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Arapahoe Philharmonic Closes Season with Mahler's Fifth Symphony

Music by Johann Sebastian Bach and Resident Composer Jack Frerer also featured

Littleton, CO – The Arapahoe Philharmonic's (AP) 65th anniversary season of "Symphonic Triumphs" comes to a close on Saturday, May 11, 2019, with a performance of Gustav Mahler's monumental Fifth Symphony. The program also includes Johann Sebastian Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 3 and *On-Again, Off-Again* by composer Jack Frerer, winner of the 2018–2019 Vincent C. LaGuardia, Jr. Composition Competition. The performance takes place at 7:30 p.m. in Fisher Auditorium on the Englewood High School Campus, 3800 S. Logan St., Englewood, CO 80113. Mr. Frerer will join Music Director Devin Patrick Hughes for a pre-concert talk in the Black Box Theatre on the balcony level at 6:45 p.m. Tickets and additional information may be found at <https://www.arapahoe-phil.org/event/concert-6-mahlers-fifth-symphony/>.

From the haunting opening trumpet solo to the joyful closing movement, Mahler's Fifth Symphony takes the listener on a journey from tragedy to triumph. His obsession with death is clearly evident in the first part, the opening Funeral March and turbulent second movement. The mood pivots as the third movement offers a cheerful contrast. The fourth movement, *Adagietto*, features only strings and harp and is a love song to his wife Alma made famous by its use in Visconti's 1971 movie *Death in Venice*. Mahler brought back themes from earlier in the work for the lively final movement as the symphony comes to its jubilant conclusion.

Bach's six *Brandenburg Concertos* are widely considered some of the best instrumental works from the Baroque era. The Brandenburg Concerto No. 3 in G major, BWV 1048, is scored for three violins, three violas, three cellos and basso continuo. The nine upper strings serve as both soloists and accompanists, passing melody and accompaniment among themselves.

The AP is excited to welcome composer Jack Frerer as its composer-in-residence for the 2018–2019 and 2019–2020 seasons. Frerer was named winner of this year's Vincent C. LaGuardia, Jr. Composition Competition with *On-Again, Off-Again* for full orchestra, selected through a blind application process from 25 submissions by composers from across the country.

Frerer lives in New York while studying composition with John Corigliano at The Juilliard School and credits the New York City subway system as motivation for the work. "This piece is about my commute

from 66th up to 157th. To me, nothing is a better symbol of the energy shifts that you find in a place like New York; you're either going, hurtling at a million miles an hour through work, school, meetings, friends, more work, or you're stopped, sitting in the back of a Starbucks trying to catch your breath for a moment, or sitting on the 1 train as it emerges from the ground at 125th street, sun shining through the windows. In New York, there's no in-between."

"*On-Again, Off-Again* is full of life, full of movement," Hughes states. "Jack's composition jumped out at us as witty and unexpected, a mix of serious and whimsical. It's quite fun, and the audience will enjoy experiencing it. We are already anxious to hear what he composes for us during the second year of his residency next season."

Single tickets for the performance are available on our website at www.arapahoe-phil.org/events/buy-tickets/ and at the door the night of the performance starting at 6:30 p.m.

THE 2018–2019 65th ANNIVERSARY SEASON: SYMPHONIC TRIUMPHS

Concert 6: Saturday, May 11, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

Gustav Mahler: Symphony No. 5

Johann Sebastian Bach: Brandenburg Concerto No. 3

Jack Frerer: *On-Again, Off-Again*

Winner of the 2018–2019 Vincent C. LaGuardia, Jr. Composition Competition

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

The Arapahoe Philharmonic is grateful for its season supporters, Scientific and Cultural Facilities District and Colorado Creative Industries, and the Collage Giving Fund for sponsoring the Vincent C. LaGuardia, Jr. Composition Competition winner.

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About Jack Frerer

Jack Frerer (b. 1995) is an Australian-American composer of music for concert, film and dance, as well as a producer and filmmaker based in Manhattan, currently pursuing a B.M. in Composition at The Juilliard School where he studies with John Corigliano. His work has been performed by a variety of ensembles around Australia, Europe, and the U.S., and he has won awards including a Charles Ives Scholarship from the American Academy of Arts and Letters and competitions including Illinois State University's Red Note Composition Competition, the Lake George Music Festival Composition Competition, the Alba Rosa Viëtor Composition Competition in Utrecht, the Brian Israel Prize, and both the Juilliard Orchestra and Gena Raps Chamber Music competitions.

As a filmmaker, Jack has created films for institutions including The Juilliard School and Quest Magazine, dancers Marcelo Gomes and Julie Kent, and music videos for bands and ensembles. He is a co-creator and producer of *The Roof*, a collaborative film and performance series he created with dancer Liana Kleinman that features New York-based choreographers and composers.

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.