

New to orchestral concerts? A couple of notes about concert etiquette:

- As a courtesy to the musicians and your fellow concertgoers, please silence cell phones and other electronic devices during the concert, and refrain from unnecessary conversation while music is being played.
- On pieces listing more than one section or movement, such as a symphony or a suite, it is customary to hold applause until all movements are complete.
- For a full guide to the concert going experience, scan the QR code below.





# CIVIC ORCHESTRA MINNEAPOLIS Cary John Franklin, Music Director

## "CIVIC CELEBRATIONS"

Honoring Cary John Franklin

SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2024 3:00 pm

Cary John Franklin, Conducting

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd Minneapolis, MN

## CIVIC ORCHESTRA of MINNEAPOLIS

Cary John Franklin, Music Director

## VIOLIN I

Carol Margolis, concertmaster Sonya Sterling\*\* Carolyn Liptak Beth Sorensen Sara Preus Bill Scott Jr. Madison Bemis Joanna Imm Candy Ahem

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VIOLA Mac Johnson\* Jenna Reynard Rolf Krogstad Nancy Newman Siobhan Strom Sylvia Wilson Mary Miklethun

#### CELLO

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PICCOLO Dawn Witt Saxton

FLUTE Rachel Hest\* Trudi Anderson Dawn Witt Saxton

OBOE Lorelei Giddings\* Angela Kennedy Alexis Varghese

ENGLISH HORN Alexis Varghese

CLARINET Julia Heinen\* Eileen Strandlof Stacie Traill

Eb/BASS CLARINET Stacie Traill

BASSOON Ann Hagen\* Anna Johansson

CONTRABASSOON Alex Legeros

HORN Anthony Stanley\* Rachel Miller\*\* Jim Barosko Tom Burnham Emily Green Delaney Breen Cristina Werling

TRUMPET Dean Heller\* Eric Leska Miriam Dennis Joe Hazlett TROMBONE Lara Dietrich\* Charles Watt

BASS TROMBONE Josh Kubasta

TUBA Roger Gomoll

> TIMPANI/PERCUSSION John Litch\* Mike Durenberger Carlos Rodriguez Alex Valois

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> \*Principal † Acting Principal



#### **Celebrating Cary John Franklin's retirement**

After 30 years of steadfast leadership, Cary is retiring as our Music Director, and this is his farewell concert. As the longest-tenured Music Director the Civic Orchestra has had in its 72-year history, Cary has had an enormous influence on the culture, community spirit, and musicality of the orchestra. He leaves a legacy of technical and artistic excellence, and commitment to bringing a rich diversity of musical works to the community—including classic repertoire as well as contemporary and previously under-represented composers. We are forever grateful to Cary for his leadership and service.

Please join us after the concert for a reception to thank Cary and wish him well. We will gather in the outdoor courtyard, weather permitting, or else in the foyer outside the sanctuary.

We are grateful to Lunds & Byerlys and Patisserie Margo for donating cake and cookies!

#### Mark your calendars for our 2024-2025 season

The orchestra initiated a search process for a new Music Director last winter and has confirmed five finalists who will each conduct a concert next season. The audience attending each concert will be asked for feedback about their experience to inform our selection of a permanent Music Director, so your continued support and patronage are an essential part of our path forward! We will be announcing details of concert programs and who will lead each of them in the coming weeks, but in the meantime, mark your calendars for our 2024-2025 concert season:

- Sunday, October 27, 2024
- Sunday, December 15, 2024
- Sunday, February 23, 2025
- Sunday, April 6, 2025
- Sunday, May 18, 2025

#### SUPPORTERS OF THE CIVIC ORCHESTRA OF MINNEAPOLIS

(Donations from 5/1/23 through 5/1/24)

The Civic Orchestra of Minneapolis extends a heartfelt THANK YOU to our donors listed below for their generous contributions. They are helping the orchestra fulfill its vision of building community through the arts. The orchestra gives performances of the best of the classics, as well as new and commissioned works by living composers. We thank our donors for sharing our vision, and we are grateful for their partnership.

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## **"THE FINALE"**

SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2024 3:00 PM

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd Cary John Franklin, Conducting

#### **PROGRAM**

#### Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) Serenade to Music (1938)

Carol Margolis, violin

#### Serge Prokofiev (1891-1953)

Violin Concerto No. 2 in G minor (1935) Movement I, Allegro moderato

Vladimir Tsiper, violin Winner of the MacPhail Center for Music Concerto Contest

#### **INTERMISSION**

Gustav Mahler (1860-1911) Symphony No. 5 (1901)

I. Funeral March II. Stormily, with greatest vehemence III. Scherzo: Vigorously, not too fast IV. Adagietto: Very Slow V. Rondo-Finale: Allegro

A reception in honor of Cary John Franklin will follow the concert.

### **PROGRAM NOTES**

These notes are more of reflection and not heavy on history and musicology. Vaughan Williams' **Serenade to Music** was originally written for 16 solo voices and orchestra and set to a text from William Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice*. He arranged it for orchestra-only at the same time, given that 16 solo singers would not always be available. The text was part of a discussion about music and the music of the spheres.

How sweet the moonlight sleeps upon this bank! Here will we sit and let the sounds of music Creep in our ears: soft stillness and the night Become the touches of sweet harmony.

What draws us to music and makes us want to keep coming back for more as listeners and performers? There's the entertainment value but also the sheer enjoyment of beautiful music. I decided to open this final concert with this glorious music and share my love of making beautiful music with the members of this orchestra in my 30 years as Music Director.

During my tenure I have sought to include young audiences and performers in our programs. Nearly every year we've given a Family concert that was programmed to be enjoyed by the entire family, especially the children. And nearly 15 years ago we started collaborating with the MacPhail Center for Music to present the winner of their concerto contest in a performance with the orchestra. Vladimir Tsiper is the winner this year and will be playing the first movement of Serge Prokofiev's **Violin Concerto No. 2.** The first movement begins with a dark, simple, five-note theme played alone by the violin alone. It is almost like a folk song. Prokofiev had made a reference to his goal of achieving a "new simplicity" in his style.

Gustav Mahler wrote "to write a symphony, for me, is to construct a world." And what a world he built in the large and lengthy **Symphony No. 5.** After the first rehearsal of the Fifth he wrote to his wife Alma after the first rehearsal:

"Heavens, what is the public to make of this chaos in which new worlds are forever being engendered, only to crumble into ruin in the next moment? What are they to say to this primeval music, this foaming, roaring, raging sea of sound, to these dancing stars ...?"

Pages and pages of program notes can be written about this symphony. In sum, over the course of five movements, it is a journey from the dark to the light. The first movement begins with a **Funeral March** introduced by a solo trumpet summoning all to the procession. The second movement is marked **Stormily** and begins with the same despairing mood of the first and the funeral march returns as well. The central **Scherzo** changes the mood featuring brilliant passages for solo horn. It includes several waltzes and country dances. Mahler wrote to a friend he conceived the Scherzo as a representation of "a human being in the full light of day, in the prime of his life." The **Adagietto** is scored for just harp and strings and is thought of as a tender love letter to his wife, Alma. The final **Rondo-Finale** bursts into the light in the brilliant key of D Major.

The running time for this symphony is about 70 minutes and is a test of endurance for the orchestra as well as listeners. The length of each movement ranges from 10-18 minutes. And it is worth every minute!

### BIOGRAPHY



**Vladimir Tsiper** is in 11th grade at the Breck School in Minneapolis. He has been a student of Lucinda Marvin at MacPhail Center for Music since the age of five. In the last few years, he has also been taking lessons with Yulia Ziskel of the New York Philharmonic and Ara Sarkissian of the Interlochen Arts Academy. In addition to violin, Vladimir is studying composition with Sarah Miller.

He is a member of the Minnesota Youth Symphonies (MYS) Symphony Orchestra and Artaria Chamber Music School. Vladimir has won many prizes at venues such as Sherer International Competition, the Schubert Club, Mary West Solo Competition, Thursday Musical, the MacPhail Concerto/Aria Competition, and Minnesota Sinfonia Young Artists Competition. In the last two years he has performed with the Bloomington (MN) Symphony Orchestra, Dakota Valley Symphony Orchestra, Civic Orchestra of Minneapolis, Minnetonka Symphony Orchestra, and La Crosse Symphony.

The highlights of last season include Vladimir's appearance on the national radio show *From The Top*, winning the MYS Solo Competition and soloing with them at Orchestra Hall, receiving the Jacobson Prize at the YPSCA finals, and becoming the West Central Division Winner of the MTNA Senior String Competition. His most recent accomplishments include winning La Crosse Rising Stars Concerto Competition, Mankato Symphony Young Artist Concerto Competition, MacPhail Concerto/Aria Competition, and Thursday Musical Scholarship Competition.

Aside from music, Vladimir enjoys downhill skiing, theater, and traveling, especially visiting the tallest buildings in the world. He is a movie nerd and is an active member of the film lovers' community.