Alumni Reunion

OCTOBER 24 & 25, 2019

Yale School of Music

Robert Blocker, Dean
Dear YSM alumni,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you back to Yale for the School of Music’s 125th anniversary reunion. Your time together during the next few days will, I hope, bring back memories of insightful learning, endless hours of practice, and inspiration derived from the Yale community and campus.

For some of you, the School of Music will look different than it did when you were here as a student. And indeed, YSM has evolved. Today, the School of Music community extends beyond the Yale campus and around the world. What connects us all is this hopeful place.

I have said many times that it is a privilege to walk these halls and learn from those who call YSM home. As you reflect on your time here at Yale and reminisce with classmates, faculty, and staff, consider how very much the School of Music is an institution whose history and legacy are marked by your professional accomplishments, and your distinctive artistic voices. Let us look forward this weekend to reconnecting with one another, engaging in conversations about our past and future, and, of course, making music.

We are fortunate to share music once more, the art that first brought us together, however many years ago. Thank you for being here to celebrate.

Warmest regards,

Robert Blocker
The Henry and Lucy Moses Dean of Music
Throughout the 2019-2020 academic year and concert season, the Yale School of Music community will reflect on the School’s 125-year history and look forward to the future of music-making at Yale. While music at Yale can be traced to earlier days, it was in 1894 that the School was established and that its first degrees were conferred. To celebrate music at Yale is to appreciate and acknowledge all those who have made music here.

“In celebrating the 125th anniversary of the School of Music, we pause to reflect on the values of the faculty, staff, alumni, and friends whose work ensured an artistic legacy for us,” YSM Dean Robert Blocker said. “We gratefully embrace the responsibility of continuing their work and imagining new musical horizons that ignite our passion. Indeed, music is the currency of hope.”

This year’s Convocation, held on September 5, marked the beginning of YSM’s yearlong anniversary celebration. The School’s Board of Advisors, faculty, staff, students, and special guests joined gathered for a ceremony that included performances by students, faculty, and alumni and remarks about the legacy and promise of music at Yale by University President Peter Salovey and President Emeritus Richard Levin.

During this weekend’s Alumni Reunion, a panel discussion about women composers at Yale will be presented in conjunction with the University’s 2019-2020 Women at Yale celebration “commemorating the 50th anniversary of coeducation in Yale College and the 150th anniversary of women students at the University.” In further celebration of women at Yale, the Yale Camerata and Yale Glee Club will give the world-premiere performance in April of a new work by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer and School of Music alumna Julia Wolfe on a program presented “in celebration of 100 years of women’s suffrage.” The fall/winter 2019-2020 issue of Music at Yale, YSM’s biannual alumni magazine, will appropriately be dedicated to women from the School of Music.

In the spring, in partnership with the Yale Institute of Sacred Music, the Yale Philharmonia will join the Yale Schola Cantorum and The Bach Choir, London on an East Coast tour, led by David Hill, with performances in New Haven, Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and Washington, D.C.

These and other moments will help us look to the School’s past with an eye and an ear on its future. As always, the coming concert season features music and performances by internationally acclaimed artists and the next generation of composers, instrumentalists, and vocalists. More than 250 concerts are scheduled to take place on campus, and most of those will be streamed live online for families and friends in cities around the world.

We invite you to join us in celebrating 125 years of music-making at Yale.
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24

10 A.M.–7 P.M. Registration Check-in
Sprague Memorial Hall Lobby

10:30–11:30 A.M. YSM Campus Tour
Leave from Sprague Memorial Hall

1:30–2:30 P.M. Welcome
University President Peter Salovey and YSM Dean Robert Blocker

3–5 P.M. YSM Alumni Concert
Morse Recital Hall, Sprague Memorial Hall

5:30–7 P.M. YSM Studio Visits
Various Locations

7:30 P.M. New Haven Pizza Dinner, YSM Campus Tour, and More
Gryphon’s Pub (formerly GPSCY), 204 York St., 21+ only, ID required

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25

8 A.M.–5 P.M. Registration Check-in
Sprague Memorial Hall Lobby

9–10:15 A.M. Women in Composition: Experience in a Cultural Microcosm
Morse Recital Hall, Sprague Memorial Hall

9:30 A.M. Women at Yale 150

10:30–11:45 A.M. Chamber Music at Yale and Beyond: Tradition and Evolution
Morse Recital Hall, Sprague Memorial Hall

11:45 A.M.–1 P.M. Lunch
The Graduate Club, 155 Elm St.

12:30–5 P.M. Video Timecapsule Sessions
Hendrie Hall 116
You can connect to the Yale Guest Wireless Network from your laptop or mobile device as you would any other wireless network; there are no passwords or user IDs required. The network name is YaleGuest.
Jane Ira Bloom ’76BA ’77MM
Jane Ira Bloom has been developing her singular voice on the soprano saxophone for more than 40 years. She is a pioneer in the use of live electronics and movement in jazz and won a 2018 Grammy Award in the Best Surround Sound Album category for her trio album Early Americans. Bloom has won the Mary Lou Williams Women in Jazz Award and the Charlie Parker Fellowship for Jazz Innovation. She is a professor at the School of Jazz and Contemporary Music at The New School’s College of Performing Arts, in New York City.

Martin Bresnick
Faculty composer Martin Bresnick’s compositions—from opera, chamber, and symphonic music to film scores and computer music—are performed throughout the world. He has received commissions from such organizations as the National Endowment for the Arts and Chamber Music America and has won such prizes as the ASCAP Foundation’s Aaron Copland Prize for teaching and a Guggenheim Fellowship. Bresnick was recently awarded the Samuel Simons Sanford Medal, YSM’s highest honor.

Melvin Chen
Faculty pianist Melvin Chen also serves as the School’s Deputy Dean and Director of the Yale Summer School of Music/Norfolk Chamber Music Festival. Chen has performed at major venues in the United States, including Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall, and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, in addition to appearances in Canada and Asia. An enthusiastic chamber musician, he has collaborated with such artists as Ida Kavafian, David Shifrin, Pamela Frank, and Peter Wiley, and with the Shanghai, Tokyo, Miami, Penderecki, and Miro quartets.

Ani Kavafian
Faculty violinist Ani Kavafian enjoys a prolific career as a soloist, recitalist, and chamber musician. She has performed with virtually all of America’s leading orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic, Philadelphia Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra, Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, San Francisco Symphony Orchestra, and many others. She has performed with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center since 1979. Her numerous solo recital engagements include performances at New York’s Carnegie and Alice Tully halls.

Hannah Lash ’12AD
Faculty composer Hannah Lash has emerged as a leading voice of her generation. In addition to numerous academic awards, she has received the ASCAP-Morton Gould Young Composer Award, a Charles Ives Scholarship from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and many other honors. Lash has received commissions from such organizations as the Fromm Foundation, the Naumburg Foundation, and the Aspen Music Festival and School, and her music has been performed at such venues as Carnegie Hall, Le Poisson Rouge, and the Tanglewood Music Center.
Loren Loiacono ’10BA ’12MM
Loren Loiacono, an emerging orchestral voice, has received commissions from and had her music performed by such ensembles as the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, Minnesota Orchestra, and American Composers Orchestra. She collaborates frequently with the Albany Symphony and served as the orchestra’s Andrew W. Mellon Composer-Educator-in-Residence for the 2017-2018 season. Loiacono is a co-founder of the Kettle Corn New Music concert series and is Associate Director of the MATA Festival.

Missy Mazzoli ’06MM
Missy Mazzoli is the Mead Composer-in-Residence at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Her music has been performed all over the world by the Kronos Quartet, eighth blackbird, pianist Emanuel Ax, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, and many others. In 2018, she became one of the first two women to be commissioned by the Metropolitan Opera and was nominated for a Grammy Award for her work Vespers for Violin. In 2016, Mazzoli co-founded the Luna Composition Lab, a mentorship program for young, female-identifying composers.

Tawnie Olson ’99MM ’00AD
Canadian composer Tawnie Olson, whose music is performed by ensembles around the world, draws inspiration from politics, spirituality, the natural world, and the musicians for whom she composes. In 2017, she received an OPERA America Discovery Grant to develop a new work about Hildegard of Bingen and Eleanor of Aquitaine with re:Naissance Opera. In 2018, she was the composer-in-residence of the Women Composers Festival of Hartford and a winner of the 2018 Barlow Prize. In 2020, she will be a composer-in-residence at Copland House.

William Purvis
Faculty horn player William Purvis is the coordinator of the wind and brass programs at YSM and serves as Director of the Yale Collection of Musical Instruments. He is a member of such esteemed ensembles as the New York Woodwind Quintet and the Orchestra of St. Luke’s and is an emeritus member of the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra. A passionate advocate of new music, Purvis has premiered works by Penderecki, Elliott Carter, and many others.

David Shifrin
Faculty clarinetist David Shifrin has been a faculty member at Yale since 1987 and serves as Artistic Director of YSM’s Oneppho Chamber Music Series and the Yale in New York concert series. A three-time Grammy Award nominee, he has been the Artistic Director of Chamber Music Northwest since 1980. An artist member of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center since 1989, Shifrin served as the organization’s Artistic Director from 1992 to 2004. He has performed with major orchestras and in recitals around the world.
MUSEUMS

Yale University Art Gallery
1111 Chapel St.
Hours: Tues.–Fri. 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; Thurs. 10 a.m.–8 p.m.; Sat.–Sun. 11 a.m.–5 p.m.
Admission: Free

Yale Center for British Art
1080 Chapel St.
Hours: Tues.–Sat. 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; Sun. 12 p.m.–5 p.m.
Admission: Free

Peabody Museum of Natural History
170 Whitney Ave.
Hours: Tues.–Sat. 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; Sun. 12 p.m.–5 p.m.
Admission: adults $13, seniors (65+) $9, children (3-18), students $6

New Haven Museum
114 Whitney Ave.
Hours: Tues.–Fri. 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; Sat. 12–5 p.m.
Admission: adults $4, seniors $3, students $2, children under 12 admitted free

LIBRARIES

Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library
121 Wall St.
Hours: Mon. 10 a.m.–7 p.m.; Tues.–Thurs. 9 a.m.–7 p.m.; Fri. 9 a.m.–5 p.m.; Sat. 12–5 p.m.; Sun. 12 p.m.–4 p.m.

Sterling Memorial Library
120 High St.
Hours: Mon.–Thurs. 8:30 a.m.–11:45 p.m.; Fri. 8:30 a.m.–4:45 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.–4:45 p.m.; Sun. 12 p.m.–11:45 p.m.

Gilmore Music Library
120 High St.
Hours: Mon.–Fri. 8:30 a.m.–4:45 p.m.

RESTAURANTS

Barcelona: 155 Temple St.
Spanish tapas bar

Basta Trattoria: 1006 Chapel St.
Southern Italian

BBQ Chicken: 56 Whitney Ave.
Korean fried chicken

Bonchon Chicken: 170 College Street
Korean fried chicken

Cask Republic: 179 Crown St.
Artisanal brews & new American

Geronimo: 271 Crown St.
Southwest cuisine & tequila bar

Heirloom: 1157 Chapel Street
Modern American

Kuro Shiro: 128 Crown St.
Ramen

Miya’s: 68 Howe St.
Creative sushi

Pacifico: 220 College St.
Nuevo Latino

Pho Ketkeo: 21 Temple Street
Laotian and Thai

Prime 16: 172 Temple St.
Burgers, brewery

ROÍA: 261 College St.
French-Italian

Taste of China: 954 Chapel St.
Upscale Chinese

Union League Cafe: 1032 Chapel St.
Parisian brasserie
1. Sprague Memorial Hall, 470 College St.
2. Hendrie Hall, 165 Elm St. (part of the Adams Center for Musical Arts*)
3. Leigh Hall, 435 College St. (part of the Adams Center for Musical Arts)
4. Gryphon’s Pub (GPSCY), 204 York St.
5. The Graduate Club, 155 Elm St.
6. Wall Street Pizza (Naples), 90 Wall St.
7. Woolsey Hall, 500 College St.

*The main door of the Adams Center for Musical Arts is located on the north side of the building. To enter, follow the sidewalk from Leigh Hall; the main entrance faces the parking lot.
Give to the
Alumni Fund

Year after year, support from alumni enables the School of Music to attract world-class students and faculty. Gifts to the Alumni Fund are directed to the School’s most urgent priorities, such as offsetting the financial burden of professional study at Yale through living stipends, acquiring and preserving instruments for practice and performance, and maintaining state-of-the-art facilities. The Alumni Fund touches nearly every corner of the School of Music, and gifts to the Fund help the School address its most pressing needs.

Help us achieve record participation as we celebrate the School’s 125th anniversary this year with a gift of $125, $25, or even $12.50. No matter the size, your gift is vital to advancing the School’s mission. For more information about the School of Music’s Alumni Fund or other areas of giving, please contact Director of Development Katherine Darr at 203 432-2208 or katherine.darr@yale.edu.

Stay in touch!

Send us your news — awards, appointments, recordings, premieres, important performances and projects, fellowships, and other successes — and keep the YSM community informed about your career.

musicnews@yale.edu
About the
Yale School
of Music

The Yale School of Music, a graduate professional school within Yale University, is a worldwide leader in educating the creative musicians and cultural leaders of tomorrow. It is the only school of music in the Ivy League.

The School of Music maintains a highly selective admission process, admitting approximately 200 students who come from the finest American and international conservatories and universities to study with our distinguished faculty.

YSM is an integral part of an international research university that not only cherishes its academic heritage but also values all of the arts. At Yale you will find an array of libraries, art galleries, historical collections, theatrical productions, and a rich concert life.

music.yale.edu