

**General Information**

On-site ticket offices at performance venues open 90 minutes before each performance and remain open through intermission of most events.

Children of all ages are welcome at UMS Family and Youth Performances. Children under the age of three will not be admitted to regular, full-length UMS performances. All children should be able to sit quietly in their own seats throughout any UMS performance. Children unable to do so, along with the adult accompanying them, will be asked by an usher to leave the auditorium. Please use discretion in choosing to bring a child.

Remember, everyone must have a ticket, regardless of age.

**While in the Auditorium**

**Starting Time** Every attempt is made to begin concerts on time. Latecomers are asked to wait in the lobby until seated by ushers at a predetermined time in the program.

**Cameras and recording equipment** are prohibited in the auditorium.

If you have a question, ask your usher. They are here to help.

Please turn off your cellular phones and other digital devices so that everyone may enjoy this UMS event disturbance-free. In case of emergency, advise your paging service of auditorium and seat location in Ann Arbor venues, and ask them to call University Security at 734.763.1131.

In the interests of saving both dollars and the environment, please either retain this program book and return with it when you attend other UMS performances included in this edition or return it to your usher when leaving the venue.

**Event Program Book**

Thursday, March 9 through Sunday, March 19, 2006

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<b>Vienna Philharmonic</b>	<b>5</b>
Thursday, March 9, 8:00pm Hill Auditorium	
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Dear UMS Patron,

I would like to take a moment to offer my thanks to the many local corporations and businesses that support UMS programs through their contributions. Such a message seems appropriate and timely for this particular program book, which includes the return of the



Vienna Philharmonic to Ann Arbor on March 9. This concert marks the Orchestra's first visit to Hill Auditorium since its appearance here on October 29, 1988 when Ann Arbor was one of only four cities on Leonard Bernstein's historic 70th-Birthday Tour with

the orchestra. The concert was memorable for many reasons, one of which was its serving as the launch of UMS's first corporate partnership program. For that concert, 41 local corporations and businesses purchased a total of 900 premium tickets and hosted their guests not only at the concert, but also at pre-concert dinners throughout the community. For most of the companies, it was the first time they used a UMS event as a way of helping them accomplish their business objectives while at the same time providing critical financial support to UMS, enabling us to present one of our most memorable concerts.

I hope you will take a moment to review the UMS Leadership section of this program book, pages P/6 through P/11. There you will see the businesspeople in our region who have chosen to invest in their community through their support of UMS performances and educational

programs. Many of the companies cited began their partnership with UMS 18 years ago at that historic Vienna Philharmonic concert. Their generous gifts over the years make all of our programs possible because, as you may know, less than half of the UMS operating budget is covered by ticket purchases. When you have the opportunity, I hope you will thank the men and women within our corporate leadership pages for their support of UMS.

Beyond their philanthropic goals, our corporate sponsors also benefit from their partnership with UMS through their exposure to an educated, diverse, and growing audience in southeastern Michigan. UMS is able to offer a range of programs that provide opportunities for corporations to:

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If you or your corporation would like to join this group of community leaders in supporting UMS programs, please contact me at 734. 647.1177. Thank you for your attendance at this UMS performance.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan McClanahan".

Susan McClanahan  
UMS Director of Development



## UMS Educational Events through Sunday, March 19, 2006

All UMS educational activities are free, open to the public, and take place in Ann Arbor unless otherwise noted. For complete details and updates, please visit [www.ums.org](http://www.ums.org) or contact the UMS education department at 734.647.6712 or [umsed@umich.edu](mailto:umsed@umich.edu).

### Kirov Orchestra of the Mariinsky Theatre

#### Shostakovich Centennial Symposium

Saturday, March 18, 1-6 pm, Rackham Amphitheatre, 4th floor, 915 E. Washington Avenue

An afternoon-long symposium with U-M experts and a keynote address by Alex Ross (*The New Yorker*). It will be followed by a showing of *The War Symphonies: Shostakovich Against Stalin* (1997).

A collaboration with the U-M Center for Russian and Eastern European Studies, U-M School of Music, U-M Department of History, U-M Department of Slavic Language and Literature, and U-M Department of Political Science.

### Children of Uganda

#### Children of Uganda Mini-Performance

Sunday, March 19, 3 pm, Shrine of the Black Madonna of the Pan-African Orthodox Christian Church, 7625 Linwood, Detroit

Children of Uganda will give a mini-performance at Detroit's historic Shrine of the Black Madonna of the Pan-African Orthodox Christian Church. A love offering will be collected for the Children of Uganda and all proceeds will go to their charity, the Uganda Children's Charity Foundation.

A collaboration with the Shrine of the Black Madonna of the Pan-African Orthodox Christian Church.

### Rossini's *Tancredi*

#### Lecture: Rossini's *Tancredi*

Sunday, March 19, 3 pm, Ann Arbor District Library, Basement Level, 343 South Fifth Avenue

Ann Arbor District Library Music Specialist Richard LeSueur will discuss the plot and background of Gioachino Rossini's *Tancredi*. Requiring a cast of truly great singers to convey its full effect, *Tancredi* was one Rossini's forgotten masterpieces. With the rediscovery of the original tragic ending and performances of the opera featuring such luminaries in the title role as Marilyn Horne and Ewa Podleś, *Tancredi* is again taking its place as one of the great operas of the *bel canto* era.

A collaboration with the Ann Arbor District Library.



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# Vienna Philharmonic

**Riccardo Muti**, *Conductor*

## Program

*Franz Schubert*

*Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart*

*Schubert*

*Richard Strauss*

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127th Annual Season

127th Annual  
Choral Union Series

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Thursday Evening, March 9, 2006 at 8:00  
Hill Auditorium, Ann Arbor

### **Overture to *Rosamunde*, D. 644**

### **Symphony No. 35 in D Major, K. 385**

Allegro con spirito

Andante

Menuetto

Finale: presto

I N T E R M I S S I O N

### **Symphony No. 4 in c minor, D. 417**

Adagio molto—Allegro vivace

Andante

Menuetto: Allegro vivace

Allegro

### **Death and Transfiguration, Op. 24**

Tonight's performance is sponsored by Kaydon Corporation. Special thanks to Brian and Mary Campbell for their generous support of UMS.

Support for tonight's performance is provided by Bank of Ann Arbor. Special thanks to Tim Marshall for his generous support of UMS.

Support for tonight's performance is provided by Dennis and Ellie Serras. Special thanks to Dennis and Ellie for their generous support of UMS.

Additional support provided by the following hosts: Gardner and Bonnie Ackley Endowment, *The Ann Arbor News*, Carl and Charlene Herstein, Susan McClanahan and Bill Zimmerman, Mrs. Robert E. Meredith, Robert Bosch Corporation, Doug and Sharon Rothwell, Sesi Lincoln Mercury Volvo Mazda, Thomas B. McMullen Company, TIAA-CREF, and Tisch Investment Advisory.

Tonight's pre-concert dinner was sponsored by LaSalle Bank.

Special thanks to Steven M. Whiting, U-M Associate Professor of Music and Associate Director of International Studies, for his participation at tonight's Prelude Dinner.

Special thanks to Steven Ball for coordinating tonight's pre-concert music on the Charles Baird Carillon.

Special thanks to Tom Thompson of Tom Thompson Flowers, Ann Arbor, for his generous contribution of floral art for tonight's performance.

The Vienna Philharmonic appears by arrangement with creative partners in [music.america/Konzertdirektion](http://music.america/Konzertdirektion) Hans Ulrich Schmid, Hannover.

**Large print programs are available upon request.**

### Overture to *Rosamunde*, D. 644

Franz Schubert

Born January 31, 1797 in Himmelfortgrund

(now part of Vienna)

Died November 19, 1828 in Vienna

This beloved work should have more properly been called the overture to *Die Zauberharfe* (The Magic Harp), the fairytale opera Schubert wrote in 1820. After eight performances, the opera was taken off the program and quickly forgotten. The overture was attached to Schubert's *Rosamunde* music only when it was published, almost 30 years after the composer's death.

In 1823, Schubert composed incidental music for a play called *Rosamunde, Princess of Cyprus* by Helmina von Chézy, the playwright and poet who also wrote the libretto to the opera *Euryanthe* by Carl Maria von Weber, putting considerable obstacles in the way of Weber's musical genius. *Rosamunde*, which was also less than a theatrical masterpiece, was produced and performed twice, at the Theater an der Wien. Schubert did not write an original overture for this show; instead, he recycled the overture from another of his operas, *Alfonso und Estrella*, which had never been performed at all.

The *Zauberharfe/Rosamunde* overture consists of a brooding slow introduction (in C minor), followed by a spirited fast movement in C Major. It has an abundant flow of pleasing melodies, brilliantly orchestrated. Once freed from all the unsuccessful stage works that had been weighing it down, this sparkling music has thrived on its own as one of Schubert's most popular shorter works for orchestra.

### Symphony No. 35 in D Major, K. 385

("Haffner")

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Born January 27, 1756 in Salzburg, Austria

Died December 5, 1791 in Vienna

The members of the Haffner family were good friends of the Mozarts in Salzburg. Sigmund Haffner the Elder (1699–1772) had been a wealthy merchant and the mayor of the city in whose house a great deal of music was made, with both Leopold and Wolfgang Mozart frequently participating. The relationship continued after the mayor's death, and when his daughter Maria Elisabeth Haffner (1753–84) was going to be married in 1776, Mozart was asked to write some festive music for the wedding. The "Haffner" Serenade (K. 250) was so successful that six years later, when another cause for celebration arose, the composer received another commission from the family. This time the occasion was Sigmund Haffner the Younger's (1756–87) elevation to nobility.

In the meantime, Mozart had left his native city and moved to Vienna, where his fame was rapidly advancing. When the request from Salzburg reached him in July 1782, his opera *The Abduction from the Seraglio* had just been premièred. He was busy arranging selections from it for wind ensemble (in those pre-copy-right days, someone else could beat him to it and secure the not-inconsiderable profits!). In addition, his wedding with Constanze Weber was imminent (August 4) and he was preparing to move to new quarters. In these circumstances, the composition of the new symphony went more slowly than father Leopold—anxious for the symphony to arrive in time for the festivities—might have wished.

Nevertheless, Mozart seems to have managed to send the score to Salzburg before the end of August, since on the 24th of that month he wrote to his father: "I am delighted that the symphony is to your taste."

We can tell from the music that the symphony had originally been intended as a second "Haffner" Serenade, to be performed outdoors.



Its tone is bright and exuberant, without any dramatic outbursts or the slightest trace of sadness and gloom. The music sparkles with joy, and every bar brings new pleasures. The opening theme—with its wide octave leaps in unison—is quite an exceptional melody, and it is handled in a most original fashion. It is, in fact, the only significant melodic material in the movement, and is reintroduced when we would expect a second theme, with the only difference that it is now played softly and treated contrapuntally.

There is hardly a moment in the symphony when we don't hear at least the rhythm of the theme. The development section invests the melody with yet another character, exploring briefly the minor mode and adding a sensual sigh-motif as a counterpoint played by the oboe and the bassoon. The recapitulation runs exactly parallel to the exposition, except for the very end, where the last motif is changed from a jaunty *staccato* (short, separated notes) to a delicate chromatic scale as a mock-tearful farewell gesture.

The second movement, marked *Andante*, is less slow than most second movements. Its tone, not surprisingly after what we know about the symphony's genesis, is that of an easy-going, peaceful serenade. The exquisite melodies flow one after another, and each has a distinctive touch—some detail of rhythm, harmony, or orchestration—that no other composer could ever have invented.

The brief and concise third-movement "Menuetto" is based on a fanfare motif in which the trumpets and timpani play an important part. The movement's Trio section, whose melody is harmonized in the so-called "horn" style (using thirds, fifths, and sixths), seems to have been inspired by popular Ländler tunes.

Mozart wrote that the fourth-movement "Presto" finale should go "as fast as possible." It is an extremely lively piece based on a simple tune, developed and varied in a most ingenious way. It starts softly on the strings, but the entire orchestra with trumpets and kettledrums soon joins in. The second theme, by contrast, is

scored for strings and woodwinds only. There is a brief coda, or a sort of musical postscript, which repeats the soft-loud scheme of the main melody a final time, before the jubilant ending played by the full orchestra.

The "Haffner" Symphony became one of Mozart's most successful works. Here is the composer's report of the Viennese première, from a letter to his father:

The theatre could not have been more crowded and...every box was full. But what pleased me most of all was that His Majesty the Emperor [Joseph II] was present and, goodness!—how delighted he was and how he applauded me! It is his custom to send money to the box office before going to the theatre; otherwise I should have been fully justified in counting on a larger sum, for really his delight was beyond all bounds. He sent 25 ducats.

The "Haffner" Symphony was performed in Mozart's lifetime in several cities outside Vienna, including Paris, where it was heard in the famous concert series "Concerts spirituels." After a 1786 concert in Germany, an anonymous correspondent wrote in the *Magazin der Musik*:

The concert began with a new Symphony in D by Mozart, which was all the more welcome to me because I had already long been desirous of hearing it. Chamber-musician Lehritter...led the orchestra—which consisted of approximately 45 or 46 mostly young artists—with so much fire and solidity that I stood there full of astonishment. Everything hung together from one beat to the next: tempo, execution, *forte*, *piano*, and *crescendo* exhibited a perfection to the *n*th degree....I consider Mozart's symphony itself a masterpiece of harmony.

**Symphony No. 4 in c minor, D. 417**

("Tragic")

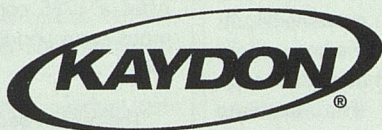
Schubert

Even though Schubert himself appended the subtitle "Tragic" to his *Symphony No. 4*, we should not expect tragedy on the scale of Beethoven's Fifth, or even on the scale of Schubert's own song *Erl King*, written a year before the Fourth. As a writer of orchestral works, the 19-year-old Schubert was not yet ready to take on the challenge of Beethoven's heroic style; but he spoke the language of Haydn, Mozart, and early Beethoven as his mother tongue and it was to that style to which he was making some highly individual and mature contributions.

The overwhelming majority of 18th-century symphonies were written in the major mode, which was traditionally associated with bright and exuberant feelings. On the rare occasions when composers chose a minor key, the mood tended to darken and become more agitated.

When this manner of writing first appeared in the 1770s, it seemed to parallel the *Sturm und Drang*, a literary movement in Germany that favored tragic moods and paved the way for Romanticism. It was almost inevitable that Schubert should try his hand at the "tragic" genre established by his predecessors. Schubert's *Symphony No. 4* is similar to the minor-key symphonies of Haydn and Mozart in its exceptional emotional intensity, unmatched in his oeuvre until the "Unfinished" (which, significantly, is also in a minor key).

In their minor-key works, Haydn and Mozart often engaged in harmonic adventures not seen when the tonality is major. The young Schubert, well aware that in the minor, business is never as usual, wrote one of his most complex and profound "Adagio" introductions to date. (It has been compared to the "Chaos" Prelude from Haydn's oratorio *The Creation* and to the opening of Mozart's "Dissonant" String Quartet, K. 465). Frequent key changes take the music as



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far from the initial c minor as the Classical tonal system allows (reaching the remotest point with a long-held G-flat Major chord). Upon a no less eventful return to c minor, the "Allegro" section begins. It is a stormy movement with a theme of great urgency and a contrasting lyrical second theme. The harmonic experiment continues: instead of gradually modulating, Schubert "jumps," at one point, from A-flat to E and C and then back to A-flat. It was probably the first time ever that the octave (A-flat to A-flat) was divided like this into three equal major thirds—a symmetrical division that cuts across different tonalities. This simple idea had enormous implications for the evolution of harmony in the 19th century. The accumulated harmonic tensions are finally resolved at the end of the movement when the tonality changes to the major. Usually, composers of minor-key symphonies save this particular move for their last movements, but Schubert evidently couldn't wait that long to introduce a powerful contrast between high drama and joyful celebration.

The second-movement "Andante" opens with a gentle major-key melody played by the strings, soon followed by an agitated passage in the minor mode. Schubert's model here seems to have been the second movement of Mozart's *Symphony No. 39*, built on a similar thematic contrast. In his biography of Mozart, Maynard Solomon found a particularly apt name for lyrical slow movements with dramatic middle sections: "Trouble in Paradise." As in the Mozart, the "trouble" goes away at the end of the movement, and peace and order are restored in "paradise."

The third movement follows the outlines of a *Scherzo*, but the mood, instead of being playful, reverts to the *Sturm und Drang* world of the first movement, with some angular melodic motion emphasizing chromatic harmonies (which tend to destabilize the feeling of tonality). The Trio (middle section) brings temporary relief from the tensions, but even here the unusual key changes bespeak a certain sense of restlessness.

In the last movement, Schubert introduces a dark c-minor theme and treats it with inimitable

grace. In the second theme, first violins and clarinets alternate to the lively accompaniment of second violins and violas, with persistent single notes thrown in by the first horn, to a splendidly humorous effect. The final switch to the major mode occurs sooner than it did in the first movement; although traces of the dark minor mode persist to the very end, the closing section is happy and buoyant. Whatever "tragedy" there was at the beginning has surely been overcome by now.

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### Death and Transfiguration, Op. 24

Richard Strauss

Born June 11, 1864 in Munich, Germany

Died September 8, 1949 in Garmisch-Partenkirchen

Nothing could have been more "modern" in the music of the 1880s and '90s than the symphonic poem, that bold attempt to create drama without words and to test music's expressive powers to the fullest. Pioneered by Franz Liszt from the 1850s on, the new genre found a practitioner of genius in the young Richard Strauss. In a series of orchestral works that established him as one of the leading avant-gardists of the day, Strauss did not hesitate to tackle in his music the most complex literary and philosophical topics possible. Although some have continued to maintain that music is incapable of handling such topics, Strauss's openness to extra-musical ideas couldn't help but have an indelible impact. Works that sound like *Don Juan*, *Death and Transfiguration*, or *Also sprach Zarathustra* would be unthinkable without programmatic thinking. There may be traces of classical forms in each of these works, but "Symphonies in C Major" (or any other key) they are certainly not: their unique musical features simply would not exist without the ideas reflected in their titles.

Strauss ended his magnificent series of tone poems with *Ein Heldenleben* (A Hero's Life) in 1899, but in a sense, all his symphonic poems are "heroes' lives." The youthful, reckless, yet at

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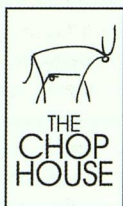
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the same time profoundly world-weary Don Juan; Till Eulenspiegel, who pays for his mischief-making with his life; Don Quixote, who loses his battle against the windmills—they all have one thing in common: each confronts the entire world all by himself, to be defeated in the physical sense but triumphing in spirit. The same can be said of the unnamed but certainly exceptional dying artist in Strauss's third tone poem, *Death and Transfiguration*. (It was preceded by *Aus Italien* and *Don Juan*; *Macbeth*, begun earlier than *Death and Transfiguration*, was only completed later.) Here Strauss dispensed with literary sources altogether; instead, he created an original conception that received its literary formulation from Strauss's friend and erstwhile mentor, Alexander Ritter, after the music had already been written. The work's underlying idea is explained in a letter written by Strauss in 1894:

It was six years ago that it occurred to me to present in the form of a tone poem the dying hours of a man who had striven towards the highest idealistic aims, maybe indeed those of an artist. The sick man lies in bed, asleep, with heavy irregular breathing; friendly dreams conjure a smile on the features of the deeply suffering man; he wakes up; he is once more racked with horrible agonies; his limbs shake with fever—as the attack passes and the pains leave off, his thoughts wander through his past life; his childhood passes before him, the time of his youth with its strivings and passions and then, as the pains already begin to return, there appears to him the fruit of his life's path, the conception, the ideal which he has sought to realize, to present artistically, but which he has not been able to complete, since it is not for man to be able to accomplish such things. The hour of death approaches, the soul leaves the body in order to find gloriously achieved in everlasting space those things which could not be fulfilled here below.

An ambitious program, it is certainly remarkable that a young man not quite 25 years old should have had such a highly developed image

of death and dying. What is even more astonishing is the unerring instinct with which Strauss realized his concept. Melodic material, orchestration, and musical form are all uniquely suited to express that concept; for no matter what the "anti-expressivists" say, Strauss undoubtedly did full justice to his subject here.

The stages of the hero's last hours, as Strauss described them in his letter, are somewhat analogous to the phases of anger, denial, and acceptance found in Elisabeth Kübler-Ross's famous (and, of course, much later) book on dying. After some introductory measures (*Largo*) in which the strings' rhythmic figure seems to imitate an irregular heartbeat, the woodwinds, accompanied by the harp, intone a melody of unspeakable sadness, followed by the main lyrical idea of the work, based on a descending scale and played by a solo violin. In the ensuing *Allegro molto agitato*, violent suffering erupts; as Norman Del Mar writes in his three-volume study of Strauss's life and music, "the ill man can be heard writhing in agony." The lyrical melody returns, this time played by the flute, evoking peaceful memories. But the theme soon becomes agitated again, to express both past and present turmoil; as in *Don Juan*, Strauss endows the traditional formal device of recapitulation with intense dramatic meaning. A sweeping new idea, the "transfiguration" theme, appears in this section. After all the other themes—those associated with turmoil, memories, and irregular heartbeat, have been revisited and left behind—the "transfiguration" theme takes over completely, to give the piece its radiant and justly celebrated ending. According to the often-repeated story, when Richard Strauss lay dying in 1949 (exactly 60 years after writing this work), he told his daughter-in-law Alice: "Funny thing, Alice, dying is just the way I composed it in *Death and Transfiguration*." Strauss had in fact set to music that "white light" that many people have mentioned when speaking of near-death experiences. If he had done nothing else in life, this would in itself be enough to make him immortal.

*Program notes by Peter Laki.*

**R**iccardo Muti was born in Naples where he studied piano at the Conservatory of San Pietro a Majella under Vincenzo Vitale, graduating with distinction. He was subsequently awarded a diploma in Composition and Conducting by the Conservatory Giuseppe Verdi in Milan, where he studied under the guidance of Bruno Bettinelli and Antonino Votto. He first came to the attention of critics and public in 1967, when he was unanimously awarded First Place by the prestigious jury of the Guido Cantelli competition for conductors in Milan. The following year he was appointed principal conductor of the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, a position he maintained until 1980. In 1971 Maestro Muti was invited by Herbert von Karajan to conduct at the Salzburg Festival, which led in 2001 to a celebration of 30 years of artistic collaboration with this glorious festival. In January 2006, he was appointed Artistic Director of Salzburg's Pentecost Festival. During the 1970s, he was the London Philharmonic's chief conductor (1972–1982) succeeding Otto Klemperer. Between 1980 to 1992, he inherited the position of Music Director of the Philadelphia Orchestra from Eugene Ormandy.

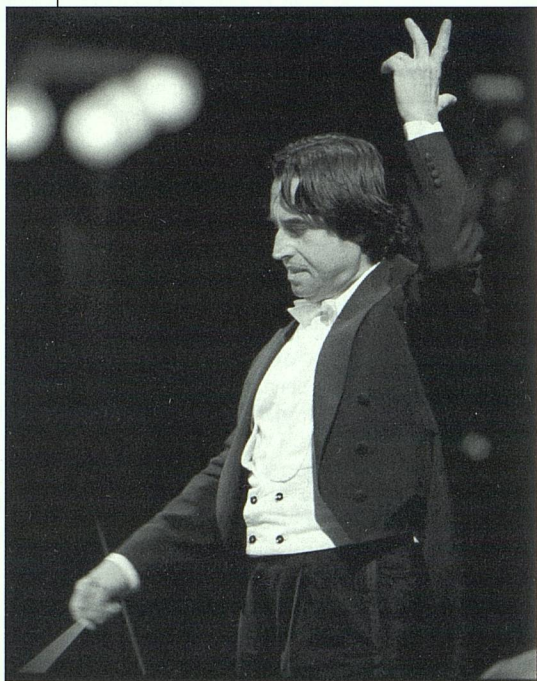
From 1986 to 2005, Maestro Muti was Music Director of the Teatro alla Scala. Under his direction important projects were undertaken such as the Mozart-Da Ponte Trilogy and the Wagner Ring Cycle. Alongside the classics of the repertoire, he brought many less-performed and neglected works to light. These include exquisite pieces from the 18th-century Neapolitan school as well as operas by Gluck, Cherubini, Spontini, and most recently by Poulenc, composer of *Les dialogues des Carmélites*. This latter production earned Maestro Muti the prestigious "Abbiati" prize from the critics. The long period spent as Musical Director of the La Scala organization culminated on December 7, 2004 in the triumphal re-opening of the restored La Scala with Antonio Salieri's *Europa*

*ricosciuta*, originally commissioned for La Scala's inaugural opening night in 1778.

Over the course of his extraordinary career, Maestro Muti has conducted most of the important orchestras in the world: from the Berlin Philharmonic to the Bayerischer Rundfunk, the New York Philharmonic to the Orchestre National de France, as well as, naturally, the Vienna Philharmonic, an orchestra to which he is linked by particularly close and important ties, and with which he has appeared at the Salzburg Festival since 1971. When Maestro Muti was invited to conduct the orchestra in the concert celebrating 150 years of the Vienna Philharmonic, he was presented with the Golden Ring, an honor bestowed by the Orchestra as a sign of special appreciation and affection, awarded to only a select few conductors.

In 2004 Maestro Muti founded the Luigi Cherubini Youth Orchestra, consisting of young musicians selected, by an international committee, from some 600 instrumentalists from across Italy.

**Riccardo Muti**





Maestro Muti's vast recording activities, already significant during the 1970s, have received recognition in the form of many prizes, and span from the classical symphonic and operatic repertory to 20th-century contemporary works.

Riccardo Muti's social and civic conscience as an artist is demonstrated by concerts symbolizing our troubled past and contemporary history, which he has conducted in productions presented as part of the Ravenna Festival's *Le vie dell'Amicizia* (The Paths of Friendship) project. These include Sarajevo (1997), Beirut (1998), Jerusalem (1999), Moscow (2000), Yerevan and Istanbul (2001), New York (2002), Cairo (2003), Damascus (2004), and El Diem, Tunisia (2005) with the La Scala Philharmonic and Chorus, the Orchestra and Chorus of the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, and the Musicians of Europe United, a group made up of the top players of Europe's major orchestras.

Innumerable honors have been bestowed on Maestro Muti over the course of his career. He has been made a Cavaliere di Gran Croce (Knight of the Great Cross) of the Italian Republic and has received the City of Milan's Gran Medaglia d'Oro, as well as the Verdienstkreuz from the German Republic. He was awarded the Légion d'Honneur in France and made a Knight of the British Empire by Queen Elizabeth II in Britain. The Salzburg Mozarteum awarded him its silver medal for his contribution to Mozart's music and he has been elected as an Honorary Member of the Wiener Hofmusikkapelle and the Wiener Staatsoper. Russian President Putin awarded him the Order of Friendship and the State of Israel has honored him with the Wolf prize for the arts. He has received honorary degrees from many universities in Italy and abroad.

With the Vienna Philharmonic, Riccardo Muti celebrated the 250th birthday of Mozart on January 27, 2006 with a worldwide telecast of a concert from Salzburg. His most recent tour with the Vienna Philharmonic was a triumphant set of performances in Japan in November 2005.

There is perhaps no other musical ensemble more consistently and closely associated with the history and tradition of European classical music than the **Vienna Philharmonic**. In its more than 160-year history, the musicians of this most prominent orchestra of the capital city of music have been an integral part of a musical epoch which, due to an abundance of uniquely gifted composers and interpreters, must certainly be regarded as unique.

Until the first Philharmonic concert on March 28, 1842, the city which gave its name to the "Viennese classicists"—Joseph Haydn, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, and Ludwig van Beethoven—had no professional concert orchestra. Concerts of symphonic works were played by ensembles specially assembled for the occasion. Orchestras composed entirely of professional musicians were found only in the theaters. The logical step of playing a concert with one of these orchestras was taken at the end of the 18th century, when Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart engaged the orchestra of the Vienna Court Theater for a cycle of six concerts in 1785. Ludwig van Beethoven also engaged this ensemble on April 2, 1800 for a concert in which he premiered his *Symphony No. 1*. On May 24, 1824, the orchestra of the Gesellschaft der Musikfreunde (Society of the Friends of Music) and the court orchestra joined forces with the court opera orchestra for the premiere of Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9*.

Despite these promising beginnings, however, the largest and finest ensemble in Vienna only managed to become an organizer of classical symphonic concerts in a very roundabout way. The Bavarian composer and conductor Franz Lachner, conductor at the court opera theater from 1830, played symphonies by Beethoven in the intervals of ballet performances. From these experiments to the court opera orchestra's first entrepreneurial activities was only a small step, and in 1833 Lachner founded the Künstler-Verein for this purpose. However, the society disbanded after only four concerts due to organizational shortcomings.

Otto Nicolai (1810-49) was appointed con-

## UMS ARCHIVES

Tonight's performance marks the Vienna Philharmonic's 10th appearance under UMS auspices. The Philharmonic made its UMS debut in November 1956 under the baton of Maestro André Cluytens. The Vienna Philharmonic (conducted by Nikolas Harnancourt) last appeared under UMS auspices in Detroit's Opera House in February 2003 during which time Hill Auditorium was closed for renovation. Other note-worthy UMS presentations of the Vienna Philharmonic include a gala benefit concert held in honor of Leonard Bernstein's 70th-birthday year and Hill Auditorium's 75th anniversary. This gala celebration was held on October 29, 1988 in Hill under the baton of Maestro Bernstein. Of the nine Vienna Philharmonic concerts presented by UMS, five were conducted by Leonard Bernstein: two concerts in 1984, two concerts in 1987, and one in 1988; and two were conducted by Claudio Abbado in 1987.

Riccardo Muti made his UMS debut in April 1979 conducting the Philadelphia Orchestra at the 86th Annual May Festival. He last appeared in Hill Auditorium, again conducting the Philadelphia Orchestra, along with soloists Krystian Zimerman (piano), Gidon Kremer (violin), Carlos Montoya (guitar), and Rockwell Blake (tenor) at the 90th Annual May Festival in April 1983.

ductor at the Kärntertortheater in 1841. Because certain influential figures wanted to keep him out of musical life in Vienna, he revived Lachner's idea, and on March 28, 1842 conducted a "Grand Concert" in the Großer Redoutensaal which was presented by "all the members of the orchestra of the k.k. (imperial-royal) Hof-Operntheater." This "Philharmonic Academy," as it was originally called, is rightly regarded as the origin of the orchestra, because all the principles of the "Philharmonic Idea," which still apply today, were put into practice for the first time:

- 1) Only a musician who plays in the Vienna State Opera Orchestra (originally Court Opera Orchestra) can become a member of the Vienna Philharmonic;
- 2) The orchestra is artistically, organizational-ly, and financially autonomous, and all decisions are reached on a democratic basis during the general meeting of all members;
- 3) The day-to-day management is the responsibility of a democratically elected body, the administrative committee.

When Otto Nicolai left Vienna permanently in 1847, the young enterprise almost collapsed, having lost in one person not only its artistic but also its administrative leader. In January 1860, the first of four subscription concerts took place in the Kärntertortheater under the baton of then opera director Carl Eckert, and since that time, the "Philharmonic Concerts" have been staged without interruption. The only significant change over the years was to switch from having one conductor for a complete season of subscription concerts to the present system of having various guest conductors within a season, as the following chronology demonstrates:

1860	Carl Eckert
1860-1875	Otto Dessoff
1875-1882	Hans Richter
1882-1883	Wilhelm Jahn
1883-1898	Hans Richter
1898-1901	Gustav Mahler
1901-1903	Joseph Hellmesberge jun.
1903-1908	Guest conductors
1908-1927	Felix von Weingartner
1927-1930	Wilhelm Furtwängler
1930-1933	Clemens Krauss
since 1933	Guest conductors



In 1938, politics encroached upon Philharmonic activity in the most brutal way. The National Socialists dismissed all Jewish artists from the Vienna State Opera and disbanded the association of the Vienna Philharmonic. It was only the intervention of Wilhelm Furtwängler which achieved the nullification of the disbandment order and saved the "half-Jews" and "closely-related" from dismissal and persecution. However, the Vienna Philharmonic mourned the murder of six Jewish members in the concentration camps as well as the death of a young violinist on the eastern front.

Through its busy concert schedule, recordings on film and record, tours all over the world, and regular appearances at major international festivals, the Vienna Philharmonic meets the requirements of the modern multimedia music business while still managing to emphasize its unique individuality.

The Vienna Philharmonic is not only Austria's most highly coveted "cultural export," it is also an ambassador of peace, humanity, and reconciliation, concepts which are inseparably linked to the message of music itself. For its artistic achievements the orchestra has received numerous awards, gold and platinum discs, national honors, and honorary membership in many cultural institutions.

## Vienna Philharmonic

Riccardo Muti, *Conductor*

### Concert Master

Rainer Küchl  
Werner Hink  
Rainer Honeck  
Volkhard Steude

### First Violin

Eckhard Seifert  
Hubert Kroisamer  
Josef Hell  
Jun Keller  
Daniel Froschauer  
Gerhard Libensky  
Herbert Linke  
Manfred Kuhn  
Günter Seifert  
Wolfgang Brand  
Clemens Hellsberg  
Erich Schagerl  
Bernhard Biberauer  
Martin Kubik  
Milan Šetena  
Martin Zalodek  
Kirill Kobantchenko  
Wilfried Hedenborg  
*Johannes Tomböck\**

### Second Violin

Peter Wächter  
Raimund Lissy  
Tibor Kovác  
Gerald Schubert  
René Staar  
Helmut Zehetner  
Hans Wolfgang Weihs  
Ortwin Ottmaier  
Heinz Hanke  
Alfons Egger  
George Fritthum  
Alexander Steinberger  
Harald Krumpöck  
Michal Kostka  
Benedict Lea  
Marian Lesko  
Tomas Vinklat  
Johannes Kostner  
Martin Klimek  
*Pavel Kuzmichev\**

### Viola

Heinrich Koll  
Tobias Lea  
Christian Frohn  
Peter Pecha  
Wolf-Dieter Rath  
Robert Bauerstatter  
Erhard Litschauer  
Gottfried Martin  
Hans P. Ochsenhofer  
Mario Karwan  
Martin Lemberg  
Elmar Landerer  
Innokenti Grabko  
*Ursula Plaichinger\**  
*Michael Strasser\**  
*Gerhard Marschner\**  
*Thilo Fechner\**

### Violoncello

Franz Bartolomey  
Tamás Varga  
Robert Nagy  
Friedrich Dolezal  
Raphael Flieder  
Werner Resel  
Gerhard Kaufmann  
Jörgen Fog  
Gerhard Iberer  
Csaba Bornemisza  
Wolfgang Härtel  
*Ursula Wex\**  
*Eckart Schwarz-Schulz\**

### Contrabass

Alois Posch  
Herbert Mayr  
Wolfgang Gürtler  
Gerhard Formanek  
Milan Sagat  
Alexander Matschinegg  
Georg Straka  
Michael Bladerer  
Bartosz Sikorski  
Manfred Hecking  
*Jerzy Dybal\**  
*Christoph Wimmer\**  
*Ödön Racz\**

### Harp

Xavier de Maistre  
Charlotte Balzereit

### Flute

Wolfgang Schulz  
Dieter Flury  
Günter Federsel  
Günter Voglmayr  
*Walter Auer\**  
*Wolfgang Breinschmid\**

### Oboe

Martin Gabriel  
Clemens Horak  
Walter Lehmayr  
Alexander Öhlberger  
*Harald Hörth\**

### Clarinet

Peter Schmidl  
Ernst Ottensamer  
Norbert Täubl  
Horst Hajek  
Johann Hindler  
Andreas Wieser

### Bassoon

Michael Werba  
Stepan Turnovsky  
Harald Müller  
Reinhard Öhlberger  
Wolfgang Koblitz  
Benedikt Dinkhauser

### Horn

Wolfgang Tomböck jun.  
Ronald Janezic  
Lars Michael Stransky  
Volker Altmann  
Thomas Jöstl  
Günter Högner  
Wolfgang Vladoar  
Roland Horvath  
Friedrich Pfeiffer

### Trumpet

Hans Peter Schuh  
Gotthard Eder  
Martin Mühlfellner  
Reinhold Ambros  
*Stefan Haimel\**

### Trombone

Dietmar Küblböck  
Ian Leslie Bousfield  
Gabriel Madas  
Karl Jeitler  
Johann Ströcker

### Tuba

Paul Halwax

### Percussion

Roland Altmann  
Bruno Hartl  
Anton Mittermayr  
Kurt Parihoda  
Klaus Zauner  
*Oliver Madas\**

\*Denotes newly engaged members of the Vienna State Opera Orchestra who do not yet belong to the association of the Vienna Philharmonic

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Ulrich Schmid



# Word Becomes Flesh

Gloria Bigelow, *Director*

Sean Riley, *Lighting Design*

Roberta Uno, *Dramaturgy*

Adia Tamar Whitaker and Marc Bamuthi Joseph, *Choreography*

Marc Bamuthi Joseph, *Librettist*

BRAVO, *Musical Composition*

## Creators/Performers

Marc Bamuthi Joseph

Paris King

Sekou Gibson

Ajayi Jackson

Friday Evening, March 10, 2006 at 8:00

Power Center, Ann Arbor

*Tonight's production is performed without intermission.*

39th Performance of the  
127th Annual Season

Media partnership for this performance provided by WEMU 89.1 FM,  
*Metro Times*, and *Michigan Chronicle/Front Page*.

Special thanks to Judith Hommel and Washtenaw Community College; Ypsilanti High School, Pioneer High School, Susan Buchan and Scarlett Middle School, and Tappan Middle School; Lori Roddy and the Neutral Zone; and Jeff Kass for their participation in this residency.

*Word Becomes Flesh* was commissioned by the National Performance Network, La Peña Cultural Center, and the New World Theater through the NPN Creation Fund. It has received the support of the Zellerbach Family Fund, the Ford Foundation, the New England Foundation for the Arts, and the City of Oakland's Cultural Crafts and Arts Department. It was developed with the consultation of Kim Cook, and further evolved through residencies at New World Theater, La Peña Cultural Center, Everett Dance Theater, Dance Place, the NYC Hip-Hop Theater Festival, and the Bates Dance Festival.

*Word Becomes Flesh* appears by arrangement with MultiArts Projects & Productions (MAPP).

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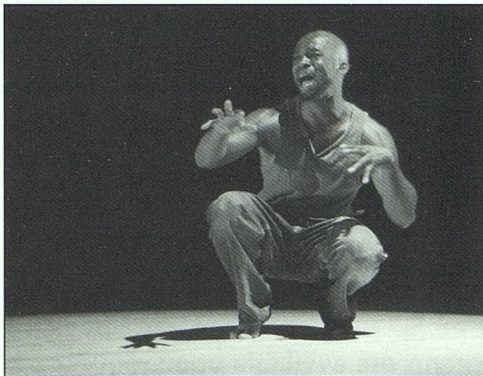
**The Living Word Project** (LWP) is the resident theater company of Youth Speaks, Inc., committed to producing literary performance in the verse of our time. Aesthetically urban, pedagogically Freirean, LWP derives personal performed narratives out of interdisciplinary collaboration. Though its methodology including dance, music, and film, the company's emphasis is spoken storytelling. LWP creates verse-based work that is spoken through the body, illustrated by visual and sonic scores, and in communication with the important social issues and movements of the present moment. Repertory works include *No Man's Land*, *Cause*, *Word Becomes Flesh*, and *Scourge*. LWP is the theater's connection from Shakespeare's quill to Kool Herc's turntables; from Martha Graham's cupped hand to Nelson Mandela's clenched fist: a new voice for a new politic.

For further information, please visit [www.youthspeaks.org](http://www.youthspeaks.org).

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**Marc Bamuthi Joseph** (*Playwright/Choreographer*), originally from NYC, is an arts activist currently living in Oakland, California. He is a National Poetry Slam champion, Broadway veteran, featured artist on the past two seasons of *Russell Simmons' Def Poetry* on HBO and a recipient of 2002 and 2004 National Performance Network Creation commissions. He recently returned from Tokyo

**Marc Bamuthi Joseph**



where he was presented during the First International Spoken Word Festival and from Santiago, Cuba, where he joined the legendary Katherine Dunham as a part of the CubaNola Collective. He entered the world of literary performance after crossing the sands of "traditional" theater, most notably on Broadway in the Tony Award-winning *The Tap Dance Kid* and *Stand-Up Tragedy*. His evening-length work *Word Becomes Flesh* represents the completion of his third play, having already staged *DelCipher* (Theater Artaud and Yerba Buena Center, 2001) and *No Man's Land* (ODC, 2002). Bamuthi's performance schedule has carried him from dance apprenticeships in Senegal to teaching fellowships in Bosnia. Over the next two years, he will develop new projects with Le Centre Nationale de Dance, the National Dance Project, and the International Theater Institute to be performed in France, Zaire, Germany, and the Philippines. His proudest work has been with the organization Youth Speaks, where he mentors 13-to-19-year-old writers and curates the Living Word Festival for Literary Arts. He recently served as an IDA resident artist in Stanford University's Drama Department, teaching Spoken Word and Community Action. His next project, *Scourge*, reflects on the plight of Haiti in the post-colonial New World, and is being developed while Bamuthi is a Phillis Wattis Artist-in-Residence at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts in San Francisco. Collaborators for *Scourge* include renowned choreographer Rennie Harris, Grammy-nominated composer John Santos, dramaticurge Roberta Uno, and director Kamillah Forbes of the NYC Hip-Hop Theater Festival.

*Tonight's presentation of Word Becomes Flesh marks Marc Bamuthi Joseph's UMS debut.*

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**Adia Tamar Whitaker** (*Choreographer*) has been dancing since the age of four. After graduating from San Francisco State University with a BA in Dance, and completing the Professional Division/US Independent Study Program at The Ailey School, she became an artist-in-residence for Dancing In The Streets, and a teaching artist



for The Schomburg Junior Scholars Program, The Door, Community Works, and Arts Connection. In 2002, Adia's modern and folkloric choreography was commissioned by Thelma Hill Performing Arts Center for the Womendance-makers series in the Souls of Our Feet Dance Festival at the LIU Triangle Theater. Her work has been performed at the International Dance Festival (Off-Broadway), the Hip-Hop Theatre Festival, the Theater at the Jedson Church, Riverside Church, The Schomburg, and various choreographic showcases throughout New York City. She continues to act as the artistic director for Ase Dance Theatre Collective.

**David Szlasa** (*Technical Director*) is committed to producing art and artists with a conscious desire to affect social change. David has created, directed, and produced three original interdisciplinary performance pieces: *Dissection* (1997), *Light* (2000), and *GADGET* (2004) that have been seen in and around New York. David is the former Production Manager and Designer-in-Residence at the Culture Project @ 45 Bleecker from 2002–2004 where he opened *The Exonerated* (Obie Award), *Sarah Jones' Bridge and Tunnel* (Lortel Award), and *Red Bull Theater's Pericles*. Prior to this engagement, David was the Production Manager and Designer for Theater Artaud in San Francisco. Additionally, David has collaborated with Bill "Crutchmaster" Shannon for the past five years and performed at venues including the Edinburgh Fringe, Walker Arts Center, The Kitchen, and Sydney Opera House. In 2001, David toured to the Harare International Festival of the Arts in Zimbabwe with Universal Arts' *the Beat*. Other New York design credits: Rennie Harris Puremovement *Facing Mekka*, Holderness Theater Company *Life of Spiders*, Synaesthetic Theatre *The Trial of K*, Deb Margolin's *Index to Idioms*, *Miss Julie*, and *Five Flights* at The Rattlestick Theater. David holds a BFA from Tisch and a MA in New Media and Performance from the Gallatin School, NYU, and taught design for Playwrights Horizon's Theater School, a division of NYU. Currently, David is the production manager and designer in residence at Z Space in San Francisco.

**Paris King** (*Musical Director/Composer*) is a musical artist native to Oakland, California. He's privately studied counterpoint and harmony with Mondre Moffett, and at the Ali Akbar College of Music in India. His subsequent work has carried him throughout Europe and the US, performing with Keepers of Time, Xroads, and Bamuthi while sharing the stage with recording artists as varied as Meshell Ndegeocello, Zion I, and Cody Chesnutt. His two most recent projects are the result of his most recent sojourns to Europe, and are thus aptly titled *The Irish Album* and *The Spanish Album*.

**Sekou Gibson** (*Bass/Percussion/Composer*) has performed on various stages including the International Music and Dance Festival in Beijing, China, The Okan to Mi Festival in Havana, Cuba, the African Collage Festival in London England, the African Arts Summit in Harare, Zimbabwe, and the Disney Land International Day Festival in Anaheim, California. Mr. Gibson currently teaches music to youth, runs the Alaje Dide record label, and serves as artistic and musical director of the folkloric hip-hop ensemble, da Shout.

**Ajaji Jackson** is a Bay Area native with a richly diverse and versatile musical background. A jazz composer-pianist with a degree in classical bassoon performance, Mr. Jackson is also an accomplished trap drummer who works with several première ensembles as an African, Haitian, and Cuban folkloric percussionist. His musical talents have brought him across the globe, touring Cuba, the African Continent, and the US while teaching workshops and sharing the stage with Martin Luther, Dimensions Dance Ensemble, Goapele, and the legendary Jean-Leon Destine. Mr. Jackson currently lives in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

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**Special thanks to** Youth Speaks, Inc., BG Unlimited, MECCA clothing, Kim Cook, The Hip-Hop Theater Festival, Asé Dance Theater Collective, Re-Define Design, all our families, and the staff at MAPP.

**For further information about *Word Becomes Flesh*:**  
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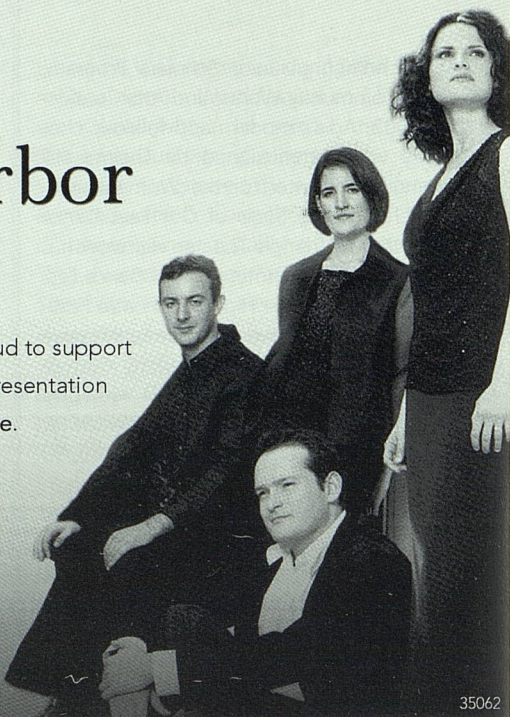
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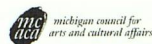
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Krzysztof Chorzelski, *Viola*  
Antoine Lederlin, *Cello*

with

**Julius Drake**, *Piano*

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### Program

Saturday Evening, March 11, 2006 at 8:00  
Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, Ann Arbor

*Ralph Vaughan Williams*

#### **On Wenlock Edge**

On Wenlock Edge the wood's in trouble  
From far, from eve and morning  
Is my team ploughing?  
Oh, when I was in love with you  
Bredon Hill  
Clun

*Mr. Bostridge, Mr. Drake*

*Dmitri Shostakovich*

#### **String Quartet No. 3 in F Major, Op. 73**

Allegretto  
Moderato con moto  
Allegro non troppo  
Adagio-moderato

I N T E R M I S S I O N

*Gabriel Fauré*

**La Bonne Chanson, Op. 61**

Une Sainte en son auréole  
 Puisque l'aube grandit  
 La lune blanche  
 J'allais par les chemins perfides  
 J'ai presque peur, en vérité  
 Avant que tu ne t'en ailles  
 Donc, ce sera par un clair jour d'été  
 N'est-ce pas?  
 L'hiver a cessé

*Mr. Bostridge, Mr. Drake*

40th Performance of the  
 127th Annual Season

43rd Annual  
 Chamber Arts Series

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Media partnership for this performance provided by WGTE 91.3 FM.

The Steinway piano used in this evening's performance is made possible by Hammell Music, Inc., Livonia, Michigan.

The Belcea Quartet appears by arrangement with Arts Management Group, Inc.  
 Mr. Bostridge and Mr. Drake appear by arrangement with ICM Artists, Ltd.

**Large print programs are available upon request.**



### On Wenlock Edge

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Born October 12, 1872 in Down Ampney,

Gloucestershire, England

Died August 26, 1958 in London

"Everyone is agreed that your lyric poems were a revelation," wrote Maurice Ravel to Ralph Vaughan Williams after the first French performance of *On Wenlock Edge* in 1912 (the pianist for the concert was originally supposed to have been Gabriel Fauré, but seems in the end to have been Ravel instead). Study with Ravel during 1907–08 was vital to Vaughan Williams's development, a catalyst that helped him fuse the influence of English folk song, Tudor music, and the modern French school, and to crystallize a unique compositional style; *On Wenlock Edge*, begun in 1906 but composed mostly in 1908–09, was the first major work to signal this epiphany.

Scored for tenor and piano quintet—the composer exploits to the full the unusual accompanimental medium, though he did later score a version for full orchestra—the cycle sets six poems from A. E. Housman's *A Shropshire Lad* (1896), a collection mined heavily by both British and American composers during the first few decades of the 20th century. (*On Wenlock Edge* was apparently the first Vaughan Williams work to attract attention on this side of the Atlantic.) Housman's miniaturist verse, often ironic and profoundly pessimistic, here becomes the basis of something more emotionally expansive and cathartic, with Vaughan Williams creating a powerful sense of affinity and progression across the song cycle.

The perennial ravages of time and mortality, especially on love, are constantly in focus; in the final song, "Clun," Vaughan Williams leads us, however, to find a measure of peace, implying that, *pace* the bitter ghost of the third song, death does finally offer escape from the cycle of suffering. The poems were surely chosen also for their dramatic scope and potential for musical imagery: the gale-battered hillside of the title song, the dialogue of the living and the dead in "Is my team ploughing?" and the midday haze

and tolling bells of "Bredon Hill" all offer opportunities brilliantly exploited by Vaughan Williams (with some nods to his French models). And yet the tersely ironic setting "Oh, when I was in love with you," or the calm luminosity of "From far, from eve and morning," show a composer quite capable of matching Housman's understatement when he chose to.

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### String Quartet No. 3 in F Major, Op. 73

Dmitri Shostakovich

Born September 25, 1906 in St. Petersburg

Died August 9, 1975 in Moscow

Few controversies of recent musical history have raged as bitterly as that surrounding the politics of Shostakovich: loyal Soviet or lifelong clandestine dissident—or some excruciating position in between? Since his death in 1975 scholars have battled over a baffling legacy, the waters impossibly muddied by myth, rumor, conflicting and incomplete documentary evidence, ideological bias in both East and West, and the hall-of-mirrors moral maze of life within a totalitarian regime. And, of course, by the ultimate inscrutability of musical meaning, which allows for dramatically divergent interpretations of the same notes. This is especially marked in Shostakovich's case, where irony also clearly plays an important role (as it does in the music of his hero Mahler), so that commentators so inclined may argue that the apparently sunny or triumphant character of this or that movement is in fact hollow and ironic.

There are no clear-cut answers to these questions, and they sit in somewhat paradoxical relationship to the pronounced accessibility of Shostakovich's musical language, its sheer technical brilliance, formal clarity, and lucid handling of tonality. Such qualities are ideally suited to the essentially classical medium of the string quartet, for which Shostakovich wrote 15 works across his career, creating one of the pillars of the 20th-century quartet literature.

*String Quartet No. 3* was composed between January and August 1946, and premiered in

Moscow the following December by its dedicatees, the Beethoven Quartet, with whom Shostakovich had worked for over 20 years. Even as late as 1950 Shostakovich considered it his best work; yet shortly after its première it fell under the shadow of the notorious Cold War crackdown on Soviet artists, led by Andrey Zhdanov, that would cost Shostakovich so dearly in the coming years, and the Quartet was withdrawn from circulation. Whether or not, as some have claimed, it contains coded attacks on Stalin, bitterness, unease, and a sense of the grotesque are never far from the surface of the Quartet, and even its more relaxed moments quickly turn sour: there is none of the simple triumphalism expected by the Party in the aftermath of the glorious victory over Fascism.

The sonata-form first movement begins innocently enough in the tonic of F Major, with a Rossinian opening theme, but the mood quickly becomes brittle, and the second main theme is much darker, slipping toward minor keys instead. A fiercely fugal development section confirms the serious turn; the loud recapitulation, led by the cello with a bloated version of the original theme, seems sinister rather than triumphant, and the faster coda is likewise frenetic rather than exhilarated. Two scherzos follow, both in minor keys. The first is dominated by rhythms that are waltz-like yet mechanically stiff; three main themes are presented and then compressed before the opening idea returns for a final time. The closing measures unsettlingly superimpose c minor and e minor, a clash adumbrated in the first theme. Unease turns to violence and hysteria in the third movement, also based on a trio of themes. Triple and duple meters are continually pitted against one another to often brutal effect, intensified by thick, stabbing chords generated by multiple stopping in all four instruments. Fury gives way to lament in the tragic fourth movement, a bleak, almost operatic elegy alternating unison recitative for the quartet with solo violin cantilena, underpinned in the latter half of the movement by funereal drum-beat figures.

The work was written while Shostakovich was visiting his mother in Leningrad, where he had endured much of the terrible Nazi siege

before being evacuated, and for once the expressive intent seems unambiguous. The movement leads without a break into the finale, a lugubrious rondo. The one attempt at light relief, a jogging theme introduced midway through by the cello, fails; at the climax of the finale the opening theme of the slow movement is brought back, to harrowing effect, and though the Quartet ends on the tonic major chord, the first violin's final ascent imparts a spectral, haunting effect that resonates well beyond the final sounds of the work.

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### La Bonne Chanson, Op. 61

Gabriel Fauré

Born May 12, 1845 in Pamiers, Ariège, France  
Died November 4, 1924 in Paris

Fauré is probably still best known for the cool otherworldliness of his *Requiem*. His songs, in contrast, reveal a worldly sensuality more obviously in tune with *fin-de-siècle* Parisian culture—an apparent duality elegantly encapsulated by contemporary Reynaldo Hahn, who dubbed Fauré a “gregorianising voluptuary”—yet even here his expression is generally restrained and classically sculpted. In the song cycle *La Bonne Chanson*, however, Fauré went beyond his usual limits and created one of his most explicitly impassioned, at times almost Wagnerian, works—indeed, Claude Debussy among others thought it excessive, though the novelist Marcel Proust loved it.

An autobiographical impetus was crucial: the cycle sprang from the composer's infatuation with soprano Emma Bardac, young wife of a wealthy banker, who advised Fauré on the composition and gave the first performance. (Bardac would later leave her husband for Debussy, sparking one of the greatest Parisian scandals of the era.) Composed between September 1892 and February 1894, the cycle represents the high point of another passion of Fauré's, the poetry of Paul Verlaine (1844–1896). Verlaine's precise distillation of emotion suited Fauré particularly well; he first set the poet in 1887, and his most celebrated songs are almost all to Ver-



laine texts. The poet's 1870 collection of 21 poems entitled *La Bonne Chanson*, celebrating ultimately ill-fated but initially ecstatic love for his young bride, caused an immediate sensation when it first appeared. Fauré selected just nine poems from the original, and omitted stanzas in some cases, but is faithful to Verlaine in the spirit of enchanted wonderment that he conjures throughout (and in the exquisitely sensitive word setting).

Unusually for the late-19th century, love conquers all in this cycle—and without death casting its shadow. Even the two songs that begin in minor keys, Nos. 4 and 5, end in the major, as doubts and fears are transformed by love. The tide of passion also seems to dissolve predictable forms; each song is carried forward by the wondering discovery of new vistas of emotion, reflected in sudden harmonic or modal shifts and, in several of the songs, changes of tempo. There is no strong narrative thrust across the whole work (though some landmarks in the romance are evoked, most importantly marriage itself in No. 7), but the cycle carefully charts a progression of moods and keys, and is knit together by a network of recurring themes, most notably that heard in the accompaniment in the very opening bars of the work (this returns prominently in the middle of No. 4, among other places). Fauré added strings to the original piano accompaniment in 1898, creating the version we hear tonight, but vacillated over which medium he preferred.

*Program notes by Alain Frogley,  
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**Ian Bostridge** was a post-doctoral fellow in history at Corpus Christi College, Oxford, before embarking on a full-time career as a singer. His international recital career includes the world's major concert halls and the Edinburgh, Munich, Vienna, Aldeburgh and Schubertiade Festivals. In 1999 he premiered a song cycle written for him by Hans Werner Henze. In the 03/04 season he held artistic residencies at the Vienna Konzerthaus and the Schubertiade



**Ian Bostridge**

Schwarzenberg; in 04/05 he shared a Carte-Blanche series with Thomas Quasthoff at the Amsterdam Concertgebouw; and in 05/06 he has his own Perspectives series at Carnegie Hall.

Mr. Bostridge made his operatic debut in 1994 as Lysander in Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with Opera Australia at the Edinburgh Festival; in 1996 he made his debut as Tamino at the English National Opera; in 1997 he sang Quint in Deborah Warner's award-winning production of Britten's *The Turn of the Screw* for the Royal Opera; in 1998 he made his debut at the Munich Festival singing Nerone in David Alden's production of *L'Incoronazione di Poppea* and he returned to the Royal Opera as Vasek in *The Bartered Bride* under Bernard Haitink. He sang Janáček's *Diary of One who Vanished* in a new translation by Seamus Heaney, staged by Deborah Warner in London, Paris, Munich, Amsterdam, and New York. Most recently he sang Tom Rakewell in Munich and Peter Quint in London.

His recordings include Schubert's *Die schöne Müllerin* with Graham Johnson (Gramophone Award, 1996); *Tom Rakewell* with Sir John Eliot Gardiner (Grammy Award, 1999); and *Belmonte* (William Christie). Under his exclusive contract with EMI Classics, he has recorded Schubert lieder and Schumann lieder (Gramophone Award, 1998), English song and Henze lieder



with Julius Drake, Britten's *Our Hunting Fathers* with Daniel Harding, *Idomeneo* with Sir Charles Mackerras, Janáček with Thomas Adès, Schubert with Leif Ove Andnes, Noel Coward with Jeffrey Tate, Britten orchestral cycles with the Berlin Philharmonic and Sir Simon Rattle, Wolf with Antonio Pappano and, for EMI/Virgin, Bach cantatas with Fabio Biondi, Britten's *Canticles* and *The Turn of the Screw* (Gramophone Award, 2003).

Mr. Bostridge's concert engagements include the Berlin, London, New York, Los Angeles, Rotterdam, and Vienna Philharmonic orchestras; the Chicago, Boston, London, and BBC Symphony orchestras; the Royal Concertgebouw; and the Orchestra of the Metropolitan Opera under Sir Simon Rattle, Sir Colin Davis, Sir Andrew Davis, Seiji Ozawa, Riccardo Muti, Mstislav Rostropovich, Daniel Barenboim, Daniel Harding, Donald Runnicles, James Levine, and Antonio Pappano. His opera engagements include *Semele* for English National Opera, *Don Giovanni* and Adès's *The Tempest* for the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, *The Rape of Lucretia* in Munich, *Don Giovanni* for the Vienna State Opera, and *Death in Venice* for English National Opera.

In 2001 Mr. Bostridge was elected an honorary fellow of Corpus Christi College, Oxford and in 2003 he was made an Honorary Doctor of Music by the University of St. Andrew's. He was created a CBE in the 2004 New Year's Honors.

**T**he **Belcea Quartet** is rapidly gaining an enviable reputation as one of the leading quartets of the younger generation. They continue to take the British and international chamber music circuit by storm, consistently receiving impressive critical acclaim for their performances. Since the fall of 2001, they have been the Resident Quartet of London's Wigmore Hall. In July 2002 the Quartet embarked on an exclusive recording contract with EMI Classics, and in 2004, the ensemble won UK's prestigious Royal Philharmonic Society Award.

In 2001 the Belcea Quartet won the Gramo-



**Belcea Quartet**

phone Award for "Best Debut Recording." Subsequent recordings for EMI include Schubert quartets, Brahms's *String Quartet, Op. 51, No. 1* and *String Quintet, No. 2* with Thomas Kakuska, and Fauré's *La Bonne Chanson* with Ian Bostridge. Other releases now include Schubert's Trout Quintet with Thomas Adès and Corin Long, and a double-disc of Britten's string quartets.

The Belcea Quartet's repertoire at Wigmore Hall has incorporated a new commission by Huw Watkins as well as works by Adès, Bartók, Beethoven, Brahms, Dvořák, Haydn, and Mozart. They joined forces for performances of Schubert's Trout Quintet with Thomas Adès and Schumann's Piano Quintet with Aleksander Madzar, and continue their involvement in the Hall's extensive education program. Past collaborations have included Isabelle van Keulen, Piotr Anderszewski, and Imogen Cooper.

In the current season, the Belcea's North American appearances include performances at Carnegie's Zankel, Ann Arbor's University Musical Society, and the Library of Congress with Ian Bostridge and Julius Drake. Additional performances include San Francisco, Costa Mesa, Honolulu, Santa Barbara, St. Louis, Dallas, and



## UMS ARCHIVES

Tonight's performance marks the Belcea Quartet's UMS debut.

Mr. Bostridge makes his second UMS appearance after his April 2002 UMS recital debut performing songs of Franz Schubert with pianist Julius Drake. Mr. Drake makes his third UMS appearance tonight following his UMS Song Series debut with baritone Wolfgang Holzmair in February 1997.

return visits to Union College and Middlebury College.

Last season the Belcea Quartet performed concerts in both New York and Boston. Within the past two seasons, they have successfully concertized in Japan, Australia, and New Zealand.

The Belcea Quartet was established at the Royal College of Music where they were coached by the Chilingirian Quartet, Simon Rowland-Jones, and the Amadeus Quartet. Between 1997–2000, the Quartet was represented by Young Concert Artists Trust in London during which time they were coached by the Alban Berg Quartet, won First Prize at both the Osaka and Bordeaux International String Quartet Competitions in 1999, and represented Great Britain in the European Concert Halls Organization "Rising Stars" series in the 1999/2000 season. The Quartet was selected for BBC Radio 3's "New Generations" scheme from 1999–2001. The Belcea Quartet are supported by the Royal College of Music's New Generation Scheme, the Zurich Financial Services, Ltd., and Rosalind and Brian Gilmore. In May 2001, the Belcea Quartet received the Chamber Music Award of the Royal Philharmonic Society.

**Julius Drake** studied and resides in London. He specialises in the field of chamber music and works with many of the world's leading vocal and instrumental artists, both in recital and on disc. He appears regularly at all the major music centers. In recent seasons concerts have taken him to the Edinburgh, Munich, Salzburg, Schubertiade, and Tanglewood Festivals; Lincoln Center, New York; the Concertgebouw, Amsterdam; the Musikverein and Konzerthaus in Vienna; the Chatalet in Paris; the Wigmore Hall and the BBC Proms in London; and on recital tours to Australia, Japan, and the US.

Director of the Perth International Chamber Music Festival in Australia from 2000–2003, Mr. Drake was also musical director in Deborah Warner's staging of Janáček's *Diary of One who Vanished*, touring to Munich, London, Dublin, Amsterdam, and New York.

Mr. Drake's passionate interest in song has led to invitations to devise series for the Wigmore Hall, London (Britten Songs, Schubert Songdiary, Songs of the Nineties) the BBC, (Complete Songs of Fauré) and the Concertgebouw, Amsterdam (Brahms Songs). He gives regular master classes in Europe and the US and in 2006 he has been invited onto the jury of the 15th Leeds International Piano Competition.



A black and white photograph of Dmitri Shostakovich. He is wearing a suit, a striped tie, and glasses. He is looking down at a notebook he is holding, with a pen in his right hand and a cigarette in his left. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting his face and hands against a dark background.

Shostakovich Centennial Festival

# Shostakovich at 100

BY PETER LAKI



We certainly don't need an anniversary to hear Shostakovich's music. Of all 20th-century composers, he is probably the most often performed and recorded. Yet our rituals of specifically marking the birth and death dates of significant people every 25 years do serve an important function; it is important, once in a generation or so, to take a step back and ask what this person's legacy means to us, here and now.

This question is a particularly important one to ask about Shostakovich, who has meant so many things to so many people since his career began about 80 years ago. He is usually not included among the great musical innovators of the century, like Stravinsky, Bartók, or the masters of the Second Viennese School. His overall commitment to tonality and the traditional genres of symphony, quartet, and sonata has caused some to label him a "classicalist," if not downright a "conservative". Yet such an assessment fails to take into account the historical context from which Shostakovich's music arose. Others, focusing on that very context, have tried to explain Shostakovich entirely on the basis of Soviet politics and society, seeking the key to his music in his relationship to the regime—which is just as simplistic.

The debate as to whether Shostakovich was a "loyal Communist" or a "secret dissident" has been raging for decades, but to anyone who has lived in a totalitarian state this question makes little sense. The composer did what he had to do to survive. He was keenly aware that in Russia, an economically backward country with no democratic tradition to speak of, the Communists had vastly improved the life of the population, bringing education and decent living conditions to the masses. At the same time he couldn't be blind to the killing of untold millions during Stalin's purges (he could easily have become one of them), or the many other ways the Communist Party asserted its oppressive rule over the country's citizens. He was deeply torn and had no illusions; at the same time he was deeply attached to his country and its culture—what would *you* have done in his place?

One thing is certain: Shostakovich was never the same again after the infamous attack "Mud-

dle Instead of Music" in the newspaper *Pravda* (Truth) on January 28, 1936. Denounced for the "formalism" and "coarse naturalism" of his *Lady Macbeth of the Mtsensk District*, Shostakovich never wrote another opera. He also gave up the avant-garde experimentation that had characterized much of his early music through the Fourth Symphony—which lay unperformed for 25 years. He became a "classicalist," if you will, an official figurehead for Soviet music, and finally—though not until 1960—a member of the Party. Yet, even after he had long received every honor and prize in sight, he still did not have an easy ride. As late as 1962, the première of his *Symphony No. 13* came close to being barred because it used Yevgeni Yevtushenko's poem *Babi Yar* to which the authorities objected. In the last decade of his life, he finally seemed to be above vicious attacks by Party bureaucrats, but by this time his health was ruined. The works of those years inhabit a very special world, beyond modernism and conservatism, and far beyond politics. Filled with nostalgia and obsessed with death, Shostakovich's late music constitutes one of the most poignant emotional legacies left by a 20th-century composer.

The present concerts will follow Shostakovich's path from his *Symphony No. 1*, completed at the age of 19, through the Tenth, composed almost three decades later. In between came the "Muddle" article, the purges, World War II, a second harsh denunciation by the Party in 1948, followed by Shostakovich's fourth Stalin Prize in 1952 (he had previously received the prize in 1940, 1942, and 1946). Only one thing was constant amidst these tremendous upheavals: the intensity with which Shostakovich composed music through it all. His style changed considerably in the meantime, to the point that it may be hard to believe that the Second and the Seventh Symphonies—both of which have explicit political agendas—were written by the same composer. If we listen to them both side by side, we will begin to get the full picture of this complex man. Shostakovich lived through some extremely trying times but his work has outlived the regime under which it was born; his message has proven to be as universal as any we have heard in the last 100 years.

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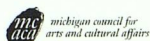
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UMS Choral Union

Jerry Blackstone, *Music Director*

### Program

*Dmitri Shostakovich*

*Shostakovich*

*Shostakovich*

Friday Evening, March 17, 2006 at 8:00  
Hill Auditorium, Ann Arbor

### **Symphony No. 1 in f minor, Op. 10**

Allegretto–Allegro Non Troppo

Allegro

Lento–Largo

Allegro Molto

### **Symphony No. 2 in B Major, Op. 14**

Largo–Choral Finale: "My shili, my prosili rabóty i khléba"

*UMS Choral Union*

I N T E R M I S S I O N

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Moderato

Allegro

Allegretto; Lento; Allegretto

Andante; Allegro

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Special thanks to Laura Kennedy from the U-M School of Music, for her participation in tonight's Prelude Dinner.

Special thanks to Alan Aldworth and ProQuest Company for their support of the UMS Classical Kids Club.

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Special thanks to Steven Ball for coordinating tonight's pre-concert music on the Charles Baird Carillon.

Special thanks to Tom Thompson of Tom Thompson Flowers, Ann Arbor, for his generous contribution of floral art for tonight's performance.

The Kirov Orchestra's North American Shostakovich Centennial Celebration is made possible by the support of the White Nights Foundation of America.

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**Large print programs are available upon request.**

### Symphony No. 1 in f minor, Op. 10

Dmitri Shostakovich

Born September 25, 1906 in St. Petersburg

Died August 9, 1975 in Moscow

Most composers, especially in the 20th century, have taken years before they found their own voices. Shostakovich is the great exception: in his *Symphony No. 1*, completed at the age of 19, many characteristics associated with his mature period are already there, fully formed and expressed with remarkable maturity. In particular, one would think that Shostakovich came by his special combination of sarcasm and dark humor, where one cannot be sure exactly where the grim joke ends and seriousness begins, as the result of considerable life experience. Yet this unmistakable Shostakovichian tone—although it certainly deepened later—is already all there in the First Symphony.

Surely one of the most astonishing graduation pieces in the world history of music conservatories, the symphony was a bombshell at the Leningrad première, soon followed by performance in Moscow. Within two years, the symphony had reached Western Europe and the US, championed by Arturo Toscanini, Bruno Walter, Otto Klemperer, and Leopold Stokowski. Its world triumph has continued unabated ever since: a discography compiled in 1994 listed no fewer than 45 recordings of the work.

It is not hard to account for this immense popularity: Shostakovich's *Symphony No. 1* is a work filled with an irresistible energy, with alternating moments of high drama, tenderness, and that famous sarcasm. Compared to the music of such contemporaries as Schoenberg or Stravinsky (both a generation older than Shostakovich), *Symphony No. 1* sounds traditional, even conservative; yet there is plenty of originality in Shostakovich's orchestration and in the way he handles the old symphonic form. At any rate, it was sufficiently new to bewilder Alexander Glazunov, the senior composition professor at the Leningrad Conservatory. Shostakovich's principal teacher, Maximilian Steinberg, who was Rimsky-Korsakov's son-in-law and successor, was more appreciative. He showed the score to

his colleague, the conductor Nikolai Malko, who proceeded to perform the new work.

The symphony opens with a quizzical little duet for trumpet and bassoon, which contains the two musical motifs later united in the actual main theme, presented in a march-like tempo by the first clarinet. This grotesque march and its spin-offs dominate most of the movement (except for the lyrical, waltz-like second theme for solo flute), but the many unexpected interruptions keep us constantly on the edge of our seats. Only rarely does the entire orchestra play together; Shostakovich prefers small instrumental groups (apparently at pains to avoid a lush Romantic sound), consistently undercutting any tendencies for the music to reach a major climax. (It is significant that the first three of the Symphony's four movements have soft endings.)

The second movement, an animated scherzo, shares its basic meter with the first movement but is significantly faster. The piano, silent until now, joins the orchestra with a brilliant solo part. The middle section, in a slower tempo, has an interesting metric ambiguity: despite the 3/4 time signature, the melody really sounds in 4/4, with only the percussion accompaniment observing the triple meter. In the recapitulation, the melodies of both sections are heard simultaneously. The mysterious string harmonics at the end seem to conclude the movement with a question mark.

The tone of the symphony suddenly changes in the third movement. After two light-hearted movements, the oboe solo that opens this "Lento" introduces a much more serious, even tragic mood. The melody is made up entirely of traditional gestures but wanders from key to key in a rather unpredictable way. The theme is continued by a solo cello and is soon repeated by the entire orchestra. A second idea, in a march-like rhythm though extremely slow, is introduced again by the oboe and stirred up to a few measures of *fortissimo*. (British musicologist Eric Roseberry has written: "The slow movement and the finale become inextricably bound up with the destiny of a funeral march.") The first theme eventually returns, played by a solo violin instead of the oboe. The movement ends with a faint reminiscence of the second idea, with a muted



trumpet accompanied by a group of solo strings.

A drum roll, starting quietly and getting gradually louder and louder, links the slow movement to the finale, in which tragedy and comedy are perhaps the hardest to separate from one another. A brooding introduction is soon followed by a lively "Allegro" that is, however, fraught with tension and dark sonorities. Before long, the tempo slows down again and the melody we just heard in a full orchestral *fortissimo* is repeated, expressively and lyrically, by the solo violin and then by the horn. The fast tempo returns in a section culminating in the symphony's most powerful climax. Shostakovich immediately "takes it back," however, with the anticlimax of a mysterious timpani solo and the return of the expressive melody from before (now played by a solo cello, accompanied by solo strings). This melody will dominate proceedings to the end, gradually accelerating and finally erupting in a *presto* coda that leads to the surprise ending.

The most telling sign of the deep ambiguities in this work is perhaps the wide range of interpretations offered by commentators. In particular, American writers tend to emphasize the youthful vigor, the brilliant orchestration, and the humorous touches (especially in the second movement). The Russians, on the other hand, have stressed the dark side of the work. According to one musicologist, Mikhail Druskin, the Symphony reflects the suffering of the young composer (who had lost his father at age 16 and had to help support the family despite his own frail health). For his part, Lev Lebedinsky, a long-time friend of the composer, thought that Shostakovich, in *Symphony No. 1*, "already challenged the forces of evil." Lebedinsky recalled:

I was the first to note that the timpani in the last movement sounds like a depiction of an execution on a scaffold. When I remarked to Dmitri Dmitriyevich, 'You were the first to declare war against Stalin,' he did not deny it. Already, from his early years, Shostakovich understood what was going on in our country and what was to come.

Shostakovich's aunt Nadezhda Galli-Shohat (who had emigrated to the US) recognized in

this symphony many fragments that she had heard her nephew play on the piano as a young boy. But if some moments of *Symphony No. 1* reach back to Shostakovich's childhood, others point just as decisively to the future. One particular episode in the finale, which seems to allude to the "Fate" motif from Wagner's *Ring of the Nibelung* operas, finds a late echo in Shostakovich's Fifteenth Symphony, which includes a full-fledged quote of the same motif. It is one of several signs indicating that *Symphony No. 1* was much on Shostakovich's mind when he wrote what he knew would be his last, almost half a century later.

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### Symphony No. 2 in B Major, Op. 14

("To October")

Shostakovich

The mid-1920s, when Shostakovich was a young man, were exciting times in the newly-formed Soviet Union. After years of revolution followed by a bloody civil war, the country was entering an era of consolidation, and artists felt very much part of the process of building the new country that Lenin, who had died in 1924 and been elevated to the status of a saint, had prophesied. Cultural affairs were in the hands of Commissar Anatoly Lunacharsky, an enlightened man who believed that a new society needed new art; therefore, experimentation and innovation were encouraged. The 1920s were a heyday of the avant-garde in Russian painting, literature, theater, and music.

The young Shostakovich was naturally in the middle of this heady scene. He wholeheartedly embraced the harsh dissonances of the "moderns" as he embarked on a symphonic poem to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the October revolution (1917) that would eventually be titled *Symphony No. 2*.

In this 20-minute, one-movement work, revolutionary marches and hymns receive a harmonic setting that is highly chromatic and occasionally verging on atonality. Every string part in the mysterious slow introduction uses a different subdivision of the beat. The ensuing



march is suddenly interrupted by a sarcastic little trio of clarinet, bassoon, and violin which evolves into complete pandemonium before a solemn brass fanfare (and a pleading melody played by the violas in their high register) introduces the concluding choral section.

Before the chorus enters, an authentic factory horn is sounded in the orchestra: we know that Shostakovich visited a factory to find a hooter

that was just right for this spot. The chorus sings words by a certain Alexander Bezymensky; Shostakovich was apparently appalled by the poor quality of the verse, which certainly had not been chosen by him. He set it nevertheless, surrounding a simple melody with sophisticated orchestral textures to bring the work to its climax with a high 'C' in the sopranos duly followed by the heroic declamation of Lenin's name.

### Symphony No. 2 in B Major, Op. 14

(Alexander Bezymensky)

My shli, my prosili rabóty i khléba,  
Serdtśa byli szhaty tiskámi toskí.  
Zavódskiye trúby tyanúlisya k nébu,  
Kak rúki, bessílnye szhat kulakí.

Strashnó bylo ímya  
Náshikh tenyót:  
Molchánye,  
Stradánye,  
Gnyot.

No grómche orúdi vorvális v molchánye  
Slová náshey skórbi, slová náshikh muk,  
O Lenin! Ty výkoyal vólyu stradánya,  
Ty výkoyal vólyu mozólístykh ruk.

My pónyali, Lenin, shto násha sudbá  
Nósit  
Ímya:  
Borbá.

Borbá! Ty velá nas k poslédnemu bóyu.  
Borbá! Ty dalá nam pobédu Trudá.  
I étoy pobédy nad gnyótom i tmóyu  
Niktó ne otnímet u nas nikogdá.

Pust kázhdy v borbé búdet mólod i khrabr.  
Ved ímya pobédy—  
Oktyábr.

Oktyábr! Éto—sólnsa zhelánnovo véstnik.  
Oktyábr! Éto—volya vosstávshikh vekóv.  
Oktyábr! Éto—trud, éto rádot i pésnya.  
Oktyábr! Éto—schástye poléy i stankóv.

Vot známya, vot ímya  
zhívykh pokoléní:  
Oktyábr,  
Kommúna,  
I Lenin.

We came, we begged for work and bread.  
Our hearts were gripped in the clutches of despair.  
The factory chimneys rose to the sky  
Like hands unable to clench their fists.

Terrible were the names of  
our chains:  
Silence,  
Suffering,  
Oppression.

But louder than all the instruments of torture,  
The words of our grief broke the silence;  
O Lenin! You forged the will of the sufferers,  
You forged the will of the calloused hands.

We understood, Lenin, that our fate  
Bore  
The name:  
Struggle!

Struggle! You led us to the final combat.  
Struggle! You gave us the victory of Labor.  
And this victory over oppression and darkness  
Can never be taken from us.

Let everyone be young and brave in the struggle,  
For the name of Victory is—  
October.

October! It is the herald of the awaited sun.  
October! It is the will of rebellious ages.  
October! It is labor, it is joy and song.  
October! It is the happiness of the fields and the tools.

This is the banner, this is the name of living  
generations:  
October,  
Commune  
And Lenin!



## Symphony No. 10 in e minor, Op. 93

Shostakovich

Most sources give the summer of 1953 as the date of composition for the Tenth Symphony. It has been alleged that Stalin's death in March of the same year provided the main impetus for the Symphony, and that the second movement, in particular, is a portrait of the deceased tyrant. Yet according to the recollections of people close to the composer, the symphony may date, at least in part, from 1951. Some of the themes were sketched even earlier, in 1946, for a projected, but in the end unwritten, violin sonata. The matter is important because it raises the question as to how much of the work really owes its existence to Stalin's death. After reviewing the available evidence, cellist-musicologist Elizabeth Wilson has concluded: "Shostakovich had been mulling over this musical material for a long time before it eventually got written down in the Tenth Symphony."

The longest movement in *Symphony No. 10* is the first: a dark and brooding "Moderato" describing a huge arc from *piano* to *pianissimo* with a great *fortissimo* climax in the middle. Two scherzos follow, one cruel and inhuman, the other more relaxed though still often unsettling. There is no independent slow movement, but the lengthy introduction to the finale almost grows into one. The tone of the music lightens in the final "Allegro," but it would probably be an exaggeration to speak of unmitigated joy and triumph. Shostakovich modified the characters of each of the traditional symphonic movements to fit his personal emotional world in which pain and joy, fear and laughter are inseparable.

Many of Shostakovich's orchestral and chamber works contain extended passages for one instrument only. In the first movement of *Symphony No. 10* alone, there are a good dozen such passages where a wind instrument, or one of the string sections, carries a long, meandering melody, while the rest of the orchestra is either silent or plays a simple and sparse accompaniment. These isolated, meditative lines are quite palpable symbols of loneliness. In the course of

the Symphony, the number of such solos gradually decreases as the work slowly abandons the meditative mood of the opening and embraces a more "communal" tone, as expressed by the full orchestral sound heard through much of the finale.

In *Testimony*, Shostakovich's so-called memoirs edited (and in all likelihood, tampered with) by Solomon Volkov, we read that the second movement of the Tenth was intended as a "portrait of Stalin." It certainly has the character of a cruel caricature, and the figure of Stalin may have embodied many of the negative feelings that found expression here. Yet it is important to realize that this diabolical scherzo has counterparts in such earlier Shostakovich works as the Sixth and Eighth Symphonies and the *Violin Concerto No. 1*. It is, in a way, the flipside of the serious first movement—a crude joke we need, maybe, to exorcise tragedy and move on towards a more tranquil state of mind.

The first step in that direction is made in the third-movement "Allegretto," which is jovial and easy-going most of the time, though not impervious to dramatic disruptions. At their first entrance, the woodwinds play Shostakovich's musical monogram, the letters 'D-S-C-H' (derived from the German transliteration of the composer's name, *Dmitri Schostakowitsch*, played as the notes 'D-E-flat-C-B'; in German, 's' or 'es' is the name of the note E-flat, and 'h' is B-natural). Shostakovich used this motif in several of his works (most extensively in *String Quartet No. 8*). We must stress, however, that it is not the monogram alone that makes this theme so personal: the poignant rhythm and the powerful orchestration are just as important in giving it its special cachet.

Recently, another revelation was made that has shed entirely new light on this movement. The resounding (and at first unaccompanied) horn call E-A-E-D-A is also a musical cipher, standing for the name Elmira. Elmira Nazirova was a young Azerbaijani pianist and composer; she had studied with Shostakovich who was apparently infatuated with her during the summer of 1953. How did Elmira's name turn into

the horn motif? Shostakovich combined the French and German musical nomenclatures to come up with musical equivalents of the name's letters: "E" is 'E'; "L" is "la," which gives 'A'; "MI" is 'E'; "R" is "re," which gives 'D'; and "A" is 'A'. This may seem contrived, but it is really nothing particularly new. Renaissance composers (for example, Josquin Desprez) had already been fond of such subtle games.

Once we know all this, the movement takes on an entirely new meaning. The motifs of Shostakovich and Elmira are repeated unchanged throughout the entire movement, while the opening theme undergoes numerous transformations. Does this represent two people in the middle of a turbulent world? At any rate, the ending of the movement is highly symbolic: the horn plays the Elmira theme one last time, with mute, and the flute and piccolo respond with 'D-S-C-H' in soft *staccato* (short and separated) notes.

The last movement begins with a slow unaccompanied solo for cellos and basses, just like the first movement. We seem to be back to the brooding, meditative opening of the Symphony. More extended instrumental solos follow, for oboe, flute, and bassoon. The theme of the "Allegro" section is born gradually: first we hear only an ascending perfect fifth, then a little melodic flourish is added, and then suddenly the theme is there, with its rushing scales and excited accompaniment. The joyful melody is interrupted by reminiscences of earlier movements:

music from the cruel second-movement scherzo crops up followed by the 'D-S-C-H' theme from the third movement. The recapitulation is preceded by the last lengthy solo, for bassoon playing in its low register. In keeping with the general character of the movement which becomes more and more exuberant to the end, this solo is, however, playful rather than meditative. The last word belongs to 'D-S-C-H,' proclaimed loudly by the brass and hammered out by the timpani as we reach the end of this hour-long symphonic journey.

*Program notes by Peter Laki.*

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**Please turn to page 43 for complete biographies of Maestro Valery Gergiev and the Kirov Orchestra.**

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**Please turn to page 48 for a complete roster of Kirov Orchestra musicians performing on tonight's concert.**

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**P**lease refer to UMS Annals, page P/24 of your program, for biographical information on the **UMS Choral Union.**



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Jason Harris, *Assistant Conductor*

Steven Lorenz, *Assistant Conductor*

Jean Schneider, *Accompanist*

Kathleen Operhall, *Chorus Manager*

Nancy K. Paul, *Librarian*

Donald Bryant, *Conductor Emeritus*

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Ann Marie Borders  
Jamie Bott  
Tekla Bude  
Ann K. Burke  
Sandra E. Burke  
Susan F. Campbell  
Marie Ankenbruck Davis  
Julie Eastin  
Rene Forsythe  
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Keiko Goto  
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Margaret Dearden Petersen  
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Mili Reisner  
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Kira Rose  
Vera Sacharin  
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Margie Warrick  
Barbara J. Weathers  
Mary Wigton  
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Karen Woollams

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Debra Joy Brabenc  
Carol Callan  
Young Cho  
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Joy Collman  
Carrie Deierlein  
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Catherine Dupuis  
Carol Bearss Fedewa  
Etsuko Isaka  
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Mary A. Schieve  
Sue Ellen Straub  
DeAnn Teff  
Virginia A. Thorne-Herrmann  
Jane VanSteenis  
Catherine Wadhams  
Barbara Hertz Wallgren  
Dr. Rachele Barcus Warren  
Laura Wilcox  
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Dody Blackstone  
Katherine Brokaw  
Kathryn Drenning  
Norma Freeman  
Adriane Fung  
Siri Gottlieb  
Heather Kaye  
Katherine Klyklyo  
Jan Leventer  
Jean Leverich  
Carolyn Loh  
Marilyn Meeker  
Carol Milstein  
Caroline E. Mohai  
Catherine P. Morgan, O.P.  
Mary Morse  
Deidre Myers  
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Joy Schroeder  
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Rhonda Sizemore  
Jari Smith  
Katherine R. Spindler  
Ruth A. Theobald  
Barbara Trevetan  
Barbara Tritten  
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Meredith Ammons  
Leslie Austin  
Carol Barnhart  
Ellen Bryan  
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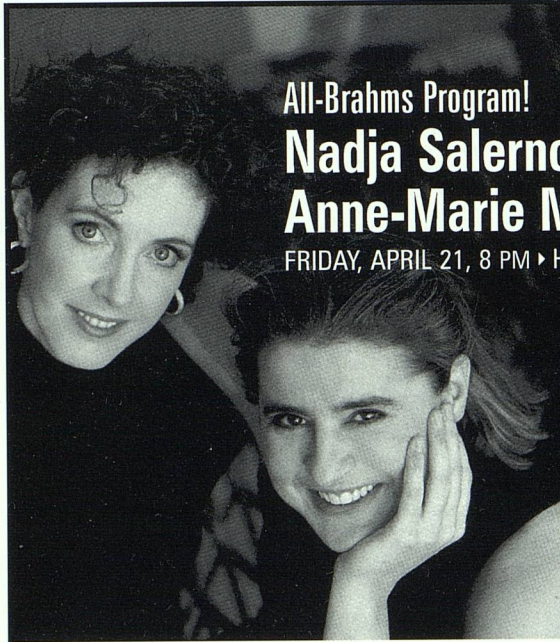
David Bowen  
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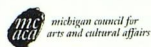
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of the Mariinsky Theatre

**Valery Gergiev**, *Music Director and Conductor*

### Program

Sunday Evening, March 19, 2006 at 7:30  
 Hill Auditorium, Ann Arbor

*Dmitri Shostakovich*

### **Symphony No. 9 in E-flat Major, Op. 70**

Allegro  
 Moderato  
 Presto  
 Largo  
 Allegretto—Allegro

I N T E R M I S S I O N

*Shostakovich*

### **Symphony No. 7 in C Major, Op. 60**

Allegretto  
 Moderato  
 Adagio; Moderato risoluto  
 Allegro non troppo

42nd Performance of the  
 127th Annual Season

127th Annual  
 Choral Union Series

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Special thanks to Steven Ball for coordinating tonight's pre-concert music on the Charles Baird Carillon.

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## Symphony No. 9 in E-flat Major, Op. 70

Dmitri Shostakovich

Born September 25, 1906 in St. Petersburg

Died August 9, 1975 in Moscow

Does a symphony number nine always have to be a Ninth Symphony? In 1945, this question was debated in the highest artistic and political circles in Moscow and Leningrad. Some members of those circles were plainly disappointed when Dmitri Shostakovich, the greatest symphonic composer in the Soviet Union, failed to deliver the monumental choral work à la Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9* they felt they had every right to expect after the end of World War II. A grandiose "Ode to Joy" in honor of the victorious Red Army seemed to be in order (and maybe *on* order, too). Yet Shostakovich was unable or unwilling (or possibly both) to write such a piece. The words of *Testimony* definitely have a ring of truth here: "I couldn't write an apotheosis to Stalin. I just couldn't." And we know that he did try, but the solemn choral Ninth never quite got off the ground.

Instead, we now have a Ninth that is cheerful to the point of sounding comical and—this is what the official critics couldn't swallow—on the verge of sarcasm. Was it really sarcasm? If so, what did that sarcasm mean? Is the Symphony about *having* fun, or is it *making* fun of something or someone? Could there be a tragic "subtext" lurking underneath the humorous surface, as one Russian critic suggested, comparing Shostakovich to Charlie Chaplin in *Modern Times*? There are no answers to any of these questions, but Shostakovich must have utterly enjoyed having the whole world guessing at his intentions.

What critics didn't seem to realize—viewing the work exclusively in relation to the year 1945 in which it was written—was the extent to which Shostakovich was reconnecting here with the style of his own *Symphony No. 1*, composed almost 20 years earlier. Not since that youthful work had Shostakovich's music combined playfulness and irony in quite the same way. Maybe there is a deeper symbolism in the fact that,

with the renewal of hope at war's end, a "rejuvenated" composer was revisiting the emotional landscapes of his early days.

Another possible model may have been the First Symphony of Shostakovich's great rival Prokofiev, the famous "Classical" Symphony. Like that work, Shostakovich's *Symphony No. 9* begins by masquerading as a Haydn symphony, but it destroys that appearance much faster and more drastically than Prokofiev had done back in 1917. Shostakovich follows his Haydn-esque first theme with a hilariously simple second idea consisting of only a few notes and introduced by the piccolo against an "oom-pah" accompaniment evoking circus music. Like Haydn (and Prokofiev), Shostakovich repeats the entire exposition of the first movement—a gesture that unmistakably belongs to the 18th century. And even though the circus theme undergoes a rather dramatic development in the middle of the movement, the recapitulation is again uproariously and irreverently funny.

The second movement is much more serious: it begins with a quiet and introspective clarinet solo that evolves into an intimate chamber-music episode for woodwinds. A second idea, for strings, is somewhat menacing, but the opening melody returns, played by the flute and later by the piccolo. The ending is like a dream—one of Shostakovich's most romantic moments.

Next comes a scherzo, as one might expect. The melody skips merrily from key to key, and the orchestration is particularly witty: the woodwinds begin all by themselves, then the strings, and, later, the brass instruments assume the leading role. Almost imperceptibly, the mood darkens and the scherzo takes on a more and more dramatic character, until an ominous brass signal announces a somber "Largo," the only truly tragic moment in the work. The solo bassoon delivers a recitative-like solo whose characteristic descending fourths recall the main theme of the second movement. It sounds like a solemn speech, perhaps a funeral oration in memory of the war victims. Then, the same solo bassoon suddenly turns around and begins a playful new melody: the finale is underway. Its



rhythm suggests a dance, but the melody, with its many tonally ambiguous half-steps, is not exactly jubilant in character. The ambiguity continues as the cheerful march rhythms are combined with a melody that refuses to give up those half-steps suggesting “tragic” minor tonalities. Eventually, after a tremendous crescendo, the music reaches E-flat Major as the main theme is played by the full orchestra. From here, it is a triumphant procession to the end, yet its members sound more like circus clowns than the soldiers of the heroic Red Army. Was Shostakovich desecrating this moment of national glory? Or was he merely letting his hair down and celebrating peace in the company of fun-loving friends with a bottle of good vodka, instead of visualizing an Army parade and an official, *cliché*-ridden speech by Comrade Stalin?

In the end, we might as well accept the fact that Shostakovich took a break from the grandiose rhetoric of his Seventh and Eighth Symphonies (he would return to them in *Symphony No. 10*). The difference with those works is not that *Symphony No. 9* is cheerful all the way; we have seen that it has its serious, even tragic moments. Rather, it conveys its message in a different style. That style stems in part from Shostakovich’s earlier style, as mentioned above. Yet, perhaps surprisingly, it also has some parallels with that light-hearted neo-classicism that many of Shostakovich’s more fortunate contemporaries, from Stravinsky to Milhaud and Poulenc, had also been practicing, each in his own way, in the West, where they didn’t have to fear that their stylistic choices might have political consequences.

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### **Symphony No. 7 in C Major, Op. 60**

(“Leningrad”)

Shostakovich

Shostakovich began work on *his Symphony No. 7* about four weeks after Hitler’s troupes invaded the Soviet Union. He worked at a feverish speed and finished the 30-minute first movement in about a month. (He had had plans for a

new symphony even before the German attack, but we will never know how the music would have turned out had history not intervened.) The second and third movements were written after the blockade had begun, while Shostakovich was serving on the fire-fighting brigade at the Leningrad Conservatory. He frequently had to interrupt his work to escort his family to the bomb shelter during air raids. Many people in Leningrad knew that Shostakovich was working on a new symphony even as food was becoming extremely scarce in the city and were gratified to know that art was still alive in spite of everything. (A 1965 book about this difficult period bears the title *But the Muses Were Not Silent*.)

At the end of September, Shostakovich and his family were evacuated from the besieged city. They were flown to Moscow and, two weeks later, traveled to the city of Kuibyshev on the Volga River by train—a 600-mile journey that, amidst the wartime chaos, took a whole week. Shostakovich remained in Kuibyshev for a year and a half; in the spring of 1943 he moved to Moscow. After the war, he never lived in Leningrad again.

It was almost inevitable that the “Leningrad” Symphony should be thoroughly politicized both in the Soviet Union and abroad: the Soviets made political capital of what they decided was a paean to the heroism of the people of Leningrad during the “Great Patriotic War.” At the same time, the Symphony became a major sensation in the West. The adventure-filled story of how the manuscript reached the US was itself made into a movie: the score was microfilmed near Moscow, flown to Teheran, driven from there to Cairo, and finally flown to New York via Casablanca. A whole crew of photographers worked for 10 days to create paper prints of the 252-page score from which conductors could work and parts could be made. Some of the most prominent music directors in the US, including Serge Koussevitzky, Artur Rodzinski, and Leopold Stokowski, vied for the *jus primae noctis* (the right to the first night), to quote Nicolas Slonimsky’s irreverent expression from

an article in the *Musical Quarterly* (October 1942). The race was finally won by Arturo Toscanini.

Shostakovich was variously described in the press as the new Beethoven and the new Berlioz. Toscanini's NBC broadcast was referred to in *Newsweek* as "the première of the year;" *Time Magazine* carried a drawing of the composer wearing a fire-helmet on its July 20, 1942 cover with the caption: "Fireman Shostakovich—Amid bombs bursting in Leningrad he heard the chords of victory." It was clear that war propaganda helped to promote the symphony in ways quite unheard of in the annals of music.

Yet the most significant early performance of the work was probably the one given in besieged Leningrad. Overcoming difficulties beyond description, conductor Karl Eliasberg assembled an orchestra of starving, exhausted musicians and played the work on August 9, 1942. This concert was itself a propaganda ploy by Stalin, intended to show that the city of Leningrad could never be defeated. But to those in the audience, this hardly mattered at the time. Every seat in the hall was filled, and many members of the audience wept openly. As Solomon Volkov writes in *St. Petersburg: A Cultural History* (The Free Press, 1995): "Leningraders wept for their fate and that of their city, slowly dying in the grip of the most ruthless blockade of the 20th century."

A composer who was very close to me once said: "I never ask myself what music to write, only what music wants to be written by me." What music "wanted to be written" under these dramatic circumstances? First of all, it was absolutely crucial for Shostakovich to be immediately understood by the masses whose destinies were so inextricably linked to his own. He went out of his way to write simply, with melodies built on scales and a great deal of symmetrical, foursquare rhythms. He also needed to portray tragedy and turmoil but also offer comfort and hold out hope for healing and a better future. Accessibility and optimism were, of course, qualities for which the Soviet authorities

were constantly taking composers to task, and several times during his career, Shostakovich ran afoul of the Party apparatchiks on those very points. But this time, the composer could sincerely and honestly identify with the official requirements.

Without a doubt, the most famous segment of the symphony is the one depicting the approaching Nazis; by far the simplest and most accessible of all its themes, it occurs after a confident C-Major opening and a dream-like, ethereal section in G Major that suggests a peaceful idyll. Then, the march begins, *pianissimo* at first, and repeated in identical fashion no fewer than 11 times, in a gradual crescendo that inevitably invited comparisons with Ravel's *Boléro*. Shostakovich commented: "Idle critics will no doubt reproach me for imitating Ravel's *Boléro*. Well, let them, for this is how I hear the war."

The identical repeats were not the only extraordinary feature of this section. Another was the intentional triviality of the theme repeated (many have noted the resemblance to the "Maxim" song from Lehár's *The Merry Widow*). British critic Hugh Ottaway wrote that this innocent-looking little melody almost made the Nazi hordes look like "paper tigers." I think, to the contrary, that the very vacuity of the theme qualifies it as a parody of an imaginary march the Nazis (or whoever the evil forces are) might have sung. If this is true, the parody of this passage in the fourth movement of Bartók's *Concerto for Orchestra* is the parody of a parody, although Bartók may not have realized that.

After reaching a monumental climax, the war theme gradually dissolves and the idyllic initial materials return. (The lyrical bassoon solo has been interpreted as a dirge for those who died in the war.) Ultimately, all that remains of the war theme is a distant and quite harmless echo at the movement's close.

At first, Shostakovich intended to have this movement stand by itself as a symphonic poem. When he changed his plans and wrote three more movements to complete the classical symphony scheme, he faced the obvious problem of where to go after such a strong opening.



According to his own words, the two middle movements were meant to "ease the tension" and the finale to portray "victory." Yet the case is more complex: the middle movements are far from tension-free and the finale reaches victory in a rather circuitous way. Taken as a group, movements 2 to 4 take a step back after the first movement's mighty "peace-war-peace" sequence, and offer lyrical meditations with occasional dramatic interruptions. The former are often expressed by long instrumental solos, mainly for members of the woodwind family; the latter are characterized by faster tempos, *ostinato* rhythms and jarring dissonances, as in the middle sections of both the second and the third movements.

The second movement seems literally to "take a step back" even in its tonality: b minor, a half-step down from the first movement's C Major. It starts out as a gentle *allegretto*, with long melodic lines unfolding over a characteristic rhythmic accompaniment. Yet the shrill sound of the piccolo clarinet is the harbinger of new conflicts: the middle section, in the words of commentator Robert Dearing, is "full of the most appallingly harrowing devices." A modified recapitulation follows. The main theme, played by the solo oboe at the beginning of the movement, is now given to the bass clarinet. The extreme low register lends an eerie quality to this eminently lyrical melody.

The third movement is, in Shostakovich's words, the "dramatic center of the whole work." It may have been "Our Country's Wide Spaces" according to the official program, yet it was (and is) widely perceived as a lament for the victims of the war. After a few introductory wind chords, the violins in unison (with almost no accompaniment) make a solemn proclamation. If the tone of the second movement was set by a great oboe solo, this time it is the flute that plays the role of principal soloist. Its slowly unfolding melody eventually leads to a middle section in which the specters break loose again: a passionate string melody evolves into a highly agitated dramatic statement that eventually subsides to prepare the return of the quiet and

solemn music we heard earlier.

The finale, as Ottaway observes, "is by no means the barn-storming type of movement that a vision of victory might seem to suggest." Shostakovich's optimism is not the cheap socialist realist variety promoted by the authorities. An enigmatic opening and an extended stormy passage, contradicting the idea of victory with its ostensibly tragic c-minor tonality, are followed by a lengthy section in a relatively slow tempo ("Moderato"), another possible song of mourning for the victims. The triumphant conclusion arrives only at the very end, with the recapitulation of the first movement's opening C-Major theme. Now at last the triumph is complete, with no holds barred, as the majestic fanfares take over the entire orchestra in a penetrating *triple fortissimo*.

*Program notes by Peter Laki.*

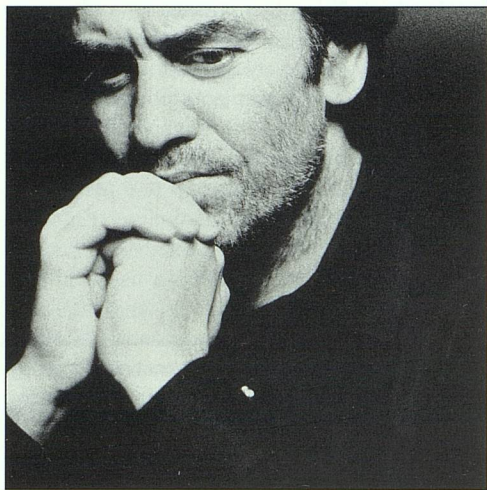
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**V**alery Gergiev is internationally recognized as one of the most outstanding musical figures of his generation. His inspired leadership as Artistic and General Director of the Mariinsky Theatre in St. Petersburg, Russia, where he oversees the Kirov Orchestra, Ballet, and Opera, has brought universal acclaim to this legendary institution. Together with the Kirov Opera and Orchestra, Maestro Gergiev has toured extensively in 45 countries in North America, South America, Europe, Asia, Australia, and the Middle East.

Principal Conductor Designate of the London Symphony beginning in January 2007, he is also the Principal Conductor of the Rotterdam Philharmonic, Principal Guest Conductor of the Metropolitan Opera, and Founder and Artistic Director of "Stars of the White Nights" Festival in St. Petersburg, the Moscow Easter Festival, the Gergiev Rotterdam Festival, and the Mikkeli International Festival in Finland. Maestro Gergiev guest conducts a select number of orchestras, including the Chicago Symphony and the Vienna Philharmonic.

Born in Moscow to Ossetian parents, Maestro

Gergiev studied conducting with Ilya Musin at the Leningrad Conservatory. At age 24, he was the winner of the Herbert von Karajan Conductors Competition in Berlin. He made his Kirov Opera debut in 1978 with *War and Peace* and was appointed Artistic Director and Principal Conductor in 1988. In 2003 he celebrated his 50th birthday, his 25th anniversary with the Mariinsky Theatre, and oversaw a considerable portion of



Valery Gergiev

the 300th anniversary of St. Petersburg festivities by producing an unprecedented three-month "Stars of the White Nights" Festival. In the same year he conducted both Season Opening Galas of the Metropolitan Opera and Carnegie Hall Season, the latter with the Kirov Orchestra.

In the 04/05 season, Valery Gergiev initiated a worldwide series of charity concerts entitled *Beslan: Music for Life*. Under Maestro Gergiev's direction, concerts were held in New York, Paris, London, Tokyo, Rome, and Moscow. Further highlights included a 17-city Kirov Orchestra tour of North America with a three-concert residency at Carnegie Hall. In November of 2005, Valery Gergiev and the legendary French composer and conductor Pierre Boulez conducted the Kirov Orchestra on the stage of Palais Garnier, Opéra National de Paris for a Mariinsky Theatre Gala.

This month, Maestro Gergiev begins a seven-concert series at Avery Fisher Hall in Lincoln Center New York of the complete symphonies of Dmitri Shostakovich to celebrate the composer's centenary. This festival includes both the Rotterdam Philharmonic and the Kirov Orchestra of the Mariinsky Theatre as well as tour appearances across the US including a five-concert series at the University Musical Society of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. The Shostakovich Celebration will continue with concerts in London with the London Symphony, the Kirov Orchestra, the Rotterdam Philharmonic, and the Vienna Philharmonic. In the "Stars of the White Nights" Festival this summer, he will share the 15 Shostakovich symphonies and the Kirov Orchestra podium with conductors Christoph Eschenbach, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Paavo Järvi, Maris Jansons, Maxim Shostakovich, and Riccardo Muti.

The Kirov Opera's appearances in North America will include its annual appearance at the Kennedy Center and presentations of the Mariinsky Theatre's production of Richard Wagner's *Ring* in the Orange County Performing Arts Center, Costa Mesa, California in 2006 and in the Metropolitan Opera House in July 2007.

Maestro Gergiev is the recipient of many international awards, including the Dmitri Shostakovich Award; the Golden Mask Award, the most prestigious theater prize in Russia; the People's Artist of Russia, the country's highest cultural award; the World Economic Forum's Crystal Award; and the EastWest Institute's 25th Anniversary Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his leadership and passionate service to humanity. He has been awarded the 2006 Polar Music Prize of the Swedish Royal Academy of Music, the art world's equivalent of the Nobel Prize. In July 2006 Maestro Gergiev will be presented with the Herbert von Karajan Prize for outstanding living musicians.

Valery Gergiev has recorded exclusively for Universal on the Philips Decca and Deutsche Grammophon labels since 1989. His vast discography includes numerous Russian operas performed by the Kirov Opera, a cycle of



Shostakovich "War Symphonies" (Nos. 4–9) with the Kirov and Rotterdam Orchestras, and Tchaikovsky, Berlioz, and Mussorgsky Symphonies with the Vienna Philharmonic.

**T**he **Kirov Orchestra** (also known as the Mariinsky Theatre Orchestra) enjoys a long and distinguished history as one of the oldest musical institutions in Russia. Founded in the 18th century during the reign of Peter the Great, it was known before the revolution as the Russian Imperial Opera Orchestra. Housed in St. Petersburg's famed Mariinsky Theatre (named after Maria, the wife of Tsar Alexander II) since 1860, the Orchestra entered its true "golden age" during the second half of the 19th century under the musical direction of Eduard Napravnik (1839–1916). Napravnik single-handedly ruled the Imperial Theatre for more than half a century (from 1863–1916) and under his leadership, the Mariinsky Orchestra was recognized as one of the finest in Europe. He also trained a generation of outstanding conductors, developing what came to be known as the "Russian school" of conducting.

The Mariinsky Theatre was also the birthplace of numerous operas and ballets that are regarded as masterpieces of the 19th and 20th century. The Theatre was home to world premiere performances of major works by Russian composers Glinka, Borodin, Mussorgsky, Rimsky-Korsakov, Prokofiev, Khachaturian, Rachmaninov, Shostakovich, and Stravinsky. Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky was closely associated with the Mariinsky Theatre, not only conducting the orchestra but also premiering his *Symphony No. 5* there.

Throughout its history, the Mariinsky Theatre has also presented works by Europe's leading opera composers, including the world premiere of Verdi's *La forza del destino*. Wagner was a favorite at the Mariinsky Theatre, where his operas were frequently performed from the 19th century through the early-20th century. The Mariinsky Orchestra also gave the first Russian performances of Richard Strauss's *Elektra*,

*Salome*, and *Der Rosenkavalier*, and Berg's *Wozzeck*—in a production that took place two years after its world premiere in Berlin and 20 years before its premiere in Vienna.

By 1917 the Orchestra's name had changed to the Royal Imperial Theatre Orchestra, and was regarded as St. Petersburg's leading symphony orchestra. Numerous internationally renowned conductors have led the Orchestra, among them Hans von Bulow, Felix Mottl, Felix Weingartner, Alexander von Zemlinsky, Otto Nikisch, Willem Mengelberg, Otto Klemperer, Bruno Walter, and Erich Kleiber.

Renamed the Kirov Opera during the Soviet era, the orchestra continued to maintain its high artistic standards under the leadership of Evgeni Mravinsky and Yuri Temirkanov. In 1988, Valery Gergiev was elected artistic director of the opera company and in 1996 the Russian Government appointed him Artistic and General Director of the Mariinsky Theatre. Soon after the city of Leningrad was renamed St. Petersburg, the Kirov Theatre reverted to its original title of the Mariinsky Theatre, home to the Kirov Opera, the Kirov Ballet, and the Kirov Orchestra.

Under the leadership of Valery Gergiev, the Mariinsky Theatre has forged important relationships with the world's greatest opera houses, among them the Metropolitan Opera House, The Royal Opera House Covent Garden, the San Francisco Opera, the Theatre Chatelet in Paris, and La Scala in Milan. Besides extensive touring with the opera and ballet companies, the Orchestra has performed internationally and has become one of the world's most outstanding ensembles. The success of the Orchestra's continual touring has earned them the reputation of what one journalist referred to as "the world's first global orchestra."

In 1998, the Orchestra made its debut tour of China, a historic first, with a performance in the Great Hall in Beijing, broadcast to 50 million people in the presence of President Jiang Zemin. It was the first time in 40 years that a Russian orchestra had played in China. Under the baton of Valery Gergiev, the Orchestra has recorded exclusively for Phillips Classics since 1989.



## UMS ARCHIVES

This weekend's two concerts by the Kirov Orchestra of the Mariinsky Theatre (St. Petersburg, Russia) under the direction of Valery Gergiev mark both the Orchestra's and the Maestro's fifth and sixth appearances under UMS auspices. They made their collective UMS debuts in Hill Auditorium in November 1992.

UMS's Shostakovich Centennial Festival (conceived by Maestro Gergiev) casts an interesting light on UMS's own history with the performance of Shostakovich symphonies. Of Shostakovich's 15 symphonies which span the years 1924–1971, 11 symphonies will be performed as part of this two-season festival concluding with the final three installments in October 2006. Of the 11 symphonies to be performed, eight have been performed during the course of UMS's history.

### **Symphony No. 1 in f minor, Op. 10** (1924-25)

#### **Centennial Festival: Friday, March 17, 2006**

This is the 10th UMS presentation of *Symphony No. 1* going all the way back to March 1935 when it was first performed by the Cleveland Orchestra conducted by the eminent Polish conductor Artur Rodzinski. Two months earlier, in January 1935, Rodzinski had conducted the US premiere of Shostakovich's opera *Lady Macbeth of Mtzensk*.

### **Symphony No. 2 in B Major, Op. 14** ("To October") (1927)

#### **Centennial Festival: Friday, March 17, 2006**

*Symphony No. 2* has previously never been presented as part of a UMS program.

### **Symphony No. 3 in E-flat Major, Op. 20** ("The First of May") (1929)

*Symphony No. 3* is not included in this Centennial Festival and it has never been presented as part of a UMS program.

### **Symphony No. 4 in c minor, Op. 43** (1935-36)

*Symphony No. 4* is not included in this Centennial Festival. It has been presented twice on UMS programs, the first time in October 1989 in a concert by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra conducted by Gunther Herbig.

### **Symphony No. 5 in d minor, Op. 47** (1937)

*Symphony No. 5* is not included in this Centennial Festival but has been presented 10 times over the course of UMS history. This frequency is not surprising as *Symphony No. 5*, along with *No. 1*, were the first Shostakovich symphonies to find their way into the standard repertoire of US orchestras. The first UMS presentation of *No. 5* was in December 1940 (three years after its premiere in Leningrad) on a concert given by the Boston Symphony Orchestra conducted by the celebrated Russian conductor and champion of new music, Serge Koussevitzky. Another performance of special note was given in November 1962 by the very forces that gave the world premiere of the work: the Leningrad Philharmonic conducted by Eugen Mravinsky. The concert was presented, as the program stated, "as part of the Cultural Exchange Program maintained by the Governments of the United States and the U.S.S.R."

### **Symphony No. 6 in b minor, Op. 54** (1939)

#### **Centennial Festival: Friday, October 20, 2006**

This will be the fourth UMS presentation of *Symphony No. 6*. The first was given in January 1986 by the Krakow Philharmonic conducted by Polish composer and conductor Krzysztof Penderecki.



**Symphony No. 7 in C Major, Op. 60** ("Leningrad") (1941)**Centennial Festival: Sunday, March 19, 2006**

This is the fourth UMS presentation of *Symphony No. 7*. As with *Symphony No. 5*, the first UMS performance was given by Shostakovich-champion Serge Koussevitzky conducting his Boston Symphony Orchestra in Hill Auditorium in December 1942. This first Ann Arbor performance was given only nine months after its première in Kuybishev (now Samara) on the Volga River, the city to which Shostakovich had been evacuated while the war raged in Leningrad. *Symphony No. 7* was given 62 public performances in the US during the 1942/43 season as the work became a symbol of resistance against Nazism.

**Symphony No. 8 in c minor, Op. 65** (1943)**Centennial Festival: Sunday, October 22, 2006**

This will be the first performance of *Symphony No. 8* on a UMS program.

**Symphony No. 9 in E-flat Major, Op. 70** (1945)**Centennial Festival: Sunday, March 19, 2006**

This is the third UMS presentation of *Symphony No. 9*. It was first performed under UMS auspices in 1994 by the Oslo Philharmonic conducted by Mariss Jansons.

**Symphony No. 10 in e minor, Op. 93** (1953)**Centennial Festival: Friday, March 17, 2006**

This is the eighth UMS presentation of *Symphony No. 10*. Again, its first Ann Arbor performance was of special note: a concert conducted by Dmitri Mitropoulos given by the Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra of New York (known to us today as the New York Philharmonic) given in Hill Auditorium in May 1955. This concert was given only 18 months after the symphony had its première in Leningrad.

**Symphony No. 11 in g minor, Op. 103** ("The Year 1905") (1957)**Centennial Festival: Friday, October 20, 2006**

*Symphony No. 11* has never been presented as part of a UMS program.

**Symphony No. 12 in d minor, Op. 112** ("The Year 1917") (1960-61)**Centennial Festival: Saturday, October 21, 2006**

*Symphony No. 12* has never been presented as part of a UMS program.

**Symphony No. 13, Op. 113** ("Babi Yar") (1962)**Centennial Festival: Sunday, October 22, 2006**

This is the second UMS presentation of the "Babi Yar" Symphony. It was first performed under UMS auspices in October 1999 as the opening concert of the UMS Choral Union Series in Hill by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Men of the UMS Choral Union, The Estonian National Male Choir, and bass-baritone Sergei Leiferkus under the direction of Neeme Järvi.

**Symphony No. 14, Op. 135** (1969)**Centennial Festival: Saturday, October 21, 2006**

*Symphony No. 14* has never been presented as part of a UMS program.

**Symphony No. 15 in A Major, Op. 141** (1971)

*Symphony No. 15* is not included in this Centennial Festival and it has never been presented as part of a UMS program.

## Kirov Orchestra of the Mariinsky Theatre

Valery Gergiev, *Music Director and Conductor*

### First Violin

Ilya Kononov,  
*Guest Principal*  
Kirill Terentiev, *Principal*  
Leonid Veksler, *Principal*  
Elena Berdnikova  
Tatiana Frenkel  
Mikhail Rikhter  
Khristian Artamonov  
Anton Kozmin  
Vsevolod Vasilyev  
Boris Vasilyev  
Nina Pirogova  
Lolita Silvan  
Anna Glukhova  
Irina Sukhorukova  
Mikhail Tatarnikov  
Victoria Kakicheva

### Second Violin

Zumrad Ilyeva, *Principal*  
Georgy Shirokov, *Principal*  
Maria Safarova  
Zhanna Abdulaeva  
Erdan Ergaliev  
Tatiana Moroz  
Svetlana Zhuravkova  
Marchel Bezhenaru  
Sergey Letyagin  
Mark Kogan  
Mikhail Zagorodnuk  
Natalia Kopachanu  
Nadezda Prudnikova  
Alexey Krashenninnikov

### Viola

Yury Afonkin, *Principal*  
Vladimir Litvinov  
Oleg Larionov  
Lina Golovina  
Karine Barsegian  
Ekaterina Stupnikova  
Andrey Petushkov  
Alexey Klyuev  
Svetlana Sadovaya  
Leonid Lobach  
Olga Neverova  
Vartan Gnoro

### Cello

Zenon Zalitsaylo, *Principal*  
Mikhail Slavin, *Principal*  
Oleg Sendetsky  
Alexander Ponomarenko  
Nikolay Vasilyev  
Vitaly Naydich  
Tamara Sakar  
Oksana Moroz  
Natalia Baykova  
Sarkis Ginosyan  
Ekaterina Travkina

### Double Bass

Kirill Karikov, *Principal*  
Vladimir Shostak, *Principal*  
Igor Eliseev  
Alexander Alexeev  
Denis Kashin  
Sergey Trafimovich  
Evgeny Mamontov  
Demyan Gorodnichin

### Flute

Valentin Cherenkov  
Denis Lupachev  
Nikolay Mokhov  
Margarita Maystrova  
Oleg Mikhailovsky  
Aglaya Ulianova

### Oboe

Alexander Trushkov  
Sergey Bliznetsov  
Pavel Kudyanyok  
Ilya Ilin

### Clarinet

Ivan Tersky  
Viktor Kulyk  
Dmitry Kharitonov  
Anatoly Shoka  
Yury Zyuriaev  
Ivan Stolbov

### Bassoon

Igor Gorbunov  
Rodion Tolmachev  
Valentin Kapustin  
Alexander Sharykin

### Horn

Dmitry Vorontsov  
Igor Prokofyev  
Stanislav Tses  
Stanislav Avik  
Alexey Pozin  
Vladislav Kuznetsov  
Yury Akimkin  
Valery Papyrin

### Trumpet

Vasily Kan  
Konstantin Baryshev  
Gennady Nikonov  
Sergey Kryuchkov  
Vitaly Zaitsev  
Alexander Smirnov

### Trombone

Andrey Smirnov  
Igor Iakovlev  
Fedor Arkhipov  
Mikhail Seliverstov  
Nikolai Timofeev  
Alexander Ponomarev

### Tuba

Nikolay Slepnev  
Boris Dzhoiev

### Percussion

Andrey Khotin  
Yury Alexeev  
Mikhail Peskov  
Vladislav Ivanov  
Igor Udalov  
Evgeny Zhikalov  
Arseny Shuplyakov

### Harp

Elizaveta Alexandrova  
Liudmila Rokhlina

### Piano

Valeriya Rumyantseva

### Orchestra Manager

Vladimir Ivanov

### Stage Hands

Andrey Romanov  
Victor Belyashin

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Karen Kloster, *Tour Coordinator*  
Elizabeth E. Torres, *Program Manager*

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