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76TH SEASON OF CONCERTS

APRIL 29, 2018 / NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART





Photo by Sasha Arutyunova

Program

The Westerlies

Riley Mulherkar and Zubin Hensler, trumpet
 Andy Clausen and Willem de Koch, trombone

The Songs We Sang: American Vocal Music of the 20th Century

In celebration of International Jazz Day

APRIL 29, 2018 / 3:30

WEST BUILDING, WEST GARDEN COURT

Five Compositions by The Westerlies

“A Nearer Sun,” Riley Mulherkar
 “Double Situation,” Riley Mulherkar
 “So So Shy,” Zubin Hensler
 “The Beekeeper,” Willem De Koch
 “Rue Des Rosiers,” Andy Clausen

Four Pieces by Duke Ellington*

“Where’s the Music?”
 “Echoes of Harlem”
 “Lightning Bugs and Frogs”
 “Le Sucrier Velours”

Four Songs by Charles Ives

“In the Mornin’”
 “The Children’s Hour”
 “Memories”
 “Songs My Mother Taught Me”

Five Spirituals by The Golden Gate

Jubilee Quartet
 “Golden Gate Gospel Train”
 “Travelin’ Shoes”
 “Remember Me”
 “Born Ten Thousand Years Ago”
 “Do Unto Others”

American Songwriters

“The Kiss,” Judee Sill
 “Eli,” Arthur Russell
 “New Berlin, New York,” Andy Clausen

Traditional

“Pretty Saro”

*Premiere of new arrangements of Duke Ellington’s music

The Ensemble

The Westerlies are a New York–based brass quartet comprised of four childhood friends from Seattle, Washington: Riley Mulherkar and Zubin Hensler on trumpet, and Andy Clausen and Willem de Koch on trombone.

Formed in 2011, this self-described “accidental brass quartet” takes its name from the prevailing winds that travel from the West to the East. Portrayed as “Skilled interpreters who are also adept improvisers” (NPR’s *Fresh Air*), The Westerlies explore jazz, roots, and chamber music influences to create the rarest of hybrids: music that is both “folk-like and composerly, lovely and intellectually rigorous” (*NPR Music*). Equally at home in concert halls and living rooms, The Westerlies navigate a wide array of venues with the precision of a string quartet, the audacity of a rock band, and the charm of a family sing-along.

The ensemble has produced two critically acclaimed albums of genre-defying chamber music: its 2014 debut, *Wish the Children Would Come On Home: The Music of Wayne Horvitz*, and a 2016 double-CD of primarily original compositions, *The Westerlies*. Sought-after collaborators, The Westerlies are also featured on recordings by the Fleet Foxes (Nonesuch), Vieux Farke Toure (Six Degrees Records), and Dave Douglas (Greenleaf).

The Westerlies’ 2017–2018 season includes featured performances at Musical Masterworks (New Lyme, Connecticut); Clefworks (Montgomery, Alabama); Mobile Chamber Music (Mobile, Alabama); Joye in Aiken (Aiken, South Carolina); the Bologna Performing Arts Center (Cleveland, Mississippi); and the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC. The ensemble will continue its residency work at Sound Places Project (Kenner, Louisiana), a program supported by the Chamber Music Association and the National Endowment for the Arts. It will also complete residencies at the Orcas Island Chamber Music Festival (San Juan Islands, Washington) and Yellowbarn Music Center (Putney, Vermont). In addition, the ensemble joins the indie folk band Fleet Foxes on select tour dates at the Newport Folk Festival, the Merriweather Post Pavilion, Celebrate Brooklyn, Outside Lands (San Francisco), the Hollywood Bowl, the Santa Fe Opera, and the Red Rocks Amphitheatre (Morrison, Colorado).

The Westerlies’ latest concert program, *Songs We Sang: American Vocal Music of the 20th Century*, traces the sound of the twentieth century through a variety of American vocal traditions. From the songs of Charles Ives to the spirituals of the Golden Gate Jubilee Quartet, The Westerlies draw a line through jazz, classical, and folk languages.

This season will also mark the release of several new recordings: *Little Giant Still Life*, a collaborative album with pioneering jazz trumpeter Dave Douglas and drummer Anwar Marshall, and a new series of collaborative video singles with vocalists Theo Bleckmann, Robin Holcomb, Kate Davis, and Vuyo Sotashe.

The Westerlies are frequently invited to engage in educational and community outreach. They have presented master classes at the Juilliard School, the Manhattan School of Music, Yale University, New York University, the University of Maryland, the University of Nevada (Reno), the University of Washington, StArt (Kissimmee, Florida), and Seattle JazzEd.



Romare Bearden, *Untitled (Jazz II)*, 1980. National Gallery of Art, Washington, Reba and Dave Williams Collection, Florian Carr Fund and Gift of the Print Research Foundation

Upcoming Events of the Seventy-Sixth Season of The William Nelson Cromwell and F. Lamot Belin Concerts

Unless otherwise noted, all programs take place in the West Building, West Garden Court.

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Julia Bullock, soprano
John Arida, piano
Music by Schubert, Barber, Fauré,
and more
May 6, 3:30

—
Ranky Tanky
Celebrating *Outliers and American Vanguard Art*
May 13, 3:30

—
Christina and Michelle Naughton
Piano music by Mozart, Schubert,
Bolcom, Bach/Kurtág, Debussy,
Chopin, and Lutoslawski
May 20, 3:30