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Dvořák Takes Center Stage in Arapahoe Philharmonic’s “Bohemian Rhapsodies”

Littleton, CO – Music Director Devin Patrick Hughes leads the Arapahoe Philharmonic in two of Antonín Dvořák’s most masterful compositions for the orchestra’s first performance of 2018. On **Saturday, February 10, 2018**, Fisher Auditorium will be filled with the lush Romanticism of Dvořák’s Symphony No. 8 in G minor, Op. 88. The work sees a notable change in demeanor from his previous symphonies. Cheerfulness and lyrical melodies abound, as do references to the delightful Bohemian folk music he admired.

Dvořák’s magnificent Cello Concerto in B minor, Op. 104, will also be performed by guest soloist Kelcey Howell. Ms. Howell is the Arapahoe Philharmonic’s 2017–2018 T. Gordon Parks Concerto Competition Winner. She is currently a junior at the University of Denver’s Lamont School of Music in the cello studio of Matthew Zalkind, a member of the Lamont Symphony Orchestra, and performs as a substitute cellist for the Colorado Symphony Orchestra. Kelcey has performed as soloist on over twenty occasions with orchestras in Colorado and Montana, most recently as competition winner with the Boulder Philharmonic Orchestra, Denver Young Artists Orchestra and Parker Symphony Orchestra.

The program opens with contemporary flare in Mason Bates’s *Warehouse Medicine*. Bates is emerging as a powerful musical voice in new music, his works being performed in many of the country’s largest concert halls. *Musical America* recently named him Composer of the Year and he is the Kennedy Center’s first ever Composer in Residence. The final movement of his multi-movement work, *The B-Sides* for orchestra and electronica, includes “huge brass swells and out-of-tune pizzicati to emulate the visceral sonorities of techno” in this homage to techno’s birthplace, the empty warehouses of Detroit.

When: Saturday, February 10, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

Location: Fisher Auditorium on the Englewood High School Campus, 3800 S. Logan St., Englewood 80113

A pre-concert talk with the composer and soloist will be held at 6:45 p.m. in the Black Box Theater. Kids of all ages are invited to our Classic Children’s Corner in the lobby at 7:10 p.m.

Tickets are available online at www.arapahoe-phil.org or by calling 303-781-1892.

The Arapahoe Philharmonic is grateful for its season sponsors: Citizens of the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD) and Colorado Creative Industries. We also thank Universal Music Company, and owners Jim and Millie Patterson, for sponsoring the T. Gordon Parks Concerto Competition.

Download the 2017–2018 Season Brochure: <https://www.arapahoe-phil.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/17-18-Season-Brochure.pdf>

Hear Music Director Devin Patrick Hughes speak about the concert program: <https://www.arapahoe-phil.org/learn/compositions/>

About Kelcey Howell

Kelcey Howell is a junior at the University of Denver's Lamont School of Music, in the cello studio of Matthew Zalkind. She began studying cello with James Todd at age six, continuing with Silver Ainomäe at age 12. Kelcey is currently a member of the Lamont Symphony Orchestra, and is a substitute cellist for the Colorado Symphony Orchestra. As a participant in the New York String Orchestra Seminar, she performed concerts at Carnegie Hall in December 2017. Previously, she was principal cellist of the Denver Young Artists Orchestra from 2010-2014, including the 2011 tour of Germany and the Czech Republic. Kelcey has performed as soloist on over twenty occasions with orchestras in Colorado and Montana, most recently as competition winner with the Boulder Philharmonic Orchestra, Denver Young Artists Orchestra and Parker Symphony Orchestra. Kelcey enjoys playing in a string quartet at the Lamont School of Music, with whom she won the 2017 school-wide chamber music competition, and performed in a master class for Yo-Yo Ma.

About the Arapahoe Philharmonic

Founded in 1953, the Arapahoe Philharmonic is among the longest established, continuously operating musical resources in Colorado. The organization is dedicated to providing the highest degree of musical excellence and cultural enrichment to the region and engaging area youth in educational opportunities promoting an interest in classical music. The orchestra's musicians are primarily volunteers playing for the love of music, with a core of compensated section principals who provide technical leadership and support the excellence of performance.

Concerts feature repertoire spanning the centuries, from the great masters to composers of the current day. The Philharmonic is invested in future generations, presenting an annual children's concert, sponsoring outreach to schools, working with area student honor orchestras, sponsoring a Play-In for high school students to work side-by-side with experienced Arapahoe Philharmonic players, coaching the Civic Youth Orchestra in partnership with Avanti Music Academy in Highlands Ranch, and presenting three collegiate-level competitions, the T. Gordon Parks Concerto Competition and the Vincent C. LaGuardia, Jr. Conducting and Composition Competitions.

About the Music Director

Devin Patrick Hughes is highly regarded for his exhilarating score interpretations, advocacy for music accessibility and promotion of music of our time. He is concurrently serving as Music Director and Conductor of the Arapahoe Philharmonic and Boulder Symphony, and has established himself as a musical leader in the region through previous positions with the Santa Fe Youth Symphony Association, Denver Young Artists Orchestra, Denver Philharmonic Orchestra and Denver Contemporary Chamber Players. In 2010, Hughes was the only American selected with eleven other finalists in the Arturo Toscanini International Conducting Competition in Parma, Italy. He was recently selected from hundreds of his peers across the globe to compete in the 2017 Solti International Conducting Competition in Hungary. Hughes was a conducting fellow at the American Academy of Conducting at Aspen and has conducted ensembles across North America and Europe, including the Winnipeg Symphony, Colorado Symphony, Rochester Philharmonic, Green Bay Symphony and Filarmonica Arturo Toscanini. More information may be found at www.devinpatrickhughes.com.