

Bergren Forum to Focus on Work of Innovative 20th-Century French Composer

3/30/00

Alfred, NY -- Lisa Lantz, assistant professor of strings and director of the Alfred University Chamber Orchestra, will talk about Olivier Messiaen at the University's next Bergren Forum on Thursday (April 13). "The Imagery of Olivier Messiaen's 'Quartet for the End of Time'" is her topic. The French composer and organist (1908-1992) is known as one of the most innovative 20th-century composers. His style incorporates elements as diverse as Gregorian chant, bird song, and complex rhythms used in ancient European and Asian cultures. In addition to the quartet under discussion, his major vocal and instrumental works include "Le Merle Noir," "O Sacrum Convivium," and the opera "Saint Francois d'Assise." The Bergren Forum, which is free and open to the public, is at 12:10 p.m. every Thursday in Nevins Theater in Powell Campus Center. The audience is encouraged to bring lunch; coffee and tea are free. The weekly event is sponsored by the Division of Human Studies.