

JACOBSEN

SERIES
2020-21

SPHINX EXIGENCE VOCAL ENSEMBLE

FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 2021 | 7:30 P.M. PST

[PUGETSOUND.EDU/SCHNEEBECKLIVE](https://pugetsound.edu/schneebecklive)



A residency event developed in collaboration with Puget Sound and community partners, with support from the Matthew Norton Clapp Visiting Artists Fund.

JACOBSEN SERIES 2020-21

Established in 1984, the Jacobsen Series features performances by School of Music faculty members, students, alumni, and guest artists for the university and the community. The series is named in honor of Leonard Jacobsen, professor of piano and chair of the piano department at Puget Sound from 1932 to 1965 and consists of theme-related concerts presented between September and April each academic year.

The Jacobsen Series Scholarship Fund awards annual music scholarships to outstanding student performers and scholars. This fund is sustained entirely by season subscribers and individual ticket sales. University of Puget Sound wishes to recognize and thank our many patrons whose support has assisted worthy students and has contributed to this successful series.

2020–21

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Lucy Prichard '21, viola and Jillian Shelver '22, soprano
Sigma Alpha Iota

As this year's scholarship award winners, we are delighted to represent the Sigma Alpha Iota (SAI) International Music Fraternity at the 2020–21 Jacobsen Series performances. Our involvement in SAI allows us to participate in a long and honorable history of missions that demonstrate our passion for music, and to promote music and music service to the local community and beyond.

Through our rose sales, receptions, and FaculTea events, we help foster appreciation and community at Puget Sound as we celebrate our faculty artist-musicians. Proceeds from Jacobsen Series ticket sales allow our fraternity to continue supporting SAI Philanthropies, a non-profit organization that benefits music programs such as The Music Therapy Project and People-to-People.

We hope you enjoy this season's Jacobsen Series. Thank you for joining us, and for your support!

Sincerely,

Lucy and Jillian

EXIGENCE

A Vocal Sphinx Ensemble
Eugene Rogers, founding director

Ev'ry Voice.....Xavier Foley

Sphinx Virtuosi
EXIGENCE vocal ensemble

Caged Bird.....Joel Thompson

Alex Laing, clarinet

Elegy: In Memoriam—Stephen Lawrence.....Philip Herbert

Sphinx Virtuosi

Ndikhokele Bawo (Traditional).....arr. Lhente Mari-Pitout

Nicole Joseph, soloist

“Glory” from *Selma*.....arr. Eugene Rogers

LaVonte Heard, soloist
Monique Spells, soloist
Damien Sneed, piano
Sphinx Virtuosi
EXIGENCE vocal ensemble

BIOGRAPHIES

EXIGENCE is a professional vocal ensemble highlighting artistry within Black and Latinx communities. Led by founding conductor Eugene Rogers and comprised of vocal artists including solo performers, educators, conductors and composers, EXIGENCE celebrates the power of community and expression through choral music.

EXIGENCE gives vocal artists a first-rate professional vocal experience within a context that champions the sounds of Black and Latinx composers. Selected through audition, 32 vocalists have the opportunity to use their voices as vehicles for change within the cultural landscape of concert choral and vocal music.

The name EXIGENCE is inspired by the definition of the word – ‘an urgent need or demand.’ Like its definition, EXIGENCE believes that vocal concert music continues to need more voices at the table from disparate backgrounds and perspectives. EXIGENCE seeks to foster that perspective through the lens of professional vocal artistry within the Black and Latinx communities.

–www.EXIGENCEVocalEnsemble.org

Eugene Rogers, founding director, is a two-time Michigan Emmy Award winner, a 2017 Sphinx Medal of Excellence recipient, and a 2015 Grammy Award nominee, recognized as a leading conductor and pedagogue throughout the United States and abroad.

In addition to being the founding director of EXIGENCE, Dr. Rogers is the director of choirs and an associate professor of conducting at the University of Michigan. Recently, he was named as the fifth Artistic Director of the two-time Grammy Award-Winning Ensemble, The Washington Chorus (Washington, D.C.).

Rogers holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in choral music education from the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign and the Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees in choral conducting from U-M. He currently serves on the board of Chorus America and is the former national chair of the Diversity Initiatives Committee for the American Choral Directors Association.

The Sphinx Virtuosi are the nation's most dynamic, exhilarating professional chamber orchestra, dedicated to increasing racial and ethnic diversity in classical music. Comprised of 18 of the nation's top Black and Latinx classical soloists, the Virtuosi are primarily alumni of the internationally renowned Sphinx Competition, and its members work together as cultural ambassadors reaching new audiences. This unique ensemble earned rapturous reviews from *The New York Times* during its highly acclaimed debut at Carnegie Hall in December 2004: Allan Kozinn described their performance as “first-rate in every way” and raved that “the ensemble produced a more beautiful, precise and carefully shaped sound than some fully professional orchestras that come through Carnegie Hall in the course of the year.”

—www.sphinxmusic.org/sphinx-virtuosi/

UPCOMING SCHOOL OF MUSIC EVENTS

All events are PDT broadcast via Schneebeck LIVE.

PUGETSOUND.EDU/SCHNEEBECKLIVE

Wednesday, March 17 | 12 p.m.

School of Music Noon Convocation

Violin Master Class with Andrew Jennings

Wednesday, March 24 | 12 p.m.

School of Music Noon Convocation

Student Recital Performances featuring Jordan Anderson '22, cello;
Sydney Byte '21, soprano; Sam Crosby-Schmidt '22, tenor;
Riley Granger '21, soprano; Eli Kitchens '22, tenor; Sophie Paul '22, cello;
Jillian Shelver '22, composition; and Elliott Wells '21, cello

Friday, March 26 | 12 p.m.

Organ at Noon Series: Annual All-Bach Recital

Wyatt Smith, organ

Live stream from Kilworth Memorial Chapel

Friday, April 9 | 7:30 p.m.

Jacobsen Series: Tribute to Tanya Stambuk

Featuring the Puget Sound Piano Trio – Maria Sampen, violin;
Alistair MacRae, cello; and Tanya Stambuk, piano;
joined by Dawn Padula, mezzo-soprano

All listings are subject to change. For the most current information about upcoming arts events and lectures, visit pugetsound.edu/music.

Puget Sound is committed to being accessible to all people. If you have questions about event accessibility, please contact 25Live@pugetsound.edu, or visit pugetsound.edu/accessibility.

The School of Music at University of Puget Sound is dedicated to training musicians for successful music careers and to the study of music as a liberal art. Known for its diverse and rigorous educational program, personalized attention to students, the stature of its faculty, and superior achievements in scholarship, musicianship, and solo and ensemble performance, the school maintains the highest professional standards while providing academic and performance opportunities to all university students. Through faculty, student, and guest artist colloquia, workshops, performances, and a vibrant Community Music Department, the School of Music enriches the cultural life of the campus and community. pugetsound.edu/music | 253.879.3700

Community Music, a division of the School of Music, welcomes people of all ages and skill levels to participate in music lessons and classes throughout the year. pugetsound.edu/communitymusic | 253.879.3575

