



EASTMAN PRESENTS CONCERT SERIES ANNOUNCES 2016-2017 SEASON LINEUP

From the Storytelling of Garrison Keillor to Legendary Tap Dancer Savion Glover, Eastman Presents Concert Series Brings World-Renowned Talent to Rochester

Rochester, N.Y. – April 12, 2016 – The Eastman School of Music has announced the 2016-2017 Eastman Presents concert series lineup, featuring a variety of award-winning and internationally renowned musicians and performers.

More information about the season's lineup of performers is available at www.EastmanTheatre.org. Season subscriptions for Eastman Presents, which offer a significant discount, are available for purchase on Friday, April 15 at 10:00 AM, in person at the Eastman Theatre Box Office located at 433 East Main Street in the Eastman East Wing or by calling (585) 454-2100.

All performances are in Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre.

Thursday, September 29, 2016, Break of Reality, 8:00 PM

The season kicks off with Break of Reality, a cello rock ensemble that gives rock a whole new meaning. This quartet's boundary-breaking music blends classical technique and rock and roll into an experience that brings together the best of many genres. Break of Reality members—all Eastman School of Music alumni—perform anything from original compositions to Radiohead to innovative Bach arrangements. Break of Reality's performance is also the opening gala concert for the Global Consortium of Entrepreneurship Center's conference at University of Rochester and Rochester Institute of Technology.

Wednesday, October 26, 2016, Kelli O'Hara, 8:00 PM

One of Broadway's great leading ladies, Kelli O'Hara is best known for her portrayal of Anna Leonowens in the critically acclaimed revival of *The King and I*. O'Hara is a Tony Award-winning performer and has received Drama League and Outer Critics award nominations. She made her Metropolitan Opera debut in *The Merry Widow*, and her voice can be heard on several Grammy-nominated Broadway cast recordings, including *The Light in the Piazza* and *The Pajama Game*. O'Hara has performed sold-out solo shows at Carnegie Hall and Town Hall and has appeared with symphonies across the United States.

Saturday, November 12, Eastman Philharmonia with Renée Fleming, 8:00 PM

The Eastman School of Music's premier orchestra, the Eastman Philharmonia, is joined by four-time Grammy Award-winning soprano and Eastman alumna Renée Fleming. Fleming returns to the Kodak Hall stage and will thrill the audience with her sumptuous voice, artistry, and compelling stage presence. In 2013, Fleming was awarded the National Medal of Arts by President Obama, the highest honor for an individual artist. She continues to grace stages around the globe. Under the direction of Maestro Neil Varon, Ms. Fleming and the Philharmonia will premiere a new work by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer and Eastman alumnus Kevin Puts. The Philharmonia will also perform Ravel's *Rapsodie espagnole* and Prokofiev's Symphony No. 5.

Monday, December 12, 2016, Joyce DiDonato with Il Pomo d'Oro, 8:00 PM

With a voice that is "nothing short of 24-carat gold" (*The Times*), Grammy Award-winning mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato has entranced audiences around the world. Her new program with Baroque ensemble Il Pomo d'Oro features selections from the Baroque opera repertoire. Entitled *In War & Peace: Harmony Through Music*, the program reflects upon the recent terror attacks throughout the world and the sentiment that, throughout all acts of war and demonstrations of peace, harmony through music is

possible. Proclaimed “perhaps the most potent female singer of her generation” by the *New Yorker*, DiDonato has recently held residences at Carnegie Hall and London’s Barbican Centre, and has toured extensively in South America, Europe, and Asia. She is a member of the *Gramophone* Hall of Fame.

Friday, January 27, 2017, Norm Lewis: *The Music of the Night*, 8:00 PM

The first-ever African American Phantom of the Opera and history-making Broadway star and actor, Norm Lewis, will enrapture the audience with his enthralling voice with his program, *The Music of the Night*. Lewis has received Tony, Drama Desk, Drama League, and Outer Critics Circle nominations for his performance as Porgy in the Broadway production of *The Gershwins’ Porgy and Bess*. Lewis has also appeared in Broadway productions of *The Little Mermaid*, *Les Misérables*, and *Chicago*. As an actor, Lewis has made appearances in TV shows and movies including *The Blacklist*, *Blue Bloods*, a recurring role on *Scandal*, *Winter’s Tale*, and *Sex and the City 2*.

Friday, February 17, 2017, An Evening of Storytelling with Garrison Keillor, 8:00 PM

One of the most prolific American storytellers, Garrison Keillor is best known for his popular live radio variety show, *A Prairie Home Companion*, which attracts more than 4 million listeners on more than 600 public radio stations each week. Keillor captivates his audience with a unique blend of comedy, charisma, and wisdom and offers insight and stories from his journey as one of America’s greatest storytellers.

Tuesday, February 28, 2017, St. Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra with pianist Nikolai Lugansky, 8:00 PM

Founded in 1882, the St. Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra is the oldest orchestra in Russia. “One of the greatest and most exciting orchestras in the world,” (*The Guardian*), the St. Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra has been under the direction of Yuri Temirkanov since 1988. The Orchestra will perform Shostakovich’s unforgettably powerful Symphony No. 5 (the work received its world premiere by the ensemble when it was known as the Leningrad Philharmonic Orchestra). Celebrated pianist Nikolai Lugansky will join the orchestra to perform Brahms’ Concerto No. 1.

Tuesday, March 21, 2017, Savion Glover: STePz, 8:00 PM

An American dancer and choreographer best known for his unique tap dancing style of “hitting,” Savion Glover has displayed an affinity for rhythms since his early childhood. Glover is a Tony Award winner for his choreography in *Bring in ’Da Nosie*, *Bring in ’Da Funk* and a *Dance Magazine* Award winner for choreography. Savion Glover received an Endowment Grant for Choreography, making him the youngest recipient in NEA history. He has appeared in numerous TV specials, TV shows, award presentations, and music videos.

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About Eastman Presents

The Eastman Presents concert series first launched in the 2014-2015 season at the Eastman School of Music. The series features international artists from a variety of genres at Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre in Rochester, New York. In its third year, the 2016-2017 season offers another exciting lineup of world-renowned performers. The series kicks off with Break of Reality, a cello rock ensemble that gives rock a whole new meaning followed by opera superstar Joyce DiDonato; Norm Lewis, a history-making Broadway legend will perform; Garrison Keillor will spend the evening with his witty storytelling; and the season closes out with the oldest Philharmonia in Russia, the St. Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra, and Savion Glover’s unique STePz experience. For more information on the Eastman Presents concert series and other performances at the Eastman School of Music, visit www.EastmanTheatre.org.

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