MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
FEATURING STUDENTS OF THE
PATTERSON MUSIC PROJECT
AND
THE NEW JERSEY SYMPHONY
YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Kyle Ritenauer, conductor
with special guests
Eric Whitacre, guest conductor
Terrence Thornhill, guest conductor

THURSDAY | APRIL 24 | 7:30PM
ALEXANDER KASSER THEATER

Daniel Gurskis
Dean, College of the Arts

Anthony Mazzocchi
Director
John J. Cali School of Music
MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

PROGRAM

Fanfare from La Peri
Paul Dukas

Seven O’Clock Shout
Terrence Thornhill, guest conductor
Valerie Coleman
Featuring students of the Patterson Music Project
and the New Jersey Symphony Youth Orchestra

October
Eric Whitacre, guest conductor
Eric Whitacre
Featuring students of the Patterson Music Project
and the New Jersey Symphony Youth Orchestra

Appalachian Spring (original version for 13 instruments)
Aaron Copland

INTERMISSION

Beim Schlafengehen
Jacklynn Wick, soprano
Richard Strauss
Winner of the 2024 MSU Orchestra Vocal Competition

Symphonic Metamorphosis
Paul Hindemith
FROM THE PODIUM
For our last concert of the 23-24 school year the orchestra has many aspects coming together at once. We are beyond excited to welcome in our current Immersive Residency Artist and one of America’s most prominent composers, Eric Whitacre, to conduct the orchestra. Featuring Mr. Whitacre on this program inspire the idea to perform other great American composers such as Valerie Coleman and Aaron Copland. With Appalachian Spring we plant the seeds of a new chamber orchestra at the Cali School consisting of the string quartet in residence, musicians of the Cali collective, and other individuals who have earned the opportunity through hard work and leadership within the orchestra program.

As an ensemble with hopes of impacting our community, the Cali orchestra will host students from the New Jersey Symphony Youth Orchestra as well as the Patterson Music Project to perform both Seven O’clock Shout and October. We are thrilled to invite MSU alum Terrence Thornhill as guest conductor for this concert.

After intermission Jacklynn Wick, soprano, will be featured singing Strauss’s gorgeous Beim Schlafengehen as winner of MSU Orchestra’s second annual Vocal Competition. We end with Paul Hindemith’s Symphonic Metamorphosis which was a piece selected by MSU’s brand new Orchestra Committee made up of students of our orchestra program selected and voted on by their peers.

All in all this symbolizes a substantial moment for the orchestra program at MSU as we see many new aspects of the program coming together at once. Bringing together our surrounding community with a pre-eminent and world class composer, engaging our community with NJSYO and PMP, the beginnings of our chamber orchestra, while solidifying new traditions such as the Vocal competition and involvement of our orchestra committee to ensure a vibrant orchestral culture at the Cali School of Music.

ABOUT THE CONDUCTORS
New York City-based conductor Kyle Ritenauer is a rising presence in the classical music world. Kyle is currently serving as Interim Director of Orchestras at the John J. Cali School of Music at Montclair State University, he is on faculty at the Manhattan School of Music as a member of the conducting staff, and is a cover conductor for the New York Philharmonic and National Symphony Orchestra (Washington, DC).

Throughout his career, Kyle has appeared as guest conductor with the Elgin Symphony, the Norwalk Symphony, the Hudson Valley Philharmonic, Symphony New Hampshire, and Carnegie Hall’s Ensemble Connect. In the role of cover and assistant conductor, Kyle has worked with Opera de Montreal, the Des Moines Metro Opera, St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, Orchestre Métropolitain (Montreal), American Composers Orchestra, the Utah Symphony, the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, and the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

Kyle is a student of David Robertson and a graduate of The Juilliard School’s Orchestral Conducting Program where, upon graduation, he received the Charles Schiff Conducting Prize for outstanding achievement. Kyle has also studied conducting with Kurt Masur, Gianandrea Noseda, Robert Spano, Tito Muñoz, Jeffrey Milarsky, and Michael Jinbo.

Terrence Thornhill
Terrence Thornhill is the Assistant Conductor & Curriculum Specialist for the New Jersey Symphony Youth Orchestras, working closely
with Artistic Director Diego García. Thornhill also serves as the instrumental music director at Kent Place School in Summit. Thornhill earned his bachelor’s degree in music education at Montclair State University, studying cello with Nicholas Tzavaras, cellist of the Shanghai Quartet. He received his master’s degree in cello performance from SUNY Purchase College, studying cello with Julia Lichten, cellist of the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra. He also studied conducting with Ken Lam, conductor of the Charleston Symphony and Illinois Symphony Orchestra.

As an educator, Thornhill maintains a diverse private cello studio in the New York metro area, teaching students from young children to adults. In addition to his private studio, He is the conductor of the Varsity Youth Orchestra, JCC String Camerata and Harambee Chamber Orchestra, which is dedicated to performing work by underrepresented composers, specifically composers of color and women, while raising money for community passion projects. Thornhill is an original teaching artist and lead conductor for the Paterson Music Project, an El Sistema program serving over 250 students in Paterson, and the lead conductor at the Opportunity Music Project, which serves El Sistema students in New York City.

Thornhill’s credits include the inaugural John J. Cali School of Music Alumni Achievement Award in 2018. The same year, Thornhill was selected for the faculty at the Youth Orchestras of Los Angeles National El Sistema Festival sponsored by the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

**Eric Whitacre**

Grammy Award-winning composer and conductor, Eric Whitacre, is among today’s most popular musicians. His works are programmed worldwide and his ground-breaking Virtual Choirs have united 100,000 singers from more than 145 countries. Born in Nevada in 1970, Eric is a graduate of The Juilliard School. He is currently Visiting Composer at Pembroke College, Cambridge University (UK) and is an Ambassador for the Royal College of Music (London). He recently completed two terms as Artist in Residence with the Los Angeles Master Chorale. In the 2022-2023 season, the Cincinnati Pops and the National Symphony Orchestra premiered a new commission: Prelude in C. Eric is proud to be a Yamaha Artist.

His compositions have been widely recorded and his debut album as a conductor on Universal, Light and Gold, went straight to the top of the charts, earning him a Grammy. His most recent album is a collaboration with VOCES8 on Universal Decca entitled Home featuring The Sacred Veil alongside other works spanning his thirty-year composition career. As a guest conductor he has drawn capacity audiences to concerts with many of the world’s leading orchestras and choirs in venues such as Carnegie Hall (New York), Walt Disney Concert Hall (Los Angeles), the Royal Albert Hall and Buckingham Palace (London). Insatiably curious and a lover of all types of music, Eric has worked with legendary Hollywood composers Hans Zimmer, John Powell and Jeff Beal as well as British pop icons Laura Mvula, Imogen Heap and Annie Lennox. Major classical commissions have been written for the BBC Proms, Minnesota Orchestra, Rundfunkchor Berlin, The Tallis Scholars, Chanticleer, Cincinnati Pops, Kantorei, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, National Children’s Chorus of America and The King’s Singers.
His composition for symphony orchestra and chorus, Deep Field, was inspired by the achievements of the Hubble Space Telescope and became the foundation for a collaboration with NASA, the Space Telescope Science Institute and 59 Productions. The film was premiered at Kennedy Space Center (Cape Canaveral, Florida), has been seen at arts and science festivals across the world. Deep Field has been performed in concert on several continents, and with simultaneous film projection by the New World Symphony, New World Center (Miami), Brussels Philharmonic, Flagey (Brussels), Bergen Philharmonic, Grieghallen (Bergen) among other great orchestras. His long-form work for choir, cello and piano, The Sacred Veil, is a profound meditation on love, life and loss. It was premiered by the Los Angeles Master Chorale in Walt Disney Concert Hall, conducted by the composer, and was released on Signum Records. A new version with full string orchestra was commissioned and premiered by Kantorei in Fall 2022. Eric was Composer-in-Residence at Cambridge University from 2011 – 2016.

Widely considered to be the pioneer of Virtual Choirs, Eric created his first project as an experiment in social media and digital technology. Virtual Choir 1: Lux Aurumque was published in 2010 and featured 185 singers from 12 countries. Ten years-on in 2020, Virtual Choir 6: Sing Gently – written for the Virtual Choir during the global pandemic that shook the world, COVID-19 – featured 17,562 singers from 129 countries. Previous Virtual Choir projects include ‘Glow’ written for the Winter Dreams holiday show at Disneyland© Adventure Park, California, and the Virtual Youth Choir, a major fundraiser for UNICEF. To date, the Virtual Choirs have registered over 60 million views and have been seen on global TV.

A charismatic speaker, Eric Whitacre has given keynote addresses for many Fortune 500 companies, in education and global institutions from Apple and Google to the World Economic Forum in Davos and the United Nations Speaker’s Program. His mainstage talks at the influential TED conference in Long Beach CA received standing ovations. His collaboration with Spitfire Audio resulted in a trail-blazing vocal sample library, became an instant best-seller and is used by composers the world-over.

TRANSLATION
Beim Schalfengehen

Nun hat der Tag mich müd gemacht,
soll mein sehnliches Verlangen freundlich die gestirnte Nacht wie ein müdes Kind empfange
Hände, laßt von allem Tun,
Stirn, vergiß du alles Denken,
alle meine Sinne nun wollen sich in Schlummer senken.
Und die Seele unbewacht will in freien Flügen schweben,
um im Zauberkreis der Nacht tief und tausendfach zu leben.

Now this day has fatigued me and my most arduous desire shall receive kindly the starry night like a tired child
Hands, rest after so much action
Forehead, cease all thinking
Now all my senses wish to sink into this light slumber
And unattendedly the soul wants to take wings freely to live on deep down and thousandfold in the magic circle of the night
MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

1ST VIOLIN
Daniella Renteria
Jonathan Frelix
Gabriel Anker
Chelsea Xuereb
Liana Branscome
Dana Ryan
Zachary Wood
Rafael Linares

2ND VIOLIN
Briana Almonte
Laura Shim
Zaid Abuhuzeima
Park Choy
Miguel Paniagua
Haydn Ng
Jaiden Mahone
Adrianna Sewell
Karina Kilbashian
Adriana King

VIOLA
Noah Stevens
Rachel O'Connor
Jacob Seabrook
Valentino Otero Valerio
Heejung Yang
Denton Moreland
Carissa Dienes
Callie Justice
Adeline Balfour
Josie Dambeck

CELLO
India Enter
Shayna Barkan
Alonso Restrepo Cardozo
Cecilia Grossman
Alexandra Prince
Kelvin Guillen
Paige Stewart
Alec Hamilton
Leanne O’Connor

BASS
JP Bernabe
Carlie Senatore
Ryan Chamberlain
Tiffany Lawrence

FLUTE
Michelle Zarco
Jacob Medina-Cintron
Julia Dugan

OBOE
Quinten Hansen
Dylan Slattery
David Reinstein

CLARINET
Colin Merkovsky
Maria Vincelette
Jacob Han
Anthony Kalanick

BASSOON
Michael Tatoris
Jonathan Hart
Darren Butler (contra)

HORN
Annie Ross
Faith Santana
Jeison Campoverde
Matthew Jaimes

TRUMPET
Ryan Branco
Bryce Grier

TROMBONE
Natalie Shields
Dan Harkins
Sophia Huf

TUBA
JT Adinolfi

PIANO
Sila Senturk

PERCUSSION
Hannah D’elia
Isabella Cruz

ASSISTANT CONDUCTORS
Gary Blackman
Jairo Santana-Figueroa

ORCHESTRA COMMITTEE
Michelle Zarco, chair
Cecilia Grossman, social media coordinator
JP Bernabe, vibe checker
Daniella Renteria, outreach coordinator
Colin Merkovsky, activities coordinator
Annika Ross, activities coordinator
Noah Stevens, campus outreach
Adrianna Sewell, campus outreach
Chelsea Xuereb, NYC/NJ event list
Ryan Branco, NYC/NJ event list
PATTERSON MUSIC PROJECT PERSONNEL

VIOLINS
Luca Diez
Halle Lawrence
Denise Molina
Meilynn Perez
Ashley Soto
Haley Vallecillo

VIOLAS
Rachael Diaz
Destinee Feliciano
Dallas Tyson
Haley Vallecillo

CELLO
Reanna Lawrence

BASS
Tiffany Lawrence
Drew Tyson

Special thanks to Shanna Lin
THE NEW JERSEY SYMPHONY YOUTH ORCHESTRA

FLUTE
Cheryl Yang

VIOLIN
Paige Wang

VIOLA
Charlotte Ka

CELLO
Justeen Valere

VIOLIN
Pauline Tsui

CELLO
Solea Mia Roewe

CELLO
Justeen Valere

VIOLIN
Anais-Skye Clarke-Avignant

Special thanks to Sam McDonald