

**Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall
Walter Carroll Lunchtime Concert Series**

Thursday 03 April 2025, 13.10

**Eleanor Ryan (violin), Yevgeny Dokshansky
(clarinet) & Ben Powell (piano)**



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Photography and/or recording of this performance are strictly prohibited.

- Please ensure that mobile phones are switched off,
- Please stifle coughing as much as possible,
- Please ensure watch alarms, and any audible devices are switched off

Today's Performance

Today's concert highlights the diversity of music written in the 20th and 21st century for Clarinet, Violin and Piano.

This concert features music from Trinidad, New Zealand, France and the UK including World and British Premieres.

Performers:

Yevgeny Dokshanky – Clarinet (Professor of Clarinet and Head of Woodwind, Moores School of Music, University of Houston)

Eleanor Ryan- Violin (Lecturer in Performance Studies, Manchester University)

Ben Powell – Piano (Professor of Piano and Staff Pianist, RNCM)

| <u>Music Piece</u> | <u>Composer</u> |
|--|------------------------|
| <i>Clarinet Sonata No.2 (British Premiere)</i> | <i>Roger J Henry</i> |
| <i>8-bit (World Premiere)</i> | <i>Glen Downie</i> |
| <i>Suite for Violin, Clarinet and Piano</i> | <i>Darius Milhaud</i> |
| <i>DASH! for Violin, Clarinet and Piano</i> | <i>Jennifer Higdon</i> |

The Performers

Yevgeny Dokshansky – Clarinet

Yevgeny is currently Professor of Clarinet and Head of Woodwinds at the University of Houston Moores School of Music; Artistic Director and Conductor of Ensemble Next Parallel in Washington, D.C.; and Principal Clarinet of the Mid-Atlantic Symphony Orchestra in Baltimore. He previously served as Professor of Clarinet at Virginia Tech School of Performing Arts, as Associate Conductor of the Chesapeake Youth Symphony Orchestra, Southern Maryland Youth Orchestra and Choir, and Chamber Orchestra of Southern Maryland. From 2013 to 2018 Yevgeny held a Professor of Music position at the University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) Academy for the Performing Arts where he served as Woodwind Studio and Conducting Programs Leader.

Yevgeny has appeared on such stages as Carnegie Hall Stern Auditorium and Symphony Center Orchestra Hall in Chicago and had the privilege of performing under the batons of Roberto Abbado, David Robertson, Robert Spano, Michael Stern, Vladimir Lande, and Leonard Slatkin among others. He holds degrees from State University of New York at Buffalo, Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, and DePaul University School of Music. Yevgeny's recording with Ensemble Next Parallel "Around the World: Trios for Clarinet, Violin and Piano" was been released in February 2021 under the London's record label, Heritage Records and has been praised by the critics - "A highly engaging and colourful journey through the clarinet trio repertoire" - *BBC Music Magazine*;

Eleanor Ryan – Violin

A New Zealand-born violinist, educator and academic researcher, Eleanor is currently a lecturer in Performance Studies at the University of Manchester. Eleanor holds a MMus with distinction in performance from the Royal Northern College of Music (2004) and an MPhil with distinction in Arts, Creativity and Education from the University of Cambridge (2020) and is close to completing a PhD in Education at the University of Cambridge. She studied violin with Malcolm Layfield, Jan Repko and Christoph Schickedanz, and chamber music with Chris Rowland, Carole Presland and the New Zealand String Quartet. As a violinist she has performed extensively with professional UK orchestras and ensembles, including the BBC Philharmonic, Manchester Camerata, Hallé Orchestras, Northern Sinfonia and Opera North. Eleanor was principal violinist with the Ibis Ensemble, the resident ensemble at the University of Trinidad and Tobago

(UTT), Academy for the Performing Arts, where she was an Assistant Professor of Strings from 2009-2018. This period included the performance of many new works for chamber ensemble by Caribbean composers. She has collaborated in performance and composition with British-Trinidadian musician/poet Anthony Joseph, Saxophonist Jason Yarde, The Neal and Massey Trinidad All Stars Steel Orchestra, experimental film collective NEUF and British theatre company Oyster Creatives. Her research and performance interests span intercultural and transdisciplinary performance, anticolonial, antiracist, feminist and posthuman theories and their application within performance arts education.

Ben Powell -Piano

Since winning the British Contemporary Piano Competition in 2010 Benjamin Powell has gained a reputation for intelligent and expressive performances with a strong commitment to contemporary music. He has performed across the UK and Europe as a soloist, chamber musician, and song accompanist in venues including Wigmore Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Purcell Room, Snape Maltings, Bridgewater Hall, IRCAM (Paris), and Harpa (Reykjavik). In 2014 he was appointed pianist for Manchester's leading contemporary music group, Psappha.

Ben has taken part in a performance of the complete solo piano music of Helmut Lachenmann at the Aldeburgh Festival and a performance of Marco Stroppa's Traiettorie in IRCAM, Paris. Benjamin's recording of selections from Bach's Well-Tempered Clavier was used in the recent National Theatre production of 'the Hard Problem', Sir Tom Stoppard's latest play. Benjamin is much in demand as a chamber musician and has collaborated with many distinguished musicians including Stefano Canuti, Leland Chen, Levon Chilingirian, Craig Ogden, Miklós Perényi, Thomas Riebl, Sophie Rosa and Eva Thorarinsdottir.

Ben studied at the Royal Northern College of Music with Carole Presland and later (thanks to scholarships from the MBF, DAAD, and Lynn Foundation) with Pierre-Laurent Aimard and Alexander Melnikov at the Hochschule für Musik Cologne and RNCM respectively. Benjamin has also attended the International Musicians Seminar in Prussia Cove studying in the class of Thomas Adès.

Since 2007 Benjamin has been a staff pianist at the RNCM where he now also teaches piano. His students have gone on to win prizes in major competitions, including BBC Young Musician of the Year, James Mottram International Competition, Manchester International Piano Concerto Competition and the British Contemporary Piano Competition.

Coming up at the Martin Harris Centre

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www.arts.manchester.ac.uk/martinharriscentre

UoM Baroque Orchestra: Bach and Beyond: Treasures from the North German Baroque

Date: Friday 04 April 2025

Venue: Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall

Time: 13:10

Price: FREE

CANCELLED – Dan Sealey’s “Beware of Darkness” Tour 2025 (05/04/25)

Due to unforeseen circumstances, this event has had to be cancelled. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

CANCELLED – WCLC: Alexandra Whittingham & Elodie Chousmer-Howelles (01/05/25)

Due to unforeseen circumstances, this event has had to be cancelled. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

UoM Gamelan Ensemble: Gamelan Music from West Java

Date: Friday 09 May 2025

Venue: Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall

Time: 13:10

Price: FREE

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THE MARTIN HARRIS CENTRE
FOR MUSIC AND DRAMA

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