



**CURTIS**  
INSTITUTE OF MUSIC

# **CURTIS PRESENTS**



Ned Rorem  
Celebration  
Concert

2023-24 SEASON  
**TIME TO DISCOVER**

# CURTIS INSTITUTE OF MUSIC

## Curtis Presents: *Ned Rorem Celebration*

Tuesday, April 2, 2024, at 7:30 p.m. in Field Concert Hall

### PROGRAM

**“Early in the Morning”**

**NED ROREM ('44)**  
(1923-2022)

Sarah Fleiss, soprano  
Miloš Repický, piano

**“I Am Rose”**

**ROREM**

Katie Trigg, mezzo-soprano  
Miloš Repický, piano

**“The Serpent”**

**ROREM**

Katie Trigg, mezzo-soprano  
Miloš Repický, piano

**“Take Me Back Up the Hill” from *Our Town***

**ROREM**

Sarah Fleiss, soprano  
Miloš Repický, piano

**“On an Echoing Road” from *Evidence of Things Not Seen***

**ROREM**

Sarah Fleiss, soprano  
Katie Trigg, mezzo-soprano  
Miloš Repický, piano

**Piano Sonata No. 2**

**ROREM**

Overture: Allegretto  
Tarantella: Scherzando  
Nocturne: Moderato  
Toccata: Allegro molto

Amy Yang ('06), piano

## *Santa Fe Songs*

ROREM

“Santa Fe”  
“Opus 101”  
“Any Other Time”  
“Sonnet”  
“Coming Down the Stairs”  
“He Never Knew”  
“El Musico”  
“The Wintry-Mind”  
“Water-Hyacinths”  
“Moving Leaves”  
“Yes I Hear Them”  
“The Sowers”

Jarrett Ott (Opera '04), baritone

Matthew Hakkarainen ('22), violin

Priscilla Lee ('03), cello

Kerri Ryan ('98), viola

Miloš Repický, piano

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## ABOUT NED ROREM (COMPOSITION '44)

Ned Rorem, hailed as “the world’s best composer of art songs” (*Time* magazine), is celebrated for acclaimed body of literary writing and his immense catalog of musical compositions which includes three symphonies, four piano concertos, and an array of other orchestral works; music for numerous combinations of chamber forces; ten operas; choral works of every description; ballets and other music for the theater; and hundreds of songs and cycles. Mr. Rorem was a beloved, longtime member of the Curtis faculty, serving from 1980 to 2001.

During his lifetime, Mr. Rorem was honored with a Fulbright Fellowship, a Guggenheim Fellowship, and an award from the National Institute of Arts and Letters. He received the ASCAP-Deems Taylor Award in 1971 for his book *Critical Affairs, A Composer’s Journal*, in 1975 for *The Final Diary*, and in 1992 for an article on American opera in *Opera News*. His orchestral suite *Air Music* won the 1976 Pulitzer Prize in music. The Atlanta Symphony recording of the *String Symphony*, *Sunday Morning*, and *Eagles* received a GRAMMY Award for Outstanding Orchestral Recording in 1989. In 1998 he was named Composer of the Year by *Musical America*. He served as president of the American Academy of Arts and Letters from 2000 to 2003. In 2001 he was named a Chevalier de l’Ordre des Arts et Des Lettres by France for his contribution to the enrichment of the French cultural inheritance. In 2003 he was awarded the Gold Medal in Music, for an entire body of work, by the Academy of Arts and Letters; and also received ASCAP’s Lifetime Achievement Award.

Mr. Rorem’s music was commissioned by many of the world’s most prestigious institutions, including the Ford Foundation (*Poems of Love and the Rain*), Lincoln Center Foundation (*Sun*); Koussevitzky Foundation (*Letters from Paris*); Atlanta Symphony (*String Symphony*); Chicago Symphony Orchestra (*Goodbye My Fancy*);

Carnegie Hall (*Spring Music*); the New York Philharmonic (Concerto for English Horn and Orchestra); and the Philadelphia Orchestra (Flute Concerto). Mr. Rorem's final opera, *Our Town*, a setting of Thornton Wilder's acclaimed play, premiered at the Indiana University Jacob's School of Music in 2006 and has gone on to be performed at many conservatories, music schools, and opera companies. In 1965, his opera *Miss Julie* premiered at New York City Opera, and was presented by Curtis Opera Theatre in 2003, recorded live, and released through Albany Records and called "essential for Ned Rorem enthusiasts and anyone who wants to know his music better," by *American Record Guide*.

The composer's monumental work, his evening-length song cycle *Evidence of Things Not Seen*, was performed at Curtis in 2003 as part of the school's two-week festival, *Roremania*, in honor of Mr. Rorem's 80th birthday. *Roremania* events also included the performances of *Miss Julie*, chamber works, organ pieces, and choral works. As he approached his next milestone birthday, he told the *Philadelphia Inquirer*: "Other people turn 90, I still think of myself as the youngest person at the party."

Mr. Rorem studied composition at Curtis with Rosario Scalero, graduating in 1944. He passed away on November 18, 2022, at age 99 at his home in Manhattan.

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## ABOUT CURTIS PRESENTS

Past and future meet through Curtis Presents, which features a diverse collection of artists—alumni, faculty, students, and contemporary creators—whose musical foundations are rooted in the Curtis community. This series of intimate and innovative recitals offers a unique experience with exceptional artistry and one-of-a-kind programs.

## Next Curtis Presents Concert

### Curtis Composers

**April 23, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.**

The final concert of the Curtis Presents series builds upon the school's longstanding tradition of innovation, inspiration, and artistic excellence as it celebrates eight of its distinguished composition alumni.

**View more upcoming Curtis performances at  
[Curtis.edu/Calendar](https://curtis.edu/Calendar).**

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