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Fall Season of Free Concerts Features New Pop-Up Concert Series, Music by Gordon Parks, and Washington Premiere by Theremin Virtuoso Carolina Eyck



Julie Fowlis will perform at the National Gallery of Art on October 7, 2018, at 3:30 p.m. Photo by Donald Macleod.

Washington, DC—The fall season of concerts at the National Gallery of Art, Washington features performances of diverse genres, from music of the Scottish islands to Mexican brass and African gospel. Kicking off in September, this year's Sunday concert series will also celebrate special exhibitions—*Corot: Women; Water, Wind, and Waves: Marine Paintings from the Dutch Golden Age; Rachel Whiteread*; and *Gordon Parks: The New Tide, Early Work 1940–1950*. Music-lovers can enjoy two new series—one exploring music from the interwar period, beginning with a concert commemorating Armistice Day, and *Fourth Friday Sound Sketch*, which invites a range of musicians to connect with art from the permanent collection and perform in galleries and special exhibitions. In December, holiday offerings include a performance by Hot Club of San Francisco, music from *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, and eight holiday caroling concerts.

Performances take place in various locations throughout the Gallery, including the West Building's lush West Garden Court, the grand central Rotunda; and the 500-seat East Building Auditorium. Concerts at the National Gallery of Art are open to the public free of charge. Admittance is on a first-

come, first-seated basis 30 minutes before the concert begins. 2018 marks the 77th season of concerts at the Gallery, which began during World War II, when the Gallery's first director, David E. Finley, kept the museum open on Sunday nights to accommodate the armed forces personnel in Washington at the time. The Gallery has presented more than 3,000 free concerts since the music program began in 1942.

FOURTH FRIDAY SOUND SKETCH

A brand new series of pop-up concerts around the Gallery will engage musicians with works from the permanent collection. Concerts take place on the fourth Friday of every month at 12:10 p.m. in various locations (check nga.gov/concerts for details).

New York Opera Society

September 28, 12:10 p.m.

The New York Opera Society will perform music inspired by the exhibition [*Sense of Humor*](#).

Trio Sefardi

October 26, 12:10 p.m.

Performers Howard Bass, Tina Chaney, and Susan Gaeta share a love of, and wide-ranging experience with, Sephardic music.

Project Trio

November 23, 12:10 p.m.

Project Trio, a chamber music ensemble from Brooklyn, New York, comprises double bassist Peter Seymour, flautist Greg Patillo, renowned for his unique beat boxing style, and cellist Eric Stephenson.

Eric Mintel Quartet

December 28, 12:10 p.m.

Featuring composer Eric Mintel on piano, Nelson Hill on saxophone and flute, Jack Hegyi on bass, and Dave Mohn on drums, the Eric Mintel Quartet has played to audiences at venues including the White House, Kennedy Center, and United Nations. For the holiday season, the Quartet will perform music from *A Charlie Brown Christmas*.

SUNDAY CONCERTS

SEPTEMBER

interLACEd: Corot and His Circle

Living Art Collective Ensemble and Elisa Monte Dance Company

September 16, 3:30 p.m.

West Building, West Garden Court

In Camille Corot's paintings, music, opera, and theater play a role almost as important as that of nature. Presented in celebration of [Corot: Women](#), Living Art Collective Ensemble (LACE) together with the Elisa Monte Dance Company will bring to life the world of music into which the French painter was thoroughly absorbed. This performance will highlight the women who not only inspired Corot's work, but also made immeasurable contributions of their own to music and art. Music by Louise Farrenc, Clara Schumann, and Pauline Viardot will be featured.

Emilio Solla Tango Ensemble

September 23, 3:30 p.m.

West Building, West Garden Court

Grammy-nominated pianist and composer Emilio Solla will present a Tango ensemble.

Water, Wind, and Waves: The Wind Band at Sea

Piffaro, The Renaissance Band

September 30, 3:30 p.m.

West Building, West Garden Court

Piffaro, The Renaissance Band, delights audiences with highly polished re-creations of the rustic music of the peasantry and the elegant sounds of the official wind bands of the late medieval and Renaissance periods. Its ever-expanding instrumentarium includes shawms, dulcians, sackbuts, recorders, krumhorns, bagpipes, lutes, guitars, harps, and a variety of percussion—all careful reconstructions of instruments from the period. Inspired by [Water, Wind, and Waves: Marine Paintings from the Dutch Golden Age](#), Piffaro will present a program of 17th-century seafaring music.

OCTOBER

Music of the Scottish Isles

Julie Fowlis

October 7, 3:30 p.m.

West Building, West Garden Court

Julie Fowlis's exquisite voice, interpretation of Scottish Gaelic culture, and ability to bring folk music out of the past are what have made her an award-winning crossover star. Her roots may be firmly in folk music and the Scottish Gaelic culture in which she grew up, but her talent and style have brought her into the mainstream, where her unique ability to interpret her culture in a way that resonates with everyone has won her broad new audiences. Fowlis performed two songs of the 2012 Disney movie, *Brave*.

Curtis on Tour

Jason Vieaux and Nigel Armstrong

October 14, 3:30 p.m.

West Building, West Garden Court

Curtis on Tour, the Nina von Maltzahn Global Touring Initiative of the Curtis Institute of Music, returns to the Gallery with solos and duos for violin and guitar. The program includes Piazzolla, *Histoire du tango*; Giuliani, *Gran Duetto Concertante*, op. 52; Jobim, medley of three tunes (guitar with violin improvisation); and De Falla, *7 Canciones Populares Española*.

Funeral Music for a Prince and a Queen

Vox Luminis

October 21, 3:30 p.m.

West Building, West Garden Court

The Belgian early music ensemble will present a program of works by Thomas Morley, Martin Luther, Henry Purcell, and Heinrich Schütz.

Music for an Artist: Rachel Whiteread

October 28, 3:30 p.m.

West Building, West Garden Court

A special performance inspired by the exhibition of the British artist Rachel Whiteread.

NOVEMBER

Flophouse Crew

November 4, 4:00 p.m.

East Building Auditorium

In addition to being a successful photographer and filmmaker, Gordon Parks was also a composer, even before he picked up a camera. The Flophouse Crew will perform music written by Gordon Parks on the opening day of the major exhibition [*Gordon Parks: The New Tide, Early Work, 1940–1950*](#).

Music Between the Wars

Lessons of Darkness: Armistice Day 1918

Tapestry

November 11, 3:30 p.m.

West Building, West Garden Court

On November 11, 1918, Armistice Day found people throughout the world singing and dancing in the streets, once again hoping for peace. In turns celebratory and solemn, this program will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I and kick off a series of performances focused on music made between World War I and II. The vocal ensemble Tapestry will present works of composers affected by the war, including Ralph Vaughan Williams, Sergei Rachmaninoff, Claude Debussy, and Maurice Ravel. The program will also touch on iconic works created during other wars, such as songs by Stephen Foster (the American Civil War) and Simon and Garfunkel (the Vietnam War).

Nobuntu

November 18, 3:30 p.m.

West Building, West Garden Court

Nobuntu, a female a cappella quintet from Zimbabwe whose name comes from the African concept that values humbleness, love, unity, and family from a woman's perspective, has drawn international acclaim for its inventive performances that range from traditional Zimbabwean songs to Afro jazz and gospel. The ensemble's concerts are performed with pure voices augmented by minimalistic percussion, traditional instruments such as the mbira (thumb piano), and organic, authentic dance movements. The ensemble represents a new generation of young African women singers who celebrate and preserve their culture, beauty, and heritage through art. The ensemble's mission is the belief that music can be an important vehicle for change, one that transcends racial, tribal, religious, gender, and economic boundaries.

Brasscinación

M5 Mexican Brass

November 25, 3:30 p.m.

West Building, West Garden Court

Founded in 2005, M5 Mexican Brass has gained international recognition and has established itself as Latin America's most successful brass quintet. Performing virtuosic chamber music in a broad variety of styles with a sound that is theirs alone, M5 adds audience interaction, showmanship, a sense of humor, and an inimitable Latin American charm to their concerts, each a unique musical-theatrical experience.

DECEMBER

Fantasias

Carolina Eyck with American Contemporary Music Ensemble

December 2, 3:30 p.m.

West Building, West Garden Court

Theremin virtuoso and composer Carolina Eyck joins the American Contemporary Music Ensemble for the Washington, DC premiere of their collaborative project *Fantasias*. For this work Eyck composed six minimalist-inspired string quartet pieces, over which she improvises a solo theremin part. *Fantasias* was released to critical acclaim on Butterscotch Records in 2016. With these pieces Eyck strives to "sonically investigate the interplay between nature and human imagination." Her musically daring and physically challenging compositions defy easy classification, while her uncanny mastery of the theremin and use of electronic effects brings a fresh sonic pallet to the forefront.

Mettis String Quartet with Gabrielius Alekna, piano

Presented in collaboration with the Embassy of the Republic of Lithuania

December 9, 3:30 p.m.

West Building, West Garden Court

Named for the ancient Greek mythological figure Metis, the Mettis Quartet from Vilnius, Lithuania, will perform a program of Remigijus Merkelys, *MiKonst* for piano and string quartet; M. K. Ciurlionis, string quartet; Phillip Glass, String Quartet No. 2 or *Company*; and Robert Schumann, Piano Quintet, op. 44.

Hot Club Cool Yule

Hot Club of San Francisco

December 16, 3:30 p.m.

West Building, West Garden Court

Kicking off the holiday season, *Hot Club Cool Yule* is a swinging gypsy wagon trip to the North Pole featuring many favorite holiday tunes as well as some rarer seasonal gems. Performed by The Hot Club of San Francisco in their inimitable style, reminiscent of Django Reinhardt and the Hot Club of France, this dazzling holiday offering has something for everyone.

Music Between the Wars

Part I: Poulenc and Weill

Daniel Schlosberg, piano

Jessica Aszodi, soprano

Russell Rolen, cello

December 23, 3:30 p.m.

West Building, West Garden Court

The trio will perform music by Francis Poulenc and Kurt Weill.

A Toast to Vienna in 3/4 Time

Suchertorte Chamber Ensemble

Jeffrey Schindler, conductor

December 30, 3:30 p.m.

This untraditional Viennese New Year Concert will honor Leonard Bernstein's legacy as an educator. Led by conductor Jeffrey Schindler, the Suchertorte Chamber Ensemble puts a modern twist on the Young People's Concert in which Bernstein explained the history of Viennese waltzes.

HOLIDAY CAROLING

The Gallery's long-standing tradition of community caroling takes place in the West Building Rotunda at 1:30 and 2:30 p.m. on December 8, 9, 15, and 16. Singing along is encouraged.

US Military Service Ensemble

December 8, 1:30 and 2:30 p.m.

Encore Chorale

December 9, 1:30 and 2:30 p.m.

Jeanne Kelly, director

Westminster Presbyterian Choir and Ringers

December 15, 1:30 and 2:30 p.m

Benjamin Hutchens, director

Saint John Paul the Great High School Choir

December 16, 1:30 and 2:30 p.m

Kelly Kingett, director

CONCERT INFORMATION

Concerts at the National Gallery of Art are free of charge and open to the public on a first-come, first-seated basis. Seating begins 30 minutes prior to the concert. The entrance to the West Building is

located at Sixth Street and Constitution Avenue NW, and the East Building entrance is at Fourth Street and Pennsylvania Avenue NW. Sunday concerts begin at 3:30 p.m. in the West Building's West Garden Court unless indicated otherwise. Monthly listings of concert programs may be obtained by calling (202) 842-6941 or by visiting the Gallery's website at nga.gov/concerts.

Press Contact:

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General Information

The National Gallery of Art and its Sculpture Garden are at all times free to the public. They are located on the National Mall between 3rd and 9th Streets at Constitution Avenue NW, and are open Monday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The Gallery is closed on December 25 and January 1. For information call (202) 737-4215 or visit the Gallery's Web site at www.nga.gov. Follow the Gallery on Facebook at www.facebook.com/NationalGalleryofArt, Twitter at www.twitter.com/ngadc, and Instagram at <http://instagram.com/ngadc>.

Visitors will be asked to present all carried items for inspection upon entering. Checkrooms are free of charge and located at each entrance. Luggage and other oversized bags must be presented at the 4th Street entrances to the East or West Building to permit x-ray screening and must be deposited in the checkrooms at those entrances. For the safety of visitors and the works of art, nothing may be carried into the Gallery on a visitor's back. Any bag or other items that cannot be carried reasonably and safely in some other manner must be left in the checkrooms. Items larger than 17 by 26 inches cannot be accepted by the Gallery or its checkrooms.

For additional press information please call or send inquiries to:

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