

# **MUSIC**



## Program

Divertimento in D major, K.136

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Allegro

(1756 - 1791)

Andante

Presto

Serenade in C major, opus 48

Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Elégie

(1840 - 1893)

Finale

Timothy Russell, conductor

#### Intermission

Aspirations for Chamber Orchestra (2004)

Theresa Martin

Discovery

(b. 1979)

Pursuit

Jana Minov, guest conductor

Classical Symphony, opus 25

Serge Prokofiev

Allegro con brio

(1891 – 1953)

Larghetto

Gavotte

Finale, molto vivace

Out of respect for the performers and those audience members around you, please turn all pagers, cell phones, and watches to silent mode. Thank you.

## **Program Notes**

#### Aspirations (2004)

While I am writing a piece of music, current life events often inspire my compositions. While these titles have meaning to my life, the music has its own story to tell. Throughout the piece, you will hear an evolution of motives and melodies.

The character of the first movement, *Discovery*, is lyrical, mysterious and passionate. *Discovery* contains two main melodic ideas, both of which are introduced by the clarinet. As the ideas grow, the melodies are passed around to different instruments. The pitch material chosen for *Discovery* begins with an emphasis on the intervals of a second and a seventh, both major and minor. As the melodies evolve, the minor mode emerges.

Pursuit is intense and rhythmically driven, using jazz-inspired syncopations and metric displacements. The characteristic of its harmonic material is biting dissonance. This movement is in three sections, in which you will hear three main motives. Motive "A" is introduced as a rhythmic, melodic motive stated by the woodwinds. Motive "B" is stated initially in the strings as an ascending line with large leaps. Motives "A" and "B" overlap in the beginning and pull further apart from each other as the piece progresses. Throughout the piece, these motives evolve, changing character and disguising themselves from their original. Motive "C" makes its first appearance in the second section as a high, slow-moving melody in the strings. In section three, you will hear the three motives together in layers, with fragments of each layer passed around the orchestration.

## Biographies

Timothy Russell is in his 14th year as a Professor of Music and Director of Orchestras at Arizona State University. He is one of America's most versatile and dynamic conductors and foremost music educators. He is equally at home conducting the great symphonic literature, music for chamber orchestra, ballet, large choral works, pops concerts, and children's programs. An articulate spokesperson for the arts, his obvious joy in discussing music and building new audiences is only surpassed by the insight and energy which his concerts possess . . .entertaining and enlightening programs of music spanning over four centuries, powerfully presented for listeners of all ages. In addition to his conducting at ASU, Dr. Russell directs the School's graduate orchestral conducting program. He is also the co-founder and Music Director of the award-winning ProMusica Chamber Orchestra of Columbus, Ohio. Dr. Russell was recently named the winner of the 2006 Ohioana Pegasus Award, which recognizes outstanding contributions in the arts and humanities. Past winners have included folk artist Elijah Pierce, Vietnam Veterans Memorial designer Maya Lin, conductor Erich Kunzel, and entertainers Rosemary Clooney, Doris Day, and Roy Rogers.

Russell has been a frequent guest conductor with The Phoenix Symphony, including highly acclaimed full-length productions of Tchaikovsky's Swan Lake and Nutcracker ballets, Prokofiev's Romeo and Juliet, and the "Tribute to George

Balanchine" with Ballet Arizona. This season he will also lead *Coppelia* by Leo Delibes. Other guest conducting appearances have included the Charlotte Symphony, Baton Rouge Symphony, American Classical Orchestra, Hawaii Symphony Orchestra, South Dakota Symphony, Spokane Symphony, Baltimore Chamber Orchestra, Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble, Lehigh Valley Chamber Orchestra, and Summit Brass. In recent years he has conducted All-State Orchestras in Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, and Texas.

The conductor/producer of twenty-seven CDs, Russell has received two Grammy nominations. All of his recordings have been enthusiastically received by listeners and critics alike, as has his vital and imaginative orchestral leadership.

Maestro Russell just celebrated his twenty-seventh season as music director of ProMusica. His achievements with that ensemble have been remarkable and diverse. A recipient of the Greater Columbus Arts Council's "Artistic Excellence Award," the orchestra continues to maintain its outstanding reputation for artistic performance and exciting, adventuresome programming. On eight occasions the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP) has honored Russell and ProMusica for their service to contemporary music. Together, they have been active in the commissioning of new works. Russell has conducted the world premiere performances of over ninety new compositions.

Prior to coming to the Valley of the Sun, Maestro Russell served for nine seasons as the Music Director and Conductor of The Naples Philharmonic. For the last four years of his tenure he was the resident conductor in Naples, Florida in addition to serving as Director of Music Education for the city's spectacular Philharmonic Center for the Arts.

A Danforth Foundation Fellow, Dr. Russell has held academic appointments at The Ohio State University and the University of Rochester, including in its Eastman School of Music as an Associate Professor of Conducting and Ensembles. Dr. Russell regularly leads pre-concert talks and symposia, and continues to be a featured speaker at music conferences and workshops. He is actively involved in research and publication, currently writing three books – *The Joyful Musician: A Mindful Approach to Peak Performance, The Conductor's Anthology*, and *Mindful Tennis* with renowned Harvard psychologist Ellen Langer.

Timothy Russell and his wife, Jill, and their children, Kathryn and Geoffrey, reside in Phoenix, Arizona.

Jana Minov graduated with a degree in conducting from the Conservatory of Music in Belgrade-Serbia where she studied with Jovan Šajnović for six years. During her studies, Minov attended master classes and seminars with prominent conductors such as Emil Tabakov, Uroš Lajovic, and Mladen Jagust. In addition to conducting, Jana is also an accomplished pianist and vocalist, having studied piano for over ten years and voice for six years.

Minov's academic honors and work experience include the first prize and a special award at the International Choir Competition in Shanghai, China in July 2004. She led a series of concerts with the Niš Symphonic Orchestra as a guest conductor. Jana is the youngest conductor to conduct an opera (Mozart's *Magic* 

Flute) in the National Opera Theater in Belgrade. She also conducted stage music for many operas which were part of the standard repertoire in this prestigious opera house. Minov had the privilege of organizing, supervising, and conducting a series of performances with some of the most talented students within the Music Academy in Belgrade, who were assembled in the school's String Chamber Orchestra. She conducted a series of concerts with the Army Symphonic Orchestra and Choir in Belgrade and worked as a conducting assistant. In addition, she directed many public concerts with the amateur choir "Belgrade Madrigalists."

Minov also worked with church choirs for a two-year period during her studies and conducted several highly acclaimed concerts in Serbia and abroad. Before coming to Arizona, Jana worked as a music professor at the music high-school "Mokranjac." She is currently a doctoral student in orchestral conducting at ASU, studying with Dr. Timothy Russell. She is also a conductor of the ASU Sinfonietta, and an assistant conductor for the ASU Orchestra Program.

Theresa Martin, a native of Appleton, Wisconsin, is currently pursuing her doctorate in composition at the University of Michigan, where she was awarded a fellowship and graduate teaching position. Ms. Martin received masters' degrees from Arizona State University in 2004 in music composition and clarinet performance and a BFA in composition/theory and clarinet performance from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Her composition teachers include Michael Daugherty, William Bolcom, James DeMars, Rodney Rogers, Jody Rockmaker, Randall Shinn, and William Heinrichs.

Ms. Martin's studies of clarinet have led her to compose numerous works for the instrument. Most notably, *Solar Flair* (2004) for clarinet duet, commissioned by clarinet virtuoso Robert Spring, has received multiple performances by Dr. Spring and others in the U.S., Canada, and China and was performed at the 2005 SCI Student National Conference. In addition, Ms Martin was awarded honorable mention for *Solar Flair* in the 2005 ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer's Competition. Ms. Martin is the winner of the 2004 Grant Fletcher Memorial Award in Composition for her orchestral work, *Imprints*. Her works have also received recognition by the American Composer's Forum and the American Composer's Alliance. Most recently, Ms. Martin had the honor of performing her *Sonata for Clarinet and Piano* at the 2006 SCI National Conference in San Antonio.

More information on Ms. Martin is available at www.theresamartin.net.

## ASU Orchestra Program

The Arizona State University Orchestra Program in the Herberger College of Fine Arts School of Music is dedicated to providing the finest musical and educational opportunities for those qualified individuals interested in studying and performing a wide variety of orchestral music. The faculty and administration are committed to the training and development of professional orchestral performers (instrumentalists and conductors), orchestral music educators and music therapists, musicologists, theorists, composers, arts administrators, and future arts supporters. The students share in this commitment, aspiring to the highest possible standards of musical excellence.

Currently the program includes three ensembles: the University Symphony Orchestra, the Chamber Orchestra, and the Sinfonietta. The ASU Chamber Orchestra, which in 1997 produced its first commercially released CD, A Brassy Night at the Opera, on the Summit label, presently performs approximately six concerts annually. This ensemble performs works explicitly composed or originally intended for a small orchestra. Their recording of the Hoover Clarinet Concerto was released in 2005 on the Summit Label.

Visiting artists who have performed with the Chamber Orchestra include violinists Ilya Kaler and Sergiu Luca, as well as cellists Colin Carr and Stephen Kates. Faculty soloists also regularly appear in concert with the ASU Chamber Orchestra.

In addition to performing on the ASU campus, in March of 2005 they offered two performances of Bach's monumental B minor Mass with the ASU Concert Choir. In Spring 2002, the Chamber Orchestra offered three complete performances of Handel's *Messiah* with the Phoenix Bach Choir. The two ensembles collaborated again in 2003. In 2001, the Chamber Orchestra was a featured performance ensemble at the national conference of the American Society of University Composers.

Please visit <u>music.asu.edu</u> for further information about the ASU School of Music and <u>music.asu.edu/performance/orchestras.htm</u> for information about the Orchestra Program.

#### Chamber Orchestra

Timothy Russell, conductor

Violin I Xian Meng\*\* Agnieszka Laskus Steven Crichlow Sarah Bowlin Brian Chen Laura Speck

W Horn Rose Marie French\* Felipe Vera

Trumpet

Ryan Lehr

Bassoon

Joseph Kluesener^

J. David Hunsicker\*

Pablo Garcia^

Violin II Rachael Massengill\* Chrystal Smothers Holly Roberts Patricia Cole Heide Hille

a Cole Harp
Hille Celeste Smith
Timpani

Viola Jan Matthews\* April Losey Louis Privitera Jr. Megan Leigh Smith

Percussion Matt Holm\* Bill Sallak Laura Wiedenfeld

Bill Sallak

Cello Hope Shepherd\* Derek J. Stein Jenna Dalbey Amy L. Huzjak

\*\* Concertmaster
\* Principal
^ Co-principals

Bass Daniel Stotz\* Juan J. Garcia

Orchestra Assistants
Jacob Harrison
Brandon Matthews
Jana Minov

Flute
Jeanie Jang\*
Angela Rich

Orchestra Librarian Jacob Harrison

Oboe Ashley Williams\* Nikolaus Flickinger Orchestra Manager Derek J. Stein

Clarinet
Josh Gardner\*
Natalie Lehr

Orchestra Office Specialist Linda Bennett

#### **Upcoming Events**

University Symphony Orchestra & ASU Choral Union A Halloween Spectacular

Friday, October 27, 2006
7:30 p.m.
ASU Gammage – free admission
Timothy Russell and David Schildkret conductors
Jacob Harrison, Brandon Matthews, and Jana Minov,
guest conductors

#### University Symphony Orchestra & Sinfonietta

Monday, November 20, 2006
7:30 p.m.
ASU Gammage – free admission
Timothy Russell, Jacob Harrison, Brandon Matthews,
and Jana Minov, conductors

## University Symphony Orchestra & ASU Choral Union *Holiday Concert*

Sunday, December 3, 2006
2:30 p.m.
ASU Gammage
Admission: \$12.50 general, \$7.50 students
ASU Gammage Box Office: 480-965-3434
www.asugammage.com
Timothy Russell and David Schildkret, conductors

**Events Information Call 480-965-TUNE (480-965-8863)**