

Welcome

Symphonie Jeunesse has been my vision for many years. One summer, a young high school violin student whom I was mentoring asked me, "Mrs. T...would you ever consider starting a youth orchestra for kids like me?" Those inspired words prompted me to pursue this vision. Last spring, I met with Dr. Ernie Garcia and the San Bernardino Valley Concert Association (SBVCA) to propose a youth orchestra for strings in our community. *Symphonie Jeunesse* was established through a generous grant from the Frank Plash Endowment, under the auspices of SBVCA.

Frank Plash was an ardent supporter of classical music and fine arts in our area. He lectured at symphony concerts, promoted live music, and could be seen in attendance at concerts. To commemorate his memory and his wish that live arts continue to flourish, the *Symphonie Jeunesse* orchestra has adopted this motto:

Preserving **L**ive **A**rts **S**ymphonic **H**eritage

Michèle Tacchia
Founder & Director

Thank You

The members of *Symphonie Jeunesse*, along with founder and director Michèle Tacchia, wish to express their deepest appreciation to First Presbyterian Church and the San Bernardino Valley Concert Association for their generous support. They also wish to thank the First Congregational Church for providing the concert venue for today.

Symphonie Jeunesse Members

in alphabetical order

Violin

Zoë Beach
Gemma Coronel
Krystel Garcia
Kieran Noble-Goodman
Joshua Irons
Rachel LaChance
Kelly Muller
Theodore Nguyen
Tatiana Oropel

Erica Polley
Lauren Texter
Marissa Uresti
Lilly Voon
Emma Ward
Heather Young

Viola

Katerina McCauley
Andrew Polley

Cello

Nicholas Ainsworth
Dana Polley
Joy Rittenhouse

Shaker & Claves

Aaron Ainsworth
Michael Tacchia

Symphonie Jeunesse

Michèle Tacchia
Founder & Director

Music for a Sunday Afternoon

Sunday, April 26, 2009
4:00 pm

First Congregational Church
3041 North Sierra Way
San Bernardino, California 92405

Program

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|---|-------------------------------|
| A Gypsy Tale | Soon Hee Newbold (b. 1974) |
| Circinus | Shirl Jae Atwell |
| Concerto Albinoni | Tomaso Albinoni (1671 - 1751) |
| Fantasia on an Original Theme | Joseph J. Phillips |
| Celtica for Solo Violin & Orchestra | Brian Balmages (b. 1975) |
| The Idylls of Pegasus | Richard Meyer |
| <i>Birth of Pegasus</i> | |
| <i>Pegasus in Flight</i> | |
| <i>Bellerophon Tames Pegasus</i> | |
| <i>The Chimera</i> | |
| <i>The Fall of Bellerophon</i> | |
| <i>Pegasus Ascends to Olympus</i> | |
| Danza Latina for Solo Violin or Viola & Orchestra | Brian Balmages |

Reception immediately following in the Fireside Room

Program Notes

Violinist and composer Soon Hee Newbold has taken inspiration on the composition of this piece from the well-known violin pieces Tzigane, Zigeunerweisen, and Csardas. The nomadic life of Gypsies, their music, stories, and culture have long been of interest and held much fascination. Newbold includes this Gypsy proverb at the beginning the score: "We are all wanderers on this earth. Our hearts are full of wonder, and our souls are deep with dreams." She concludes with the proverb, "Stay where there are songs."

Soon Hee Newbold began playing piano at age five and violin at age seven, performing as a concert artist at an early age and winning many prestigious competitions. In high school, her interests included science, language, and drama. She studied French, German, and Russian and completed an internship in AIDS and cancer research at the National Institute of Health in Ft. Detrick, Maryland. Soon Hee received her Bachelor of Music from James Madison University, where she concentrated of film scoring, orchestration, and audio production. Upon graduation, she worked in entertainment for Disney World and performed in various symphonies in Florida. As a soloist and in professional orchestras throughout the world, she has appeared in venues such as Carnegie Hall, Kennedy Center, Wolf Trap, Aspen, and Tanglewood.

Named after the Latin word meaning circle, *Circinus* is a canon with the theme being introduced by the cellos in unison, followed by the theme in octaves, as a duet and a trio, and closing, as it opened with unison cellos in the final statement.

Venetian Baroque composer Tomaso Albinoni, famous in his day as an opera composer, is remembered today for his instrumental compositions. He was born to a wealthy paper merchant in Venice, Italy, on June 8, 1671. He studied violin and singing at an early age. He wrote 50 operas, many trio sonatas, violin concertos, solo sonatas, and concertos for oboe. He is perhaps best known for his famous "Adagio in G minor."

Seeing a need for high quality original and arranged works for young orchestras, composer Joseph Phillips founded Mountain Crest Music in 2004. His successful career as a music administrator and teacher has helped him understand the unique needs of school ensembles. *Fantasia on an Original Theme* is his delightful composition for young string orchestra. Opening with a beautifully poignant English melody, introduced by the violas, they are soon joined by the violins playing the melody in octaves. The lower strings punctuate the melodic line with pizzicato to create the folk music texture.

Brian Balmages is an active composer, conductor, producer, and performer. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in music from James Madison University and a master's degree from the University of Miami in Florida. *Celtica* was conceived as a piece for young orchestras wishing to feature an advanced violinist within the orchestra. The work finds its inspiration in the beautiful, lyrical lines and powerful driving rhythms of celtic music. Violinist, Soon Hee Newbold, premiered the piece with the Jeffers Hill Advanced Orchestra.

Composer and conductor Richard Meyer received his Bachelor of Arts from California State University, Los Angeles and has taught middle and high school instrumental music for 16 years. He currently conducts the Pasadena Youth Symphony Orchestra. *The Idylls of Pegasus* depicts the adventures of the wondrous winged horse of Greek mythology. A theme representing Pegasus is first presented by solo cellos in the introduction, followed by six distinct episodic sections, outlining his adventures.

Danza Latina is inspired by the passionate melodies and lively dance rhythms of Latin music. Designed for young orchestras, it can feature a more advanced violin or viola soloist. The advanced solo part employs various techniques such as right and left-hand pizzicato and multiple double, triple and quadruple stops. It was commissioned by the Montgomery School Orchestra to feature Adriana Linares, Venezuelan violist and member of the Dali Quartet.

Program notes by Michèle Tacchia