

MManhattan
School of Music

MSM Composers' Concert

Reiko Fütting (DMA '00), Coordinator

MONDAY, APRIL 28, 2025 | 7:30 PM
ALAN M. AND JOAN TAUB ADES PERFORMANCE SPACE

MONDAY, APRIL 28, 2025 | 7:30 PM
ALAN M. AND JOAN TAUB ADES PERFORMANCE SPACE

MSM Composers' Concert

Reiko Fütting (DMA '00), Coordinator

PROGRAM

KED ADAMS

Nothing Knows (2024-2025)

Poems by Ked Adams

Winner of the Ekmeles Commission Prize

Ekmeles: Amber Evans, soprano

Elisa Sutherland, mezzo-soprano

Jeffrey Gavett, baritone

Steve Hrycelak, bass

SZILVIA CIMINO

Waterworks (2025)

1. Raindrops

2. Mist

3. Puddles

4. Ripples

5. Glacier

Kai Kobori-Huang, piano

ROSS BELLO

Nightship (2025)

Poems by Alaina Ferris

Winner of the Ekmeles Commission Prize

Ekmeles: Amber Evans, soprano

Elisa Sutherland, mezzo-soprano

Jeffrey Gavett, baritone

Steve Hrycelak, bass

TRISTAN RUSCHA

2 Morceaux pour Piano (2025)

Morceau 1

Morceau 2

Johnny Knight, piano

EMILY GREEN

The Cradle Song (2025)

Poems by Erica Kath

Winner of the Ekmeles Commission Prize

Ekmeles: Amber Evans, soprano

Elisa Sutherland, mezzo-soprano

Jeffrey Gavett, baritone

Steve Hrycelak, bass

Intermission

XUN WANG

Leaves Veins (2024-2025)

1. A Wonder Leaf

2. Webtrap

3. The 12th connection

4. Echoing

Hyomin Lee, flute

Ray Cheng, cello

Paul Zuniga Perez, guitar

SHEN HAO

The Gloomy Dawn (2024)

Winner of the Guitar Trio Commission Prize

Ahhyun Noh, guitar

Carlen Gong, guitar

Paul Zuniga Perez, guitar

JOSHUA C. DELOZIER

Interpolations (2025)

Grace Goss, vibraphone

SARAH SENIOR

Cambios (2025)

Daniel King, clarinet

Grace Goss, vibraphone

Gabriel Ordás, violin

Bakari Williams, double bass

Saverio Alfieri, Conductor

Nightship

Ross Bello

Beneath the black mountains
Of limestone, basalt, and crystal hematite
Next to the glassing river
I stand with my broadsword
And coin for passage

In my featherlight eyes
Streets and names fall to starlight
I've come to the nexus of seasons' dizzying transit
The sword slips from my hand —
Roots of an ancient love doing their vast work —

Words of anguish now sit in some forgotten box
Growing in myth and crumbling in weight
Buried beneath dear letters to hometown friends
No use battling with the dead
We see now their best gestures and leave the rest

Oh, sacred math
The beauty of change is that
In changing one can see, more clearly, beauty
Had I found this weightlessness younger
Had someone told me my fortune —

I am the nightship for which I've long waited

-Alaina Ferris

The Cradle Song

Emily Green

I. i owe my inhale to the world: lightness is newness and i am nameless before the moon— heavy and bright, a pale illusion of luminance pressed from a dark womb of ending silence. Time is the cradle cry.

II. i give my breath to the world: stepping through the doorframe of myself into a body that only ever faces one brightened-way (presence is a weight i live in). the tongue slips in the mouth and i stare into the eyes of the sun; yes, Time is the cradle cry.

III. i give my breath to the world: remembering smallness as holiness— as the single face of Forgetting (presence is a body i hardly believe in). the heart slips between the lungs as i am hanging up memories to dry. Time is the cradle cry.

IV. i owe my exhale to you: stepping through the backdoor of my body into an eternal solstice into a heavy beginning of luminance. the body slips in time with the spirit towards synchronic ending silence; yes, Time is the cradle.

-Eria Kath

PROGRAM NOTES

Nothing Knows

Ked Adams

Grow into the child of my past, dear soul! Sirens' song binds thee not to time; you are not your season. You are all you will (to) be.

Waterworks

Szilvia Cimino

When I was six years old and learning to play piano, I learned a piece called Watercolors by Jane Smisor Bastien. This simple, yet soulful piece introduced me to the beauty of melody and harmony working in tandem. It was this piece that made me realize that playing the piano was so much more than just playing the right notes. Music for students has to have heart. Every kid deserves to find a piece of music that makes them fall in love with their instrument. That joy is invaluable and is something that nobody can take away from you.

My deepest gratitude to Dr. Stambaugh, whose support and encouragement kept my creative fire burning bright.

Nightship (2025)

Ross Bello

A work for voices in 19-tone equal temperament. Written for and in dedication to Ekmeles. Special thanks to Alaina Ferris for her moving poetry.

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](#).



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.



MSMNYC.EDU