



## Classical music review: peace and serenity at Montclair Orchestra



Clarinetist Innhyuck Cho. The Montclair Orchestra's performance Sunday, March 10, includes a homage to Montclair's Pulitzer Prize-winning composer George Walker, "Lyric for Strings."

ADAM ANIK/FOR MONTCLAIR LOCAL

**By ELIZABETH OGUSS**

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For anyone out of sorts after being cheated of an hour that morning, Sunday afternoon's Montclair Orchestra concert was rich repayment. Two hours in the company of conductor David Chan and the orchestra was a treat in every way.

The concert was titled "Lyric," in memory of the composer George Walker, who died in August 2018. Among his many honors, Walker, a longtime Montclair resident, was the first black composer to receive a Pulitzer Prize in music, and the second half of the program featured his "Lyric for Strings," composed in 1946 and introduced by his son Gregory Walker, also a composer.



GREGORY WALKER

In his remarks, Gregory Walker spoke of Montclair as a magical place, and it was easy to think so in Central Presbyterian Church's serenely beautiful 97-year-old sanctuary. The church was filled to the balconies with an all-ages crowd, the music was gorgeous, and nobody coughed.

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[READ: MONTCLAIR ORCHESTRA CELEBRATES GEORGE WALKER WITH 'LYRIC' CONCERT](#)

[LOOK: MONTCLAIR ORCHESTRA'S 'LYRIC' CONCERT](#)

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The program opened with Nonet II (2000) by Olli Mustonen, followed by Mozart's Clarinet Concerto in A Major. Innhyuck Cho, principal clarinetist with the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, received an immediate standing ovation for his electrifying playing. The concert ended with Mozart's Symphony No. 40.

Montclair Orchestra will conclude its 2018-19 season on April 28 with "French Connection," featuring the music of Haydn, Berlioz and Bizet, with soloist baritone Yunpeng Wang. For details, go to [montclairorchestra.org](http://montclairorchestra.org).



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# Photos: Montclair Orchestra's 'Lyric' memorial to George Walker

*lyric*

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*Mozart's Clarinet Concerto, with Innhyuck Cho.*



*Metropolitan Opera Principal Clarinetist Innhyuck Cho, also of Montclair Orchestra*



*The Montclair Orchestra's performance Sunday, March 10.*



*Clarinetist Innhyuck Cho at the Montclair Orchestra's performance Sunday, March 10, 'Lyric.'*



*Met Opera and Montclair Orchestra Clarinetist Innhyuck Cho. ADAM ANIK/FOR MONTCLAIR LOCAL*



*Gregory Walker, son of George Walker, at thee Montclair Orchestra's performance Sunday, March 10, a homage to Montclair's Pulitzer Prize-winning composer George Walker, "Lyric for Strings."*



*Gregory Walker, son of George Walker receives Art Paxton's photo, 'Lyrical Sunflowers,' at The Montclair Orchestra's performance Sunday, March 10.*



*Gregory Walker, son of George Walker receives Art Paxton's photo, 'Lyrical Sunflowers,' at The Montclair Orchestra's performance Sunday, March 10.*





*The Montclair Orchestra's performance Sunday, March 10, receives a standing ovation.*



*Gregory Walker gets a surprize when he meets family friend Njoioma Grevious of The Montclair Orchestra.*



*Andre Weker and David Chan speak to the music students of Newark's Arts High School about an upcoming collaborative project, planning a concert in NYC.*

