

Arabesque Winds, woodwind quintet

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The Arabesque Winds

Deidre Huckabay, flute • Liz Spector, oboe
Isabel Kim, clarinet • Sophia Goluses, horn
Eryn Bauer, bassoon

The Arabesque Winds “played with skill and depth beyond their years,” at a recent performance according to the *Washington Post*, “but it was the unanimity of their ensemble phrasing that took the breath away.” The ensemble represented the Eastman School of Music at the Kennedy Center’s Conservatory Project, and performed a full recital at the Terrace Theater in May 2009. Recognized for their fresh, energetic, and interactive performances, the Arabesque Winds were recently awarded the 2009 Coleman-Saunderson Prize for Woodwinds and Brass at the Coleman Chamber Ensemble Competition. The group has also won the Harvard Musical Association’s 2009 Arthur W. Foote Prize, awarded to young musicians on the verge of professional careers, in addition to the Grand Prize at the 2008 International Chamber Music Ensemble Competition. In what the judges described as “an astounding performance” at Carnegie Hall’s Weill Recital Hall, the group garnered first prize over 70 international ensembles. In February 2009, the ensemble won Second Prize at the Henri Tomasi International Woodwind Quintet Competition in Marseilles, France, where they also won the Lucien Guerinel Prize for best interpretation of the composer’s commissioned work for the competition.

Dedicated to the performance of contemporary wind music, the Arabesque Winds acted as an ensemble-in-residence at the 2008 Festival Internacional Chihuahua in Chihuahua, Mexico. There, they performed the world premiere of Rodrigo Valdez Hermoso’s “beyond the darkness, there’s still the light.” They have also performed the world premieres of works by Moiya Callahan, Jairo Duarte-Lopez, Michaela Eremiasova, and Scott Worthington, in addition to the American premieres of Carlos Sanchez-Gutierrez’s “Twittering Variations” and Juan Trigos’s “Ricercare V.” In April of 2009, the Arabesque Winds acted as a featured ensemble at Eastman’s Warren and Pat Benson Forum on Creativity. Ensemble members also frequently perform with Ossia, NEO Orchestra, and the Eastman BroadBand.

As active supporters of music outreach, the Arabesque Winds have presented educational concerts throughout Rochester as participants in the Eastman School’s noted “Music For All” program. In January 2009, they collaborated with the Rochester City Ballet to present a children’s program featuring Prokofiev’s “Peter and the Wolf.” They have also served as ensemble-in-residence in the public schools of Lake Placid and Tupper Lake, NY, and in school districts in Washington, DC, Texas, Florida, and New Jersey. In May 2009, the group premiered a woodwind quintet concerto by Baljinder Sekhon II alongside young Rochester area music students. They also acted fellows at the Atlantic Music Festival in summer 2009 as resident performers and teachers.

The Arabesque Winds formed at the Eastman School of Music in 2005. The group has been repeatedly selected to perform on the school’s Honors Chamber Music Recital series. While at Eastman, the quintet has been coached by Robert DiLutis, Anne Harrow, and Kenneth Grant. They have also taken part in coachings and masterclasses with members of the Imani Winds, Zephyros Winds, and Windscape.

Deidre Huckabay, flute

Deidre Huckabay currently studies flute at the Mary Pappert School of Music at Duquesne University and holds an undergraduate degree from the Eastman School of Music. While at Eastman, Deidre served general manager of the student-run New Eastman Outreach Orchestra, and coordinated educational and interactive orchestral programs in venues throughout Rochester. Selected to participate in the University of Rochester's competitive Take Five Scholars program, Deidre worked on a comprehensive project to record the unique practices of her teacher, Bonita Boyd. Devoted to the performance of contemporary music, Deidre has participated in new music concerts in Italy, Mexico, and across the United States. In December 2007, she and a group of Eastman students performed two contemporary operas at the SpazioMusica Festival in Cagliari, Italy, alongside noted singers and actors from Mexico and Italy. As part of the Eastman BroadBand, Deidre performed alongside the award-winning Garth Fagan Dance Company at the Joyce Theater in New York City, at Nazareth College in Rochester, and at the University of Rochester. She has performed in Morelia, Mexico at the Conservatorio de las Rosas, and appears on a recording of the music of Ricardo Zohn-Muldoon for Bridge Records. Her principal teachers are Damian Bursill-Hall and Bonita Boyd.

Elizabeth Spector, oboe

Liz Spector has been the English horn and associate principal oboe of the Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra since October 2006. She is a graduate of the Eastman School of Music, where she studied with Richard Killmer. She graduated with honors and a Performer's Certificate. During her time at Eastman, she performed the United States premiere Rolf Rudin's "Am Ende des Tages" for solo English horn and Wind Ensemble. Liz has performed with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra, CityMusic Cleveland, the Rochester City Ballet, the Rochester Chamber Orchestra, Mercury Opera, the Eastman Wind Ensemble and the Eastman Philharmonia. Liz has participated in summer festivals such as the Boston University Tanglewood Institute, the American Institute of Musical Studies in Graz, Austria, Music in the Mountains in Durango, Colorado, and the International Festival-Institute at Roundtop, Texas. In summer 2008, she attended master classes at the Banff Center of the Arts as well as the orchestral program at the Lucerne Academy in Switzerland. Liz is the oboist in the Arabesque Winds, recent winners of the Coleman-Saunders Prize, the Arthur Foote Prize, and the International Chamber Music Ensemble Competition. Liz is currently the oboe teacher at SUNY Geneseo and has a private studio in Rochester, NY.

Isabel Kim, clarinet

Clarinetist Isabel Kim is a recent graduate of the Eastman School of Music. Prior to Eastman, she attended Juilliard Pre-College and the Manhattan School of Music Pre-College. She has performed with the New York Youth Symphony, Making Score Ensemble, Rochester City Ballet, Chesapeake Orchestra, Eastman Wind Ensemble, Eastman Philharmonia, Eastman Chamber Music Society, Eastman BroadBand, Ossia, and NEO, appearing at venues at Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, and NJPAC. Isabel has recorded with the Eastman Wind Ensemble and the Canadian Brass for their CD entitled "Manhattan Music" and with the Eastman BroadBand in a CD of Ricardo Zohn-Muldoon's works. In past summers, she has participated in festivals at Kinhaven Music School, Eastern Music Festival, and the River Concert Series. Her principal teachers include Jon Manasse, David Sapadin, Richard Shillea, and Alan Kay. Isabel is on faculty at the Lyric Academy.

Sophia Goluses, horn

Sophia Goluses holds the position of co-principal horn with the Glens Falls Symphony Orchestra as well as solo horn with the critically acclaimed Rochester N.Y. based chamber ensemble, the Arabesque Winds. Sophia has held the position of principal horn in the Ohio Light Opera, the Oswego Opera, and the Sieur DuLuth Summer Arts Festival Opera Orchestra. She has played with the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra, Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, Mercury Opera Rochester, and the Rochester Oratorio Society. Sophia also currently holds the position of alto section leader at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Pittsford, NY.

As a horn soloist, Sophia has appeared with the Eastman Composer's Sinfonietta, giving the world premiere of Jennifer Bellor's "Bell Song," for solo horn and orchestra, with the Eastman Community Music School's Children's Chorus, as well as with the Lyons High School Band, premiering Baljinder Sekhon's "Synergy" for wind quintet and concert band. Sophia has attended music festivals such as Aspen Music festival and School, Music Academy of the West, Pierre Monteux School for conductors and musicians, Brevard Music Festival and the Atlantic Music Festival. Sophia Goluses has recorded with the Eastman Opera Theater for Troy Records, the Eastman Wind Ensemble and the Canadian Brass with Archivmusik, the Ohio Light Opera with Albany Records, and the Eastman Broadband for Bridge Records.

Sophia completed her B.M. from the Eastman School of Music in horn performance in the spring of 2008 where she studied with the RPO's principal horn, W. Peter Kurau and the RPO's second horn, Jennifer Burch. Sophia loves to teach horn players of all ages and skill levels and believes in tailoring her skills to each student, rather than expecting each student to fit an assumed mold. She also teaches beginning piano, voice, trumpet, trombone, euphonium, and tuba.

Eryn Bauer, bassoon

Eryn Bauer is a senior at the Eastman School of Music and studies with John Hunt. She plays in a wide variety of groups including chamber music, outreach performance, orchestras, and new music ensembles. She has played with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, and soloed with the Tampa Bay Symphony at age 17 when she was the winner of the Tampa Bay Symphony Young Artist Competition. She traveled to Chihuahua, Mexico with the Eastman Broad Band to perform newly commissioned pieces. She will be traveling to Chicago as principal bassoonist with the Eastman Wind Ensemble for the Midwest Conference. Eryn recorded Michael Tenzer's Resolution, which is to be released in summer 2009, and Ricardo Zohn-Muldoon's Nino Polilla under Bridge Records. She has participated in summer music festivals such as Sarasota Music Festival, Kinhaven Music School, and Atlantic Music Festival.