

CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING AND CINEMATIC ARTS

Boyer College of Music and Dance

# Guest Artist Recital: Bente Illevold, euphonium

## *A Musical Portrait*

Saturday, December 6, 2025 at 7:30 PM

Rock Hall Auditorium

1715 North Broad Street

Philadelphia, PA 19122



# Program

<i>Notturno (Lockdown Lullaby)</i>	Marcus Paus (b. 1979)
From Suite No. 1 in G major for Solo Cello	J. S. Bach (1685-1750)
Prelude	
Courante	
Menuet I & II	
<i>Svart Regn</i>	Torstein Aagaard-Nilsen (b. 1964)
Mazurka for Baritone	Nicholas D. Falcone (1892-1981)
<i>Fram! – For people who dig their own holes</i>	Bente Illevold (b. 1983)
<i>Aura – for Solo Euphonium</i>	Terje Viken (b. 1968)
Fantasie in A minor	Georg Philipp Telemann (1681-1767)
Largo	arr. Alan Raph
Vivace	
Largo	
Vivace	
Allegro	
From <i>Dsdht</i> for Euphonium and Prerecorded Material	Ludvig Elblaus (b. 1981) and Rune Rebne (b. 1961)
Dsdht II	
Dsdht III	

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The use of photographic, audio and video recording is not permitted.

Please turn off all electronic devices.

One hundred ninety-fourth performance of the 2025-2026 season.

## About the Artist

**BENTE ILLEVOLD** (b. 1983) is a euphonium soloist from Rendalen in Østerdalen, Norway, known for her distinctive artistic voice and her focused work in developing new repertoire for the instrument, both nationally and internationally.

Through an extensive career as a soloist, chamber musician, and project initiator, she has established herself as a clear and innovative presence in the contemporary music scene. Illevold has been responsible for more than 30 world premieres of works for euphonium and has collaborated with a wide range of leading composers and ensembles.

She has released three critically acclaimed solo albums: *Klangen fra de dype skoger* (2020), which led to a nomination for Instrumentalist of the Year by OPUS KLASSIK; *Alene* (2021), the world's first album featuring only unaccompanied euphonium; and *Baut* (2024), featuring music by Stig Nordhagen, which received 3rd Prize in the Album of the Year category from 4BarsRest. In 2024, she was also nominated for Player of the Year by the same publication.

Illevold has performed extensively throughout Europe, the United States, and South America, appearing as a guest artist at festivals, universities, and conferences. Alongside her solo work, she is deeply engaged in chamber music and interdisciplinary projects, including collaborations with The Northern Lights Duo, Rollin' Phones, and Trio Krafta.

Bente Illevold is an international S.E. Shires Company Euphonium Artist and performs on a custom made euphonium, with mouthpiece from Doug Elliott.

# Program Notes

In this recital program, the repertoire shows what the euphonium is, has been, and might become. The selection highlights a wide range of styles, techniques, sounds, and expressions.

The Nordic brass tradition has long served as an artistic ideal, drawing together qualities from both American and British traditions while maintaining a distinct tonal clarity and expressive depth. A significant part of the program is devoted to Norwegian repertoire written for the euphonium, much of it composed specifically for the performer. Together, these works form a musical journey through Nordic soundscapes, shaped by history, innovation, and personal artistic commitment.

***Notturno (Lockdown Lullaby) (2021)***

**Marcus Paus**

During the first year of the pandemic, Marcus Paus composed a series of works under the collective title Cabin Fever. Spanning from small chamber pieces to large-scale concert works, the series reflects both the circumstances of its creation and a rediscovery of the fundamental artistic drive that originally led the composer to write music.

*Notturno (Lockdown Lullaby)* was among the last works in this series, written just before society slowly began to reopen. The piece is lyrical in nature and explores the euphonium's wide expressive range. Composed for Bente Illevold, it is devoted both to the performer and to the instrument's unique capacity for warmth, depth, and vocal-like expression.

***Svart Regn (1990)***

**Torstein Aagaard-Nilsen**

*Svart Regn (Black Rain)* is a solo work for euphonium composed in 1990 for Egil Magnussen. The piece is constructed as a continuously evolving contrapuntal form, where previously introduced material reappears and interacts with new ideas. Rather than following a traditional multi-movement structure, the music unfolds as a single, organic process.

The title refers to environmental pollution and reflects the growing awareness of climate change at the end of the 1980s. The work was written only a few years after the Chernobyl disaster, at a time when the first serious global warnings about environmental consequences were beginning to emerge. These concerns are mirrored in the music's dark, intense character and its persistent sense of tension.

*Dsdht* for solo euphonium and prerecorded material was premiered in 2015 by Bente Illevold, with support from the Norwegian Composers' Fund and the Arts Council of Norway. It is one of the most extensive Norwegian works written for the euphonium and is distinctive for its combination of folk music, contemporary classical idioms, and electronics.

All musical material in the piece is derived from the Norwegian folk song "Den største därlegheit" (The Greatest Sorrow). The song serves as both a musical and conceptual foundation, shaping the tonal language and expressive character of the work. The text tells a dramatic story of love declared and deeply rejected, focusing not on guilt, but on resistance in the face of emotional betrayal.

The second movement explores the sweetness and beauty of love, while the final movement confronts despair, disappointment, and rage. The piece ultimately returns to the original folk song, ending not in redemption or hope, but in resignation — a sustained act of resistance against something that cannot be changed. While this narrative underpins the composition, listeners are free to decide how strongly the story shapes their own musical experience.

## **Boyer College of Music and Dance**

The Boyer College of Music and Dance offers over 500 events open to the public each year. Students have the unique opportunity to interact with leading performers, composers, conductors, educators, choreographers and guest artists while experiencing a challenging and diverse academic curriculum. The Boyer faculty are recognized globally as leaders in their respective fields. Boyer alumni are ambassadors of artistic leadership and perform with major orchestras, opera and dance companies, teach at schools and colleges and work as professional music therapists, choreographers and composers. Boyer's recording label, BCM&D records, has produced more than thirty recordings, five of which have received Grammy nominations.

[boyer.temple.edu](http://boyer.temple.edu)

## **The Center for the Performing and Cinematic Arts**

The Center for the Performing and Cinematic Arts consists of the Boyer College of Music and Dance, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts, the George and Joy Abbott Center for Musical Theater and the Temple Performing Arts Center. The School of Theater, Film and Media Arts engages gifted students with nationally and internationally recognized faculty scholars and professionals. A hallmark of the School of Theater, Film and Media Arts is the Los Angeles Study Away program, housed at historic Raleigh Studios. The George and Joy Abbott Center for Musical Theater engages visiting performers, guest artists, set designers, playwrights and other Broadway professionals. The Temple Performing Arts Center (TPAC), a historic landmark on campus, is home to a state-of-the-art 1,200 seat auditorium and 200 seat chapel. More than 500 concerts, classes, lectures and performances take place at TPAC each year.

[arts.temple.edu](http://arts.temple.edu)

## **Temple University**

Temple University's history begins in 1884, when a young working man asked Russell Conwell if he could tutor him at night. It wasn't long before he was teaching several dozen students—working people who could only attend class at night but had a strong desire to make something of themselves. Conwell recruited volunteer faculty to participate in the burgeoning night school, and in 1888 he received a charter of incorporation for "The Temple College." His founding vision for the school was to provide superior educational opportunities for academically talented and highly motivated students, regardless of their backgrounds or means. The fledgling college continued to grow, adding programs and students throughout the following decades. Today, Temple's more than 35,000 students continue to follow the university's official motto—Perseverantia Vincit, or "Perseverance Conquers"—with their supreme dedication to excellence in academics, research, athletics, the arts and more.

[temple.edu](http://temple.edu)

# Boyer College of Music and Dance

## Upcoming Events

### **Rite of Swing Jazz Café: The Compass Quintet**

Andrew Gioannetti, soprano saxophone and flute

Matt Miller, alto saxophone, flute and clarinet

Noah Barr, tenor saxophone, flute and clarinet

Anthony Singer, tenor saxophone, flute and clarinet

Zach Spondike, baritone saxophone, flute and bass clarinet

Thursday, February 12 at 4:30 PM

Temple Performing Arts Center Lobby

### **Temple University Symphony Orchestra**

José Luis Domínguez, conductor

Hannah Han, piano

BERNSTEIN Symphonic Dances from *West Side Story*

RACHMANINOV Piano Concerto No. 3

DVOŘÁK Symphony No. 9 “From the New World”

Thursday, February 12 at 7:30 PM

Temple Performing Arts Center

### **Arts and Quality of Life Conference**

Friday, February 13

Temple Performing Arts Center

### **Studio Recital: Viola Students of Kerri Ryan**

Friday, February 13 at 7:30 PM

Rock Hall Auditorium

### **CPCA AIR (Arts Interdisciplinary Research): Chris Cagle**

*Digital Sound Design and Aestheticized Documentary Cinema*

Tuesday, February 17 at 5:00 PM

Temple Performing Arts Center Chapel

### **Senior Recital: Jiaye Xu, mezzo-soprano**

Tuesday, February 17 at 7:30 PM

Rock Hall Auditorium

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All events are free unless otherwise noted. Programs are subject to change without notice.

For further information or to confirm events, please call 215.204.7609

or visit [www.boyer.temple.edu](http://www.boyer.temple.edu).