



YST

Yong Siew Toh
Conservatory
of Music

Senior Recital

YEE CHOON YONG WILLIAM

APRIL 27, 2023

8:10PM

YST CONCERT HALL

Eric Ewazen
Goi Ywei Chern
Bert Appermont

Rachel Chen, Piano
Undercurrent, Musicians
Colors, Musicians
Adrian Chiang, Conductor



Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music

Senior Recital

Yee Choon Yong William, Trombone

Rachel Chen, Piano

Undercurrent, Musicians

Colors for Trombone, Musicians

Adrian Chiang, Conductor

27th April 2023, 8:10pm

Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music Concert Hall

Programme

Sonata for Trombone and Piano (1993)

Eric Ewazen

- I. Allegro Maestoso
- II. Adagio
- III. Allegro Giocoso

(1954 – Present)

Undercurrent (2023)

Goi Ywei Chern

(1996 – Present)

Colors for Trombone (1998)

Bert Appermont

Yellow

(1973 – Present)

Red

Blue

Green

Programme Notes

Sonata for Trombone and Piano (1993), Eric Ewazen

Eric Ewazen, a well-known American composer, has been a faculty member at The Julliard School since 1980. He has an impressive portfolio of compositions across various genres, including solo instruments, chamber groups, orchestras, wind ensembles, and choral works. His music has been widely acclaimed and performed worldwide, and many of his pieces have become essential repertoire for numerous instruments. Ewazen's expertise lies in writing for brass instruments, with a particular emphasis on the trombone. In 1993, Michael Powell, a trombonist from the American Brass Quintet, commissioned Ewazen to compose a sonata, which premiered at the Aspen Music Festival. The sonata has since become a staple in the trombone repertoire, known for its demanding range, unique tone colors, and technical challenges.

Undercurrent (2023), Goi Ywei Chern

Goi Ywei Chern (b. 1996) is a Singaporean composer. He studied at the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA) School of Music, receiving his NAFA-RCM Undergraduate degree (funded by the OCBC Local Undergraduate Scholarship) in 2019, and the Royal College of Music, where he achieved a Distinction in the Master of Music in Composition degree. He has studied composition under Dr Zechariah Goh, Professor Kenneth Hesketh, and Professor Alison Kay. He is currently undertaking an MPhil/DMus (Composition Route) in the Guildhall School of Music and Drama under the supervision of Professors Richard Baker, Matt Kaner, and Julian Anderson.

Goi has taken part in numerous performances and competitions, winning the Leong Yoon Pin Composition Competition 2016 (Chamber Music), and reaching the finals in the International Antonin Dvorak Composition Competition in 2017 and 2018, the Leong Yoon Pin Composition Competition 2018, the 2nd Asia Pacific Saxophone Composition Competition (Awarded an Honourable Mention), and the Kaleidoscope Chamber Orchestra Call for Scores 2019. He was also a participant in MusicFest Aberystwyth 2019. In 2021, his piece Concertino for Soprano Saxophone and Wind Ensemble was premiered in the Amaryllis Fleming Concert Hall in the Royal College of Music, London, by saxophonist Robert Finegan and the RCM Wind Ensemble conducted by Simon Channing.

This piece was written for William Yee and explores the interaction between soloist and ensemble as the music, initially following the pace of the soloist, is gradually swept away by the undercurrent of the ensemble, while also displaying the range and virtuosity of both the soloist and ensemble.

Colors for Trombone (1998), Bert Appermont

Bert Appermont, a Belgian composer and faculty member of the Katholieke Hogeschool Limburg and music academies of Lanaken and Genk, has an extensive portfolio of musical works. He has composed over 100 pieces for wind orchestra, choir, and symphony orchestra, in addition to two musicals, two symphonies, an opera, and an oratorium. One of his works, *Colors*, is a four-movement piece for a full-sized wind orchestra, with each movement representing a different color. The Yellow movement portrays a warm and brilliant timbre, while Red features a fiery and intense theme with the introduction of irregular and compound meters. Blue reflects a transition towards a darker and softer tonal palette, and Green highlights the technical virtuosity and energetic sound of the trombone.