



For Immediate Release: October 9, 2018

Contact:

Erin Acheson, Executive Director

303-781-1892 | erin@arapahoe-phil.org

Arapahoe Philharmonic Presents Works by Shostakovich, Beethoven and Sarah Kirkland Snider on November 3

Annual silent auction fundraiser held before concert and during intermission.

Littleton, CO – The Arapahoe Philharmonic (AP) presents its second installment of “Symphonic Triumphs,” reflecting themes of despair and renewal, triumph over adversity, through works by Dmitri Shostakovich, Ludwig van Beethoven and Sarah Kirkland Snider on **Saturday, November 3, 2018, at Fisher Auditorium on the Englewood High School Campus**, 3800 S. Logan Street, Englewood, CO 80113. The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. and is preceded by a talk with Music Director Devin Patrick Hughes at 6:45 p.m.

The organization will also hold its annual Silent Auction starting at 6:30 p.m. and throughout the concert’s intermission, featuring dozens of donated items, certificates and experiences from individuals, organizations and businesses across the state.

Fidelio, Beethoven’s only opera, tells the story of devoted wife, Leonore, who disguises herself as a male prison guard, Fidelio, to rescue her husband from certain death as a political prisoner. The work had a rocky start, with performances impacted by conflict and production issues, and each time Beethoven tried to revive the work he created a new overture for the opera. The 1805 premiere opened with what is now known as *Leonore Overture No. 2*, and the 1806 revival – a shortened two-act version – opened with the grand and dramatic *Leonore Overture No. 3*. While often considered the most musically engaging of the four overtures Beethoven composed for the opera, the piece didn’t work in operatic context and has been most often performed in concert.

Sarah Kirkland Snider has been hailed as “one of the decade’s more gifted, up-and-coming modern classical composers” (*Pitchfork*) and “a potentially significant voice on the American music landscape” (*Philadelphia Inquirer*). Her compositions have been described as “haunting” and “strikingly beautiful.” *Something for the Dark* was commissioned and premiered by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, and has received performances by orchestras across the country.

The composer’s note on the work:

“Something for the Dark takes its title from a poem by Philip Levine, the Detroit-born-and-raised, Pulitzer Prize-winning former U.S. Poet Laureate who was best known for his poems about the city’s working class. The poem, written for Levine’s wife, is entitled For Fran.

In preparing the flower beds for winter, Levine’s wife becomes a symbol of the promise of renewal: ‘Out of whatever we have been / We will make something for the dark.’ These final lines struck me as an apt motto for the themes of endurance that run through many of Levine’s poems, particularly those about Detroit and its persistence in the face of tremendous hardship.

Levine has said that much of his Detroit-based work was born of ‘the hope that [Detroit] might be reborn inside itself, out of its own ruins, phoenix-like, rising out of its own ashes. Except I don’t see it in heroic terms. The triumphs are small, personal, daily. Nothing grandly heroic is taking place; just animals and men and flowers and plants asserting their right to be, even in this most devastated of American cities.’

Something for the Dark is a meditation on endurance, and the grace that attends the small, personal, daily triumphs of asserting one’s right to be.”

Ms. Snider is Composer-in-Residence at University of Colorado – Boulder School of Music during the 2018–2019 season.

One of the most highly regarded composers of the 20th century, Dmitri Shostakovich had a prolific compositional output including concertos, piano works, film music and 15 symphonies. He received great fame in Russia, but came under the government’s scrutiny with the western influences in his Fourth Symphony. Shostakovich’s Fifth Symphony, which the composer himself characterized as “a Soviet artist’s creative response to just criticism,” saw a return to the conservative musical styles from his earlier works and received renewed praise from government officials. The music, however, evoked another response from the public. Audience members openly wept during the work, overtaken by what they heard as an expression of suffering under Stalin’s regime.

Single tickets and season ticket packages, offering discounted pricing and a number of additional benefits, are available. Pricing and benefits are outlined on our website at www.arapahoe-phil.org/events/buy-tickets/.

The AP offers a **“Pay Your Age” package** for young adults age 18 to 35. This subscription offer includes four tickets that can be used to attend any of our full orchestra concerts for just the cost of the purchaser’s age. It’s priced to entice and give maximum flexibility to young classical music lovers. Some restrictions, which are outlined on our website, do apply.

THE 2018–2019 65th ANNIVERSARY SEASON: SYMPHONIC TRIUMPHS

Concert 2: Saturday, November 3, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

Ludwig van Beethoven: *Leonore* Overture No. 3

Sarah Kirkland Snider: *Something for the Dark*

Dmitri Shostakovich: Symphony No. 5

Fisher Auditorium on the Englewood High School Campus
3800 S. Logan Street, Englewood, CO 80113

The Arapahoe Philharmonic is grateful for its season sponsors: Scientific and Cultural Facilities District and Colorado Creative Industries.

Download the full 2018–2019 Season Brochure: <https://www.arapahoe-phil.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/18-19-Season-Brochure.pdf>

About the Arapahoe Philharmonic

Founded in 1953, the Arapahoe Philharmonic is among the longest established musical resources in Colorado. The organization is dedicated to engaging, enriching and inspiring our community through musical performance, education and outreach. 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 Discovery Concert, sponsoring outreach to schools, working with area student honor orchestras, sponsoring a Play-In side-by-side event for high school students and presenting three collegiate-level competitions, the T. Gordon Parks Concerto Competition and the Vincent C. LaGuardia, Jr. Conducting and Composition Competitions. New initiatives this year include a Family Concert and music therapy-inspired programs for individuals with developmental disabilities and dementia.

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 was recently named the Mattie Kelly Distinguished Chair in Music and Conductor for the Northwest Florida Symphony Orchestra in Niceville, FL. He 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 also 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.

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