Arapahoe Philharmonic Announces 2019–2020 Concert Season: “On With the Dance!”

Littleton, CO – The Arapahoe Philharmonic (AP), under the direction of Music Director and Conductor Devin Patrick Hughes, announces its 2019–2020 concert season titled “On With the Dance!” The six-concert subscription series, held September through May, showcases a variety of symphonic dance music from classical greats such as Beethoven, Brahms, Copland, Dvořák, Gershwin, Rachmaninoff, and Ravel, as well as selections by living composers Jack Frerer, Jennifer Higdon, Brian LaGuardia and Zhou Tian.

A dance theme connects the entire season, but some concerts have a secondary theme as well. In November, our Off the Rails concert will feature the famous dances from Copland’s ballet Rodeo, as well as train-themed compositions by Villa-Lobos, Jennifer Higdon and our own resident composer/arranger Brian LaGuardia. The centerpiece of the concert is a new work by Grammy-nominated Chinese-American composer Zhou Tian. We are thrilled to take part in the League of American Orchestra’s commission consortium with 13 other orchestras from across the country to premiere Transcend, written to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Transcontinental Railroad.

Holiday Movie Night in December will include music from some of the movies that have become part of our annual traditions this time of the year, such as The Polar Express, A Charlie Brown Christmas and How the Grinch Stole Christmas, as well as Adam Shugar’s Hanukkah Overture and other surprises sure to get you in the holiday spirit.

We’ll then swing into The Jazz Age for our February concert to perform William Grant Still’s Afro-American Symphony and Duke Ellington’s Black, Brown and Beige alongside Gershwin’s Porgy and Bess Suite and an homage to the big band era.

In March, we will celebrate Beethoven’s 250th birthday with his Seventh Symphony, hailed by Richard Wagner as the “apotheosis of the dance” for its varied dance rhythms. A new work by Australian-American composer Jack Frerer, our composer-in-residence, will also be premiered along with a concerto performance by the winner of our T. Gordon Parks Concerto Competition to be announced in January.
All performances will take place at the centrally-located Denver First Church of the Nazarene, 3800 E. Hampden Avenue, Cherry Hills Village, CO 80113.

Season ticket packages, offering discounted pricing and a number of additional benefits, are available. The “Early Bird” discount, our lowest price all season, is available through August 31. Pricing and benefits are outlined on our website at www.arapahoe-phil.org/events/buy-tickets/.

The AP once again offers its “Pay Your Age” package for young adults age 18 to 35. This subscription offer includes four tickets to be used to 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 professional classical music lovers. Some restrictions, which are outlined on our website, do apply.

Single tickets are also now available for all performances.

THE 2019–2020 CONCERT SEASON: On With the Dance!
All concerts at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Pre-concert talks offered at 6:45 p.m. before most evening concerts.

The Arapahoe Philharmonic is grateful for season support from the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District and Colorado Creative Industries.

Friday, September 20, 2019: Slavic Rock
Sergei Rachmaninoff: Symphonic Dances
Zoltán Kodály: Dances of Galanta
Antonín Dvořák: Slavonic Dances Nos. 1 and 8, Op. 46 and Nos. 2 and 7, Op. 72

Friday, November 1, 2019: Off the Rails
Aaron Copland: Four Dance Episodes from Rodeo
Zhou Tian: Transcend (Premiere)
Jennifer Higdon: Loco
Brian LaGuardia: Rhapsody in Orange, featuring Tracy LaGuardia, violin (World Premiere)
Heitor Villa-Lobos: The Little Train of the Caipira, from Bachianas Brasileiras No. 2

Silent auction beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Friday, December 13, 2019: Holiday Movie Night
Alan Silvestri: The Polar Express
Vince Guaraldi: A Charlie Brown Christmas
Arr. Jerry Brubaker: How the Grinch Stole Christmas
Adam Shugar: Hanukkah Overture
Other holiday works to be announced

Friday, February 7, 2020: The Jazz Age
William Grant Still: Afro-American Symphony (Symphony No. 1)
Duke Ellington: Black, Brown and Beige
George Gershwin: Porgy and Bess Suite
Arr. Calvin Custer: A Salute to the Big Bands
Friday, March 27, 2020: Apotheosis of the Dance
Ludwig van Beethoven: Symphony No. 7
Winner of the 2019–2020 T. Gordon Parks Concerto Competition (to be announced in January 2020)

Friday, May 1, 2020: Danza Final
Maurice Ravel: La Valse
Alberto Ginastera: Four Dances from Estancia
Ottorino Respighi: Ancient Airs and Dances Suite No. 1
Johannes Brahms: Hungarian Dances Nos. 1, 4 and 5
Camille Saint-Saëns: Bacchanale, from Samson and Delilah

Download the 2019–2020 Season Brochure: https://www.arapahoe-phil.org/season-brochure/

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. Recent initiatives 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 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 Filarmónica Arturo Toscanini. More information may be found at www.devinpatrickhughes.com.

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