PERFORMING ARTS SERIES

CELEBRATING ARTISTS WHO TRANSFORM POWERFUL PERSONAL OR HISTORICAL STORIES INTO INSPIRED PERFORMANCE, BUILDING ON THE SEMINAL WORK OF THEIR FOREBEARS TO CREATE THE MASTERPIECES OF TODAY.

A GOSPEL CELEBRATION
DIRECTED BY DR. J. DONALD DUMPSON
SAT, DEC 2, 8PM / MCPHERSON AUDITORIUM, GOODHART HALL
Come get your praise on! From the soul-infused sounds of the Hammond B3 organ and the smooth Philly stylings of regional gospel greats, this line-up will raise the roof. Expect Goodhart Hall to resound with the joy, sorrow, and deep resilience of African-American sacred music as Dr. J. Donald Dumpson brings the Philadelphia Heritage Chorale together with Serena Blanco and the Gospel Music Preservation Alliance, Waverly Alston and the Company of Friends, and special spirit-stirring soloists.

RINDE ECKERT MY FOOLS: A LIFE IN SONG
FRI–SAT, OCT 6–7, 8PM / HEPBURN TEACHING THEATER, GOODHART HALL
Pulitzer Prize finalist and GRAMMY® Award-winner Rinde Eckert brings a mash-up evening of music and characters from his 30 years of theater, experimental opera, and multidisciplinary creations. On a 9,000-mile cross-country road trip, Eckert has evolved My Fools through performances in living rooms and theaters, museums and universities. Opening up his artistic archive of past works, he re-animates smart, clownish, driven, and doomed characters—a masterly blend of the broadly comedic, tragic and austere.

OKWUI OKPOKWASILI POOR PEOPLE’S TV ROOM
FRI–SAT, FEB 23–24, 8PM / HEPBURN TEACHING THEATER, GOODHART HALL
A multi-generational ensemble of women performs movement, song, and text influenced by dystopian folklore, speculative fiction, Igbo cosmology, and the futures and commodities markets. Bessie Award-winning artist Okwui Okpokwasili created Poor People’s TV Room with director/visual designer Peter Born, inspired by two historical events in Nigeria: The Women’s War of 1929, a resistance movement against British colonial power, and the Boko Haram kidnappings of more than 300 girls that launched the Bring Back Our Girls movement. Contains nudity.

RALPH LEMON LECTURE/PERFORMANCE
FRI, FEB 2, 8PM / GOODHART HALL
THE GEOGRAPHY TRILOGY SCREENING
SAT, FEB 3, 1PM / GOODHART HALL
A highly influential maker of performance, writing, and visual art and recipient of the National Medal of Arts, Ralph Lemon works with the complexities of geography, history, memory, and the body. The New Yorker notes how “his way of describing his dances, with his mind on fire” can be as fascinating as the creations themselves. Lemon’s The Geography Trilogy was a profound, and worldwide, 10-year inquiry into the social gravities of art, race, and identity at the turn of the 21st century. Our video screening features the complete Trilogy: Geography (1997), Tree (2000), and Come home Charley Patton (2004), with commentary and readings by Lemon and close collaborators.

ZORÄ STRING QUARTET
SAT, MAR 24, 8PM / THOMAS GREAT HALL
“Zorä” means “sunrise” in Bulgarian, perfectly suited to the rich sound and wistful beauty of this ensemble. The program features Beethoven’s String Quartet No. 15 in A Minor, written by the composer after a long, nearly fatal illness. Also included is Mendelssohn’s String Quartet No. 2 in A Minor, Op. 13, one of his most passionate works, paying homage to Beethoven while taking the cyclic organization of the master’s late quartets into radically new directions.
JUSTIN TORRES  
WED, SEPT 20, 7:30PM  /  
GOODHART MUSIC ROOM  

Justin Torres’ debut novel, *We the Animals*, was championed as an instant classic soon after its publication in 2012. In *The New York Times Book Review*, critic Joseph Salvatore hailed the book’s “incantatory narrative style... *We the Animals* is a strobe light of a story, producing lurid and poetic snapshots that start with the narrator and his two brothers as needy children.” A National Book Foundation 5 Under 35 honoree, Torres has published stories in *The New Yorker*, Harper’s, *Granta*, and *Tin House*. He teaches English at UCLA.

A. VAN JORDAN  
WED, OCT 25, 7:30PM  /  
ELY ROOM, WYNDHAM  

The winner of a Whiting Award and a Guggenheim Fellowship, A. Van Jordan is the author of four books of poetry, most recently *Rise*, winner of the PEN Oakland/Josephine Miles Award. Of Jordan’s work, poet Terrance Hayes says, “With an imagination illuminated by empathy, Jordan inhabits the eye of the camera, the eye of the actor, and the ‘i’ of a viewer tethered to image and history. His terrific poems give shape to lives made of light.”  

This reading has been made possible with the support of the Jane Flanders Fund and the Marianne Moore Fund for the Study of Poetry.

CLAIRE VAYE WATKINS  
WED, NOV 15, 7:30PM  /  
ELY ROOM, WYNDHAM  

Recently named one of *Granta*’s Best Young American Novelists, Claire Vaye Watkins is one of the most acclaimed fiction writers of her generation. Her debut story collection, *Battleborn*, won the Story Prize and the New York Public Library’s Young Lions Award. Louise Erdrich calls her debut novel, *Gold Fame Citrus*, “exhilarating, upsetting, delirious, bold... a head rush of a novel and establishes Watkins as an important new voice in American literature.”

LINDA GREGERSON  
WED, FEB 14, 7:30PM  /  
GOODHART MUSIC ROOM  

The winner of a Guggenheim, an NEA, and the Kingsley Tufts Award, Poet Linda Gregerson is the author of two books of criticism and six books of poetry, most recently *Prodigal: New and Selected Poems 1976-2014*, in *The New Yorker*, poet Dean Giacosse writes, “Gregerson attains what few contemporary poets even seek: a plausible ‘we,’ a basis for speaking across the lines of individual circumstance and social identity.”

This reading has been made possible with the support of the Jane Flanders Fund and the Marianne Moore Fund for the Study of Poetry.

PHIL KLAY  
WED, APR 25, 7:30PM  /  
GOODHART MUSIC ROOM  


OCEAN VUONG  
WED, APR 11, 7:30PM  /  
ELY ROOM, WYNDHAM  

The author of the poetry collection, *Night Sky With Exit Wounds*, and two chapbooks, Ocean Vuong has been the winner of a Whiting Award and a Ruth Lilly Fellowship. *The New York Times* critic Michiko Kakutani writes, “There is a powerful emotional undertow to Vuong’s poems that springs from his sincerity and candor, and from his ability to capture specific moments in time with both photographic clarity and a sense of the evanescence of all earthly things.”

This reading has been made possible with the support of the Jane Flanders Fund and the Marianne Moore Fund for the Study of Poetry.

ANGELA FLOURNOY  
WED, FEB 28, 7:30PM  /  
GOODHART MUSIC ROOM  

One of the most acclaimed books of 2015, Angela Flournoy’s debut novel, *The Turner House*, was a National Book Award and PEN/Bingham Prize finalist. Critic Hannah Gold says, “Flournoy’s spare, headstrong style enables her to lay bare, without pretensions, a story about the black American diaspora in which slavery, segregation, and gentrification are all joined in a single narrative.” Flournoy is a Cullman Fellow at the New York Public Library.

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PERFORMING ARTS SERIES TICKETS

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DANCE AT BRYN MAWR
LINDA CARUSO HAVILAND AND MADELINE CANTOR
From ballet to experimental, hip-hop to Flamenco, explore the power and poetry of movement. Information: 610-526-5208.

FACULTY DANCE CONCERT
Sat, Dec 9, 7:30 pm

Hebephron Teaching Theater, Goodhart Hall

SPRING DANCE CONCERT
Fri-Sat, April 27-28, 7:30 pm

McPherson Auditorium, Goodhart Hall

Students in works by faculty, guest artists, and advanced student choreographers.

BIO-CO MUSIC AT BRYN MAWR & HAVERFORD
HEIDIAN JACOB AND DANIEL SCANLAN
A wide variety of concerts is presented in Thomas Great Hall (TG) and the Music Room (MR) at Bryn Mawr College, and in Founders Hall (FH), Marshall Auditorium (MA), and the Marian E. Koshland Integrated Natural Sciences Center (KINSC) at Haverford College.

HAVERFORD FAMILY AND FRIENDS WEEKEND CONCERT
Sat, Oct 28, 8:30 pm MA

BRYN MAWR / HAVERFORD ORCHESTRA
Fall Concert
Fri, Nov 17, 8 pm MA

Carl Orff: Carmina Burana

BRYN MAWR / HAVERFORD CHAMBER SINGERS

Chamber Singers’ Holiday Concert
Thurs, Dec 14, 8 pm, FH

BRYN MAWR / HAVERFORD CHORALE

Fall Chorale Concert
Sun, Apr 29, 3 pm, MA

Carli Orff: Carmina Burana

Spring Chorale Concert
Sun, Apr 29, 3 pm, MA

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THANK YOU.

The 2017-18 Bryn Mawr College Performing Arts Series receives state arts funding support through a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

The presentation of Okwui Okpokwasili—the Arts, a federal agency.

From ballet to experimental, hip-hop to Flamenco, explore the power and poetry of movement. Information: 610-526-5208.

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The presentation of Okwui Okpokwasili—Poor People’s TV Room is made possible by the New England Foundation for the Arts’ National Dance Project, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.