carol and In the Deep Midwinter
Fum, Fum, Fun          Traditional
                          transc. Anthony DiLorenzo
Sophomore Horn Class
Ave Maria                Pietro Mascagni
                          transc. Sergio Gomess
Weverton Santos, countertenor
Up on the Housetop     Barry Hanby
                          transc. Daniel Wood
Bells n’ Roses Horn Quartet:
Morgan Chalmers, Aliceyn Covington, Lea Helsel, and Alina Liebschner
Cor Carols I (1998)     Leonard Schwartz
                          transc. Verne Reynolds

Eastman Horn Choir
W. Peter Kurau, director
Amelia Caruk
Morgan Chalmers
Lilah Costanzo
Aliceyn Covington
Jacob Factor
Andrew Foster
Aaron Fulton
Lea Helsel
Nathan Howton
Mary Kimble
Dylan Kindom
Abigail Konopik
Alana Knowles
Alina Liebschner
Eric Russell
Weverton Santos
Kyle Schober
Daniel Soya
Aby Stumpf
Miles Teague
Danica Tuohy
Cristina Vieytez
John Wellmann
Jennelle Williams
Sam Wood
Derek Miles Woods
Zirui Claire Zhao
PERFORMERS

The Eastman Horn Choir was founded in 1968 by Verne Reynolds, Professor Emeritus of Horn at the Eastman School of Music, who served as its director until his retirement in 1995. From its inception, the Choir’s mission has been to provide an expanded ensemble experience for the horn students, acquaint them to the breadth of quality repertoire (with a particular emphasis on the glorious vocal music of the German and Italian Renaissance) within our musical culture, and to encourage contemporary composers to create original works for multiple horns. In addition to compositions and commissions by such notable composers as Samuel Adler, Jeff Tyzik, John Cheetham, David Diamond, James Willey, Daniel Baldwin, Pamela Marshall, and Jennifer Bellor, the Choir’s repertoire in recent years has expanded to include transcriptions from the classical, romantic, and modern eras. Many of these transcriptions are the product of the creativity and entrepreneurship of current members and alumni of the horn studio.

The Choir has been featured on the Eastman at Washington Square, Music at St. Andrew’s, and Music at St. John series, on the annual Brass Cavalcade during Meliora Weekend, and on a biennial tribute to St. Hubert, patron saint of the hunt, from which the horn derives much of its repertoire, in a formal concert in the Eastman Theatre. In addition, the Choir is honored to be featured annually on Live from Hochstein during the holiday season.

The 27 students within the 2023 Choir are all applied horn students at the Eastman School; they are pursuing collectively five various degrees and majors and range from undergraduate students to doctoral students. Geographically diverse, they represent 14 different states, and four countries.

In addition to being director of the Eastman Horn Choir, W. Peter Kura is Professor of Horn and Chamber Music at the Eastman School of Music as well as Principal Horn of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra. He received his formal education at the Eastman School of Music, the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Royal College of Music, University of Connecticut, and Florida State University, where his principal teachers were Verne Reynolds, David Cripps, and William Capps.

A native of Brazil, Weverton Santos is currently a master’s student at the Eastman School of Music, having completed his undergraduate studies at Minas Gerais State University in Brazil. As a hornist, he was a prize winner in the Young Solo Competition of the MGSU Symphony Orchestra, performed with the Orchestra of the Americas in a tour of Mexico in 2019, and participated in a masterclass with Radovan Vlatkovic at the Marvão Academy in 2020. As a singer he was part of the Experimental Opera Group at MGSU and the UEMG choir, in which he performed roles such as Cherubino (W. Mozart), Giulio Cesare (G. Handel), Orfeo (C. Gluck) and Hansel (E. Humperdinck). He continues to perform with the Eastman Collegium Musicum and Horn Choir.

Today’s Live from Hochstein performance is broadcast live and in stereo on WXXI Classical FM, 91.5 with host Mona Seghatoleslami.
The Hochstein School is grateful to Sidney & Barbara Sobel for generously providing continuous underwriting support for Live from Hochstein since 1993.

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If you wish to support future Live from Hochstein performances for the Rochester community, please consider making a donation in the baskets provided at the exits or at https://hochstein.org/Support. Any checks can be made out to The Hochstein School with Live from Hochstein in the memo. THANK YOU!

AUDIENCE REMINDERS

- Please enter and exit the hall only during applause.
- Food and beverages are not allowed in the Performance Hall.
- Please turn off cell phones and other devices that may sound or light up during the performance. The use of cameras/recording devices is strictly prohibited.
- Restrooms are located downstairs and can be accessed from the back of the Performance Hall. Wheelchair accessible/gender neutral restrooms are in the School; please ask an usher for directions.
- Fire exits are located along the sides and rear of the Performance Hall.

JOIN US NEXT WEEK 🎄
Madrigalia: A Cup of Good Cheer!
Cary Ratcliff, artistic director
December 13, 2023 at 12:10PM

Hochstein programs are made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature. Hochstein programs are also made possible by the Monroe County Legislature; Adam Bello, Monroe County Executive.