

**Perspectives on the Environmental Movement
on the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day**

Reflections by Frances Beinecke with Music by Paul Winter

February 19, 2020 at 4 PM

Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies

Burke Auditorium, Kroon Hall

195 Prospect Street, New Haven CT

Free and open to the public

Frances Beinecke is the President Emerita of the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), a major nonprofit environmental organization that works internationally to curb global warming, protect people's health, preserve wild landscapes, and foster vibrant and sustainable communities. Using legal and scientific expertise, NRDC creates policies and works to implement and enforce the laws that protect our environment. Under Ms. Beinecke's leadership from 2006 to 2015, NRDC expanded its work globally to include programs in China and India focusing on clean energy.

In 2010, Ms. Beinecke was appointed by President Obama to the National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling. She has been a member the Secretary of Energy's Advisory Board (SEAB) under Secretary Chu and Moniz; and currently sits on the Advisory Board of the MIT Energy Initiative, and the boards of World Resources Institute (WRI), the NRDC Action Fund, Climate Central and Client Earth. In 2015 she was the McCluskey Fellow at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies and in 2016 a Bellagio Fellow of the Rockefeller Foundation.

Ms. Beinecke, a graduate of Yale College and the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, is a former member of the Yale Corporation. She has received numerous awards including the Yale Medal and the Rachel Carson Award and the Audubon Medal from the National Audubon Society. She has received honorary degrees from the Vermont Law School and Lehman College-City University of New York.

Paul Winter is an American saxophonist, composer and bandleader. A seven-time Grammy Award-winner, he is recognized as one of the pioneers of the world music genre, and also for his genre of “earth music,” which interweaves the voices of the greater symphony of the wild with instrumental voices from classical, jazz and world music traditions.^[1] The music is often improvised, and recorded in natural acoustic spaces, to reflect the qualities and instincts brought into play by the environment. With his various ensembles—the Paul Winter Sextet, the Paul Winter Consort, and the Earth Band—he has recorded more than 45 albums, and performed in 52 countries and six continents. Since 1980, Paul and the Consort have presented over 100 special events, at the Cathedral of St John the Divine in New York where they are artists in residence. This includes annual Winter and Summer Solstice Celebrations, Carnival for the Rainforest, and their ecological mass, Missa Gaia/Earth Mass, which is performed annually each October as part of the Feast of St. Francis.

With his various ensembles, Paul has toured the world, performing over 3,000 concerts in 52 countries. With his music, he has found a means to connect people to a sense of place, promote relatedness to the larger community of life, and assist groups supporting local cultural and biological diversity. Hundreds of his benefit concerts and various compositions have served environmental causes in a range of countries, including Russia, Brazil, Israel, Japan, and Spain. He has produced 45 albums for his Living Music label, seven of which have won Grammy Awards. In recognition of musical and ecological work, he has received a Global 500 Award from the United Nations, the Joseph Wood Krutch Medal from the United States Humane Society, the Peace Abbey’s Courage of Conscience Award, the Spirit of the City Award presented at New York’s Cathedral of St John the Divine, and an honorary Doctorate of Music from the University of Hartford.