

Welcome

In the spring of 2008, Dr. Ernie Garcia and I presented a proposal to the board of the San Bernardino Valley Concert Association, to begin a youth orchestra for strings for middle and high school age students in our community. It was overwhelmingly supported and, through a generous grant from the Frank Plash Endowment, and under the auspices of SBVCA, "Symphonie Jeunesse" was established.

Frank Plash was an ardent supporter of classical music and fine arts in our area, lecturing for symphony concerts, promoting live music, and always in attendance at concerts and the theatre. 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 you for supporting the orchestra as it begins its third season..

Symphonie Jeunesse Members in alphabetical order

Violin

Zoë Beach
Gemma Coronel
Krystel Garcia
Rachel LaChance
Natasha Mariano
Cameron Muller
Kelly Muller
Theodore Nguyen*
Tatiana Oropel
Joshua Rodriguez-Irons*
Mattison Solgan
Tapua Sukuta
Marissa Uresti
Johann Velasquez
Emma Ward

Viola

Alejandra Davila*
Katerina McCauley
Andrew Polley*
Charlotte Ruttner
Miranda Stuart*

Cello

Nicholas Ainsworth
Gabriel Mlendrez
Dana Polley*
Joy Rittenhouse

Bass

Isaac Cabrera
Jasmine Cardenas*

Piano/Percussion

Mr. Michael Tacchia

Percussion/Sax

Aaron Ainsworth

*Denotes principal chair
for this concert.

Symphonie Jeunesse
is a 501(c)(3) entity.
Donations can be sent to
PO Box 21077
San Bernardino, CA 92406.

BEGINNING ITS THIRD SEASON!

Symphonie Jeunesse

Youth Orchestra for Strings
Michèle Tacchia, Founder & Director

Concert

Sunday, October 17, 2010
3:00 pm

Sturges Theatre for the Fine Arts
780 N. E Street
San Bernardino, California 92410

Program

Viking Ships of Old Susan H. Day

Toucan Tango Bob Phillips

Postcards from Russia Carrie Lane Gruselle

Deep Sea Fandango Deborah Baker Monday

End Pin Rag Richard Meyer

The Adventures of Stringman Richard Meyer

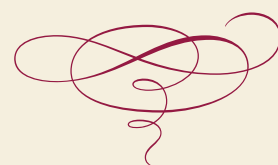
Momentum Richard Meyer

(commissioned in memory of Jan Burchman, an exemplary string teacher, by the Okemos Music Patrons and the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association, District VIII)

Intermission

Fantasia Española Soon Hee Newbold (b. 1974)

Seven Scottish Airs Gustav Holst (1874 - 1934)
arranged by Bob Phillips



Program Notes

Viking Ships of Old was inspired by the composer's trip to Sweden and Norway. The piece captures the drama and excitement of seeing the Viking Ships in person. It was written for a large District Festival and won an ASCAP Award. It uses techniques such as tremolo, pizzicato, col legno (to play with the wood of the bow), accents, tenuto, and legato.

Toucan Tango is written in the style of an Argentinean tango. The piece has strong rhythmic underpinnings in the bass section while violins, violas, and cellos each have a turn at playing the original melody. The composition alternates between D Major and d minor.

Postcards from Russia is a study in articulation, dynamics, and tempo changes within the context of three energetic Russian folk melodies: Minka, Meadowland, and Korobushka (The Peddler). Musicians are asked to differentiate among staccato, legato, accented and tenuto bowings as well as pizzicato. The piece explores a wide range of dynamics and gradual tempo changes.

Deep Sea Fandango is reminiscent of the two-note motif used in the film Jaws. This piece has the same menacing undertones in the first and last sections along with the use of glissando (ascending and descending left-hand finger slides on the strings). The middle section is calmer and more cheerful, but not for long...the two-note menacing motif returns!

The composer obviously had the cello and bass section in mind when composing **End Pin Rag**. The composition is a great introduction to ragtime and uses the harmonies and stylistic features made famous by Scott Joplin at the turn of the 20th century. Particularly enjoyable is the minor key pizzicato section, which features an amusing array of "silent movie-style" sound effects, such as slide whistle, ratchet, duck call, police whistle, and cowbell.

A musician's take on the superhero characters Superman, Spiderman, and Batman, we now have **Stringman!** In his adventures, Stringman comes to the aid of the struggling string players who all-of-a-sudden can't seem to play well or in tune on their solos. Stringman comes to the rescue of the orchestra, ridding them of sour notes. After a series of hilarious "saves," the orchestra thanks Stringman and finishes the piece in rare form!

When asked to write this piece, the composer was interested in finding out more about this inspirational educator. Through comments of former students and with the help of her co-worker, Marilyn Kesler, Meyer saw two words that kept coming up in reference to Burchman's teaching style: "energy" and "enthusiasm," which became the springboard for this piece. The title **Momentum** refers both to the driving rhythmic pulse that permeates throughout and a representation of the results achieved by Burchman. Her influence as a teacher and the energy that she brought to each lesson can be thought of as the "momentum" that continues to live on in her students and their musical accomplishments. The piece incorporates two diverse moods - a highly rhythmic first section in b minor, built on rising and falling thirds followed by a simple chorale in folk song style, first presented in the violins and then passed throughout the ensemble. As the slow section winds down, the energy is once again established with the re-introduction of earlier material. The chorale is then heard again, this time coupled with the energetic figures that started the piece.

Experience the truly colorful traditions of Spanish festivals, from the dramatic costumes and complicated rhythms to the infamous bullfights and fascinating dances through **Fantasia Española**. The pizzicato chords in the violins and cellos represent the strummed chords of a guitar and the col legno ricochet triplet effect depicts castanets.

Originally written for string quartet and piano, **Seven Scottish Airs** has been faithfully transcribed for string orchestra and piano. The seven songs contained in this work are "The women are a'gane wud," "My love's in Germany," "O how could ye gan, lassie," "Stu Mo Run," "We will take the good old way," "O gin I were where gowdie rins," and "Auld Lang Syne." (Scottish song titles will be expertly pronounced and explained by Mr. Michael Arnold.)

Program notes by Michèle Tacchia
Program designed by Wendy Polley