

**M** Manhattan  
School of Music

# **MSM Composers' Concert**

**Reiko Fütting** (DMA '00), Coordinator

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2025 | 7:30 PM  
ALAN M. AND JOAN TAUB ADES PERFORMANCE SPACE

This year's performance season has been inspired by a unifying theme: *Humanity in Harmony: Rituals, Resistance, and Resilience*. We hope during this election year, the biggest in human history with over half the world's population having the opportunity to vote in 72 countries, that this theme reflects the power of the arts to unite us even in moments of discord and differences. The collective experience of collaboration – creating together – reminds us that even in our differences we can find common ground, stand up to tyranny and oppression, and elevate our work as artists to fulfill the hope and promise of a better tomorrow.

**James Gandre**, President

**Joyce Griggs**, Executive Vice President and Provost

Faculty and Administration of the Artistic Planning Committee



**Council on  
the Arts**

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## PROGRAM

ZIJIE HUANG

*A stream flows in front of me* (2024)

**Adeline DeBella**, flute 1

**Rea Abel**, flute 2

**Ian Fleck**, clarinet 1

**Mariana Clavijo Ledesma**, clarinet 2

**Oliver Costello**, violin 1

**Joe DeAngelo**, violin 2

**Saverio Alfieri**, conductor

YUQING ZHANG

*Blooming* (2024)

**Yanxin Wang**, piano

YU XU

*Let It Be Forgotten* (2023)

poems by Sara Teasdale

**Amber Evans**, soprano

**Arthur Siyun Li**, piano

WILLIAM BASTIANON

*At the Art Gallery with Lou, Maude, and  
George (or, Decisions for One, Thrice) – Three  
canons with interludes and additional prologue  
and epilogue, for solo voice* (2024)

**Ty Bouque**, voice

YUVAL MEDINA

*El Cerrito* (2025)

**Kyrese Washington**, flute

**Rea Ábel**, flute

**Ariana Varvaro**, oboe

**Mariana Clavijo-Ledesma**, bass clarinet

**Nathan Page**, horn

**Cody Conley**, violin

**Joe DeAngelo**, violin

**Ariana Mascari**, viola

**August Schwob**, violoncello

**Yuval Medina**, conductor

# TEXT AND LYRICS

*Let It Be Gorgotten* (2023)

**Yu Xu**

Let it be forgotten, as a flower is forgotten,  
Forgotten as a fire that once was singing gold,  
Let it be forgotten forever and ever,  
Time is a kind friend, he will make us old.

If anyone asks, say it was forgotten  
Long and long ago,  
As a flower, as a fire, as a hushed footfall  
In a long-forgotten snow.

– *Sara Teasdale*

# PROGRAM NOTES

*At the Art Gallery with Lou, Maude, and George  
(or, Decisions for One, Thrice) – Three canons with  
interludes and additional prologue and epilogue, for  
solo voice*

## **William Bastianon**

Three moments of choice concerning three separate questions from three separate artists.

The questions are asked in an art gallery, revisited over three separate moments.

The questions concern both the artistic and the intimate.

The moments all occur simultaneously – anticipated, remembered, and worried about in an out-of-time déjà-vu.

The artwork is observed, and answers are avoided until the singer is pushed to a point of decision.

Written for the “New Sounds New Sounds New” concert series.

Thank you to Ty Bouque and Reiko Fueting.

## ***El Cerrito***

### **Yuval Medina**

One day about three months ago, I opened Voice Memos on my phone and decided to scroll all the way down. I found an old recording, almost 8 years old now, from 2017, of an improvisation I played on my childhood piano.

I listened, and it was as clear in my memory as ever. It wasn't just that I could hear every note in my mind before it played back – I could also feel my little sister tugging at me to go play with her outside, hear my older brother complaining that he couldn't concentrate on his homework, see my dad's car lights shining through the window getting home late from work, my mom coming down to tell me she liked the other piece I played before better and wants to hear it again – I hadn't had such a clear picture of my childhood in years.

What that little improvisation turned into, *El Cerrito* is almost nothing like that little Voice Memo from eight years ago. But, I think my old self would like how it turned out.

If you listen to the very end, on the last page, you'll hear a (very conspicuous) quote from my favorite composer.

I also accompanied the score with another favorite (non-musical) quote:

*"All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given us."*

*– J.R.R. Tolkien*

# ABOUT MANHATTAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Founded as a community music school by Janet Daniels Schenck in 1918, today MSM is recognized for its 1,025 superbly talented undergraduate and graduate students who come from 54 countries and nearly all 50 states; its innovative curricula and world-renowned artist-teacher faculty that includes musicians from the New York Philharmonic, the Met Orchestra, and the top ranks of the jazz and Broadway communities; and a distinguished community of accomplished, award-winning alumni working at the highest levels of the musical, educational, cultural, and professional worlds.

The School is dedicated to the personal, artistic, and intellectual development of aspiring musicians, from its Precollege students through those pursuing doctoral studies. Offering classical, jazz, and musical theatre training, MSM grants a range of undergraduate and graduate degrees. True to MSM's origins as a music school for children, the Precollege Division is a professionally oriented Saturday music program dedicated to the musical and personal growth of talented young musicians ages 5 to 18. The School also serves some 2,000 New York City schoolchildren through its Arts-in-Education Program, and another 2,000 students through its critically acclaimed Distance Learning Program.

## Your gift helps a young artist reach for the stars!

To enable Manhattan School of Music to continue educating and inspiring generations of talented students and audiences alike, please consider making a charitable contribution today.

Contact the Philanthropy Office at 917-493-4434  
or to make an online gift, **scan this code**  
or visit [giving.msmnyc.edu](https://giving.msmnyc.edu).



## Land Acknowledgment

We want to acknowledge that we gather as Manhattan School of Music on the traditional land of the Lenape and Wappinger past and present, and honor with gratitude the land itself and the people who have stewarded it throughout the generations. This calls us to commit to continuing to learn how to be better stewards of the land we inhabit as well.



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