



The Life of an Artist

Directed by Will Esterling

Featuring Young Artist Competition Winner **JANE LIANG**

playing Grieg's Piano Concerto in A Minor

Also Including -

Schubert's Unfinished Symphony

Strauss' "Artist's Life"

SATURDAY, MARCH 11 @ 3:00 PM

NANCY R. AND NORTON T. DODGE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER,
ST. MARY'S COLLEGE, ST. MARY'S CITY, MD

SUNDAY, MARCH 12 @ 3:00 PM

COLLEGE OF SOUTHERN MARYLAND, PRINCE FREDERICK, MD



This award was made possible in part by a grant from the St. Mary's County Arts Council, and the Maryland State Arts Council.

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We are thrilled to present our family concert, The Life of an Artist, and accompanying our own Jane Liang, 2020 Young Artist Competition Winner. Jane was originally scheduled to perform at our March 2020 concert, however, that show was cancelled due to the COVID global pandemic. While planning the 2022-2023 season, we knew Jane deserved the opportunity she had missed. Jane also plays violin and joined the orchestra this year! We are pleased to announce we will soon begin accepting applications for the 2024 Young Artist Competition. The application, details and rules can be found on our website (<https://cosmicsymphony.org/young-artists/>). If you know someone that would like to audition, please tell them about this wonderful opportunity!

Each year the family concert provides COSMIC with the opportunity to reach out to the younger members of our community and to help children and young adults become lifelong music lovers. Our youth deserve the opportunity to hear quality classical music in their own community, without spending an arm and a leg to attend. We take great care to select pieces that appeal to a broad audience, from those who are young to those who are young at heart. We strongly believe that music helps keep your heart young.

We are delighted to perform this concert at two new venues, the beautiful new Nancy R. and Norton T. Dodge Performing Arts Center and the College of Southern Maryland Prince Frederick Campus. Special thanks to Mrs. Nancy Dodge and her late husband, Mr. Norton Dodge, a former St. Mary's College trustee and professor of economics for their generous support of the arts in St. Mary's County. Enjoy the amazing Bösendorfer piano at CSM!

As always, we are thankful to our many volunteers. Thanks to our stage crew and other volunteers for arriving early to set up our practice and concert spaces and for providing front and back of-the-house support. Many thanks to the COSMIC Symphony Board of Directors for fundraising support and managing the day-to-day operations. Mindy Striep, as always, has blown us away with her fabulous graphics and program design! Finally, thanks to you for coming to our shows and supporting us with your generous donations, which allow us to present our concerts free of charge!

Enjoy the performance and be sure to follow us on Facebook and Instagram. Please help spread the word about COSMIC Symphony, Southern Maryland's only community orchestra!

Best wishes,

Karen L. Roberts

JOIN US AFTER THE SHOW!

Stop by The Green Turtle any time on **SATURDAY**, 3/11, and 20% of the proceeds from your meal will be donated to COSMIC!

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Find it in your program!



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80 Central Square Dr. Prince Frederick, MD 20678

MUSIC DIRECTOR:

Will Esterling

Will Esterling is excited to take on the position of Music Director at the COSMIC Symphony. Will is an advocate for music as both a performer and educator. As a conductor, Will serves as the assistant conductor at the New Orchestra of Washington (NOW) and the Maryland Classic Youth Orchestras (MCYO). As an educator, Will is an adjunct professor at American University and serves as the Wind & Brass Department Chair at Levine Music. As a trombonist, Will serves as a musician in the 287th Army Band of the Delaware National Guard.



YOUNG ARTIST COMPETITION WINNER:

Jane Liang

Jane Liang is 15 years old. She lives in California, Maryland, and is a homeschooled student in the 10th grade. Jane began piano lessons at about five years old. She took lessons from Mrs. Patricia Blanchard for seven years. Currently, she takes lessons from Mr. Brian Ganz through St. Mary's College of Maryland.

Jane has participated and placed in the Music Teachers' Association of Charles County (MTACC) Sonatina and Sonata Festivals (2016-2020), the Maryland State Music Teachers' Association (MSMTA) Piano Solo and Ensemble Competitions (2016-2020), the Music Teachers' Association of Southern Maryland (MTASM) Spring/Fall Festivals (2016-2020), the 2019 Sounds of Tomorrow Concert, and the 2020 COSMIC Young Artist Competition. Additionally, Jane has taken violin lessons from Mrs. Adina Vallandingham for about 5 years. She has participated in the Southern Maryland Youth Orchestra & Choir and in the Chesapeake Youth Symphony Orchestra. She has been a member of the COSMIC Symphony Orchestra since the fall of 2022.

Jane often plays for worship services at her church. Additionally, she accompanies a local choir, Voices of Grace.

Besides music, Jane enjoys reading and drawing.



COSMIC Flute Choir

Led by Linda Henry

Phyllis Avidan Louke

My Secret Garden

Adrian Dee

Home Soon from Evening Commute

COSMIC Symphony

The Life of an Artist

Music Director: Will Esterling

Franz Schubert

Symphony No. 8

– INTERMISSION –

Edvard Grieg

Piano Concerto in A Minor

Performed by Jane Liang

Johann Strauss II

Artist's Life, Op. 316

As a courtesy to others, please set pagers to silent mode and turn off all cellular phones and electronic watch alarms. Any photography or recording devices are strictly prohibited during these performances.

COSMIC FLUTE CHOIR

Piccolo

Carrie Cooper

Alto Flute

Linda Henry



Bass Flute

Christa
Benner

Contrabass Flute

Patty Lafferty

C Flute

Sara Espinosa
Faith Mason
Debbie Patterson
Holly Thompson
Nathalie Yi
Gina Yingling



PROGRAM NOTES

My Secret Garden was written specifically for flute choir by a flautist. The piece is written in two sections with the first section in 3/4 time and the second section in 6/8 time. The first part paints a sound picture of a quiet, leisurely walk through a garden with lots of opportunities to appreciate the beauties of the garden as one spends time reflecting on one's own thoughts. The second part suggests a time of just enjoying the happy thoughts that have come to mind as one is in the garden.

Home Soon was also written specifically for flute choir by a flautist. It is the fourth movement of a piece that was inspired on the composer's bus ride home one evening. This movement expresses the feeling that one gets when the ride home is almost over and dinner is already waiting on the table. It uses an irregular rhythm of 3 + 2 + 2 + 3 for most of the piece.

COSMIC ORCHESTRA

First Violin

David Kung***
Kaitlin Rose**
Allison Frere
Marcia Van Gemert
Jane Liang
Ginny Norris
Samantha Waby

Second Violin

Carolyn Graessle*
Mia Cassetta
Gianna Heisey
Maria Heisey
Jerry Mobley
Alan Newhouse
Pierre Petitjean

Viola

Holly Gutierrez*
Kori Olszewski
Heidi Mickey
Aarav Sharma
Mindy Striep
Alison Treglia

Cello

Philip Hopko*
Innes Borstel
Stephanie Gleason
Kathleen Hiner
Leroy Mrozowski
Sebastian Raymundo

Double Bass

Bill Hones*
Kasey Ferm
Patricia Lafferty

Flute

Linda Henry*
Christa Benner
Carrie Cooper

Piccolo

Carrie Cooper

Clarinet

Tony Avak*
David Schug

Bassoon

Ben Henry*
Rebecca Moore

Oboe

Karen Roberts*
Janet Gross

*** denotes Concertmaster

**denotes Assistant Concertmaster

* denotes Principal

French Horn

Steven Woods*
Stefie Bartley
Skylar Schirtzinger
Nicole Thompson

Trumpet

David Roan*
Leigh DePiazza

Trombone

Richard Stattel
Greg Wallace

Percussion

Kevin Stevens*
Shane Musgrove
Michael Waby

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PROGRAM NOTES

STRAUSS

Johann Baptist Strauss II (25 October 1825 – 3 June 1899), also known as Johann Strauss Jr., the Younger or the Son, was an Austrian composer of light music, particularly dance music and operettas. He composed over 500 waltzes, polkas, quadrilles, and other types of dance music, as well as several operettas and a ballet. In his lifetime, he was known as "The Waltz King", and was largely responsible for the popularity of the waltz in Vienna during the 19th century. Some of Johann Strauss' most famous works include "The Blue Danube", "Kaiser-Walzer" (Emperor Waltz), "Tales from the Vienna Wood", "Frühlingsstimmen", and the "Tritsch-Tratsch-Polka".



Strauss was the son of Johann Strauss I and his first wife Maria Anna Streim. Two younger brothers, Josef and Eduard Strauss, also became composers of light music, although they were never as well known as their brother. Johann Strauss II and Josef Strauss both presented sparkling new works at the 'Hesperus' Ball which was held at the Dianabad-Saal on 18 February 1867, with the "Artist's Life" waltz presented just three nights after the successful performance of "The Blue Danube" at the same venue. The new waltz was quickly heralded as a new "twin" of "The Blue Danube" and its popularity has since been retained in the classical music repertoire. The composer's best inspiration can be seen in the Introduction of the waltz, which begins with a plaintive horn solo and a quietly dramatic string passage in A minor. A pensive waltz melody in A major is introduced, before being cut short by two loud and fierce chords. The first waltz section is then played, with a high-spirited tune and a robust accompanying waltz passage. The second waltz section is a melancholic tune in two parts, with the same dramatic chords as heard in the Introduction before a more upbeat tune heralds the entry of the happier third section. The plaintive mood of the waltz continues in the fifth section before the minor-sounding Coda. The first waltz melody makes another quiet entrance before the waltz is brought to its triumphant close, with a strong chord and flourish, underlined by a snare-drumroll.



PROGRAM NOTES

GRIEG

Edvard Hagerup Grieg (15 June 1843 – 4 September 1907) was a Norwegian composer and pianist. He is widely considered one of the foremost Romantic era composers, and his music is part of the standard classical repertoire worldwide. His use of Norwegian folk music in his own compositions brought the music of Norway to fame, as well as helping to develop a national identity, much as Jean Sibelius did in Finland and Bedřich Smetana in Bohemia.

The Piano Concerto in A minor, Op. 16, composed by Edvard Grieg in 1868, was the only concerto Grieg completed. It is one of his most popular works and is among the most popular of the genre. The work was written by the then 24-year-old composer in 1868 in Søllerød, Denmark, during one of his visits there to benefit from the climate.

The first movement is in sonata form and is noted for the timpani roll in its first bar that leads to a dramatic piano flourish, which leads to the main theme. Then the key changes to C major, for the secondary theme. Later, the secondary theme appears again in the recapitulation, but this time in the key of A major. The movement finishes with a virtuosic cadenza and a flourish similar to that at the start of the movement.

The second movement is a lyrical movement in D \flat major, which leads directly into the third movement.

The movement is in ternary form (A–B–A). The B section is in D \flat major and E major, then returns to D \flat major for the reprise of the piano.

The third movement opens in A minor 2-4 time with an energetic theme (Theme 1), which is influenced by the Norwegian Halling dance. It is followed by a lyrical theme in F major (Theme 2). The movement returns to Theme 1. Following this recapitulation is the 3-4 A major Quasi presto section, which consists of a variation of Theme 1. The movement concludes with the Andante maestoso in A major, which consists of a dramatic rendition of Theme 2 (as opposed to the lyrical fashion with which Theme 2 is introduced).



PROGRAM NOTES

SCHUBERT

Franz Peter Schubert (31 January 1797 – 19 November 1828) was an Austrian composer of the late Classical and early Romantic eras. Despite his short lifetime, Schubert left behind a vast oeuvre, including more than 600 secular vocal works (mainly lieder), seven complete symphonies, sacred music, operas, incidental music, and a large body of piano and chamber music. His major works include "Erlkönig" (D. 328), the Piano Quintet in A major, D. 667 (Trout Quintet), the Symphony No. 8 in B minor, D. 759 (Unfinished Symphony), the "Great" Symphony No. 9 in C major, D. 944, the String Quintet (D. 956), the three last piano sonatas (D. 958–960), the opera *Fierrabras* (D. 796), the incidental music to the play *Rosamunde* (D. 797), and the song cycles *Die schöne Müllerin* (D. 795) and *Winterreise* (D. 911).



Franz Schubert's Symphony No. 8 in B minor, D. 759, commonly known as the Unfinished Symphony, is a musical composition that Schubert started in 1822 but left with only two movements—though he lived for another six years. A scherzo, nearly completed in piano score but with only two pages orchestrated, also survives.

Schubert's Eighth Symphony is sometimes called the first Romantic symphony due to its emphasis on the lyrical impulse within the dramatic structure of Classical sonata form. Furthermore, its orchestration is not solely tailored for functionality, but specific combinations of instrumental timbre that are prophetic of the later Romantic movement, with astonishing vertical spacing occurring for example at the beginning of the development.

To this day, musicologists still disagree as to why Schubert failed to complete the symphony. Some have speculated that he stopped work in the middle of the scherzo in the fall of 1822 because he associated it with his initial outbreak of syphilis—or that he was distracted by the inspiration for his *Wanderer Fantasy* for solo piano, which occupied his time and energy immediately afterward. It could have been a combination of both factors.



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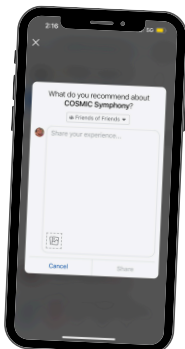
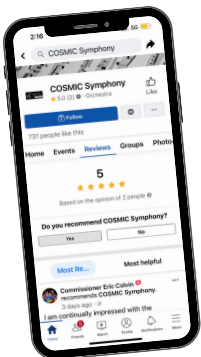
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