



Bach: Concerto in C minor for Oboe and Violin

John Dimond, oboe soloist

Matt Weiss, violin soloist

- I. Allegro
- II. Andante
- III. Allegro

Warlock: Capriol Suite for String Orchestra

- I. Basse-Danse
- II. Pavanne
- III. Tordion
- IV. Bransles
- V. Pieds-en-l'air
- VI. Mattachins (Sword Dance)

~ intermission ~

Sibelius: Andante Festivo

Sibelius: Romanze in C

Britten: Simple Symphony

- I. Boisterous Bourree
- II. Playful Pizzicato
- III. Sentimental Saraband
- IV. Frolicsome Finale

Sunday September 25th, 2022 7:00pm

Maple Park Church

17620 60th Ave W Lynnwood, WA 98037

Johan Louwersheimer, Music Director



Maestro Johan Louwersheimer's unique musical background and training has provided him with the enviable ability to stand in front of both professional and community orchestras and choirs. Maestro Louwersheimer began his training in conducting in his late thirties, when he received an international scholarship to pursue doctoral studies in conducting at the University of Washington in Seattle. While in Seattle, Maestro Louwersheimer initiated the University Summer Orchestra program, which he conducted for three consecutive summers. In addition, Maestro Louwersheimer toured with the Washington University Symphony and founded the Octava Chamber Orchestra in collaboration with concertmaster Matthew Weiss. With Octava, Maestro Louwersheimer toured Washington and the Fraser Valley. Octava has featured renowned soloists

including Bela Siki, and Steven Stark. While at the University of Washington, Maestro Louwersheimer received the Warren Babb Memorial Award.

In 1993 Maestro Louwersheimer moved back to British Columbia, to spend more time with his family, where founded the Abbotsford Symphony Orchestra and Abbotsford Symphony Orchestra Chorus. With the Abbotsford Symphony he has collaborated with outstanding Canadian musicians including; Judith Forst, Anton Kuerti, Robert Silverman, Stephen Lemelin, Jonathon Crow, Jennifer Lim and Ian Parker. Maestro Louwersheimer developed the much-loved educational Discovery Concerts to promote orchestra music to school age children.

In 2007, Maestro Louwersheimer received the Paul Harris Fellow Award from the Abbotsford Rotary club for his commitment promoting music in the community. The scope of Maestro Louwersheimer musical career has included a national award winning high school music program, Artistic director of the UW summer program and Artist in Residence at the University of Washington and Lee in Virginia.

Maestro Louwersheimer has been the Artistic Director with the Handel Society since 1995 in White Rock, British Columbia. Under his baton the choir has performed large-scale choral orchestral masterworks including St. Matthew Passion and St. John Passion by J.S. Bach, Haydn's Masses and Creation, Mozart's Masses and Requiem, Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, Schubert's great Masses, Puccini's Messa di Gloria, and the music of Benjamin Britten. For the celebration of the Handel Society's 30th Anniversary, Mr. Louwersheimer was instrumental in commissioning a new Canadian composition by Bruce Ruddell.

Since September 2009, Maestro Louwersheimer also serves as the artistic director of the Chilliwack Metropolitan Orchestra. This last season, Maestro Louwersheimer commissioned the Divertimento for Three Trombones by Canadian composer, Michel R. Edward.

A business card for Jason S. Kuo, Piano Instructor. The card features a black and white photograph of a grand piano in the background. The text on the card is as follows:

Jason S. Kuo
Piano Instructor
NE Seattle • Bellevue
adult students welcome
Phone: (206)409-9787
Email: jason.kuo@gmail.com
www.studio9509.com

A business card for Nathan Jensen, Registered Piano Technician. The card features a black and white photograph of a piano tuning fork in the center. The text on the card is as follows:

NATHAN JENSEN
Registered Piano Technician
1244 NE 188th St.
Shoreline, WA 98155
(206) 440-0346
doublenorwich@hotmail.com (425) 327-5725

John Dimond, soloist



John Dimond holds Bachelors and Masters Degrees in oboe performance from the University of Illinois. After graduating he attended the Tanglewood Music Festival where he studied with Ralph Gomberg of the Boston Symphony and performed with the Fellowship orchestra. John played principal oboe with the Savannah Symphony for three years, and went on to study with Ray Still of the Chicago Symphony for another three years. He has played under the direction of Michael Tilson-Thomas, Geoffrey Simon, Colin Davis, Carl Maria Giulini, Seiji Ozawa, Georg Solti and Leonard Bernstein.

Since moving to Seattle in 1994, John has played principal oboe with 5 area orchestras, including the Octava Chamber Orchestra, Orchestra Seattle, Northwest Symphony, Rainier Symphony and

LUCO and has performed on oboe and English horn with Philharmonia Northwest, Seattle Philharmonic, Thalia and Eastside Symphony. John is woodwind coach for the Wenatchee Youth Symphony, and teaches oboe for the Icicle Creek Summer Symphony. He has been a teacher in one capacity or another since college, when he taught oboe and reed making at the Illinois Summer Youth Music. He has taught a wide array of other subjects, including math and computer applications, and once even wrote a government instruction manual for On-The-Job Instructors.

Matt Weiss, soloist



Matt Weiss graduated from the University of Washington School of Music in 1991 earning a degree in Violin Performance while studying with Steven Staryk and serving under the baton of Maestro Peter Erös. He previously studied violin with Walter Schwede, Gwen Thompson, Mara Dvonch, Emanuel Zetlin, Denes Zsigmondy, Mari Nakamura, and Dr. Shinichi Suzuki. Matt studied music theory and composition with Ken Benshoof, Diane Thome, and James Beale at the University of Washington and privately with William McGreal and James William Clarke who also instructed him in piano and conducting, and voice lessons from Jeffrey Moidel. He is currently studying conducting with Bobby Collins, Cello with Benjamin Louwersheimer, and Acting with Jim Johnson.

Matt is the founder and Chief Creative Officer of Pranakasha Productions whose YouTube channel currently has over 14,000 subscribers and growing. Featuring compelling interviews, Star Trek and The Orville fan films, Matt's classical compositions and performances, Rhododendron and Lava Rock Updates, and other crazy stuff, you can find "Pranakasha Matt" at www.Pranakasha.com.

PROGRAM NOTES:

J.S. Bach: Concerto in C minor for Oboe and Violin BWV 1060

This concerto for oboe and violin is reconstructed from Bach's concerto for two harpsichords in C minor, BWV 1060. It is believed that the concerto for two harpsichords is Bach's own arrangement of a concerto for oboe and violin that is now lost. The conjectural original version of the concerto, which may have been composed in Bach's Köthen years (1717–1723) has been reconstructed in several versions known as BWV 1060R.

While the extant 18th-century manuscripts present the concerto in a form for two harpsichords and strings, the assumption that it originated as concerto for violin and oboe has become widely accepted since the late 19th century. The precise date for this earlier concerto is unknown, but it is believed to have been in existence from the early 1720s.

Warlock: Capriol Suite for String Orchestra

The Capriol Suite is a set of dances composed in October 1926 by Peter Warlock and is considered one of his most popular works. Originally written for piano duet, Warlock later scored it for both string and full orchestras. According to the composer, it was based on tunes in Thoinot Arbeau's *Orchésographie*, a manual of Renaissance dances. Nevertheless, Warlock's biographer, Cecil Gray, wrote that "if one compares these tunes with what the composer has made of them it will be seen that to all intents and purposes it can be regarded as an original work".

The work is dedicated to the Breton composer Paul Ladmirault.

Sibelius: Andante Festivo

Walter Parviainen requested a cantata from Sibelius to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Säynätsalo sawmills before Christmas of 1922. Sibelius wrote instead a composition for a string quartet, to become *Andante Festivo*. It was possibly based on older projects, such as a planned oratorio *Marjatta* from the 1900s. When Riitta Sibelius, a niece of the composer, got married in 1929, *Andante Festivo* was performed by two string quartets, possibly with modifications.

A 2015 collection of recordings of music for orchestra by Sibelius, played by the Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Leif Segerstam, and recorded between 1995 and 2007, includes the recording of *Andante Festivo* from the archives of the Finnish Broadcasting Company and contrasts it to works including the *Violin Concerto* and the *Second Symphony*.

The recording conducted by Sibelius is also part of a collection of historic performances from 1928 to 1948, notably recordings of the Columbia Gramophone Company (later EMI) from the 1930s, when Robert Kajanus conducted the symphonies and tone poems, many of which he had premiered.[4]

The recording of *Andante Festivo* was Sibelius's last performance as a conductor. The work was played at his funeral.

PROGRAM NOTES:

Sibelius: Romanze in C

In 1904, the same year that Mahler's Fifth Symphony premiered, and Coleridge-Taylor made his first tour of the United States, Finnish composer Jean Sibelius (1865–1957) completed a little piece for string orchestra called the *Romanze in C*. Like Mahler's pivotal year between 1901 and 1902, 1904 most certainly marked a significant turning point in Sibelius's life, though for quite different reasons. Sibelius, living with his wife Aino in Helsinki, had reached a dangerous state in which his excessive drinking and extravagant socializing had put the family into a precarious position. Aino and a family friend staged somewhat of an intervention, presenting a plan to leave the city for some place where Sibelius could compose without the temptations that had plagued him. The couple purchased land near Lake Tuusula on which they would build a cottage on an estate they named Ainola. Jean's brother Christian, a doctor in Berlin, sent medicinal powders to help curb his brother's alcoholic cravings.

Sibelius met Aino Järnefelt in 1888 when her brother, a Helsinki Music Institute classmate, brought Jean home to meet his family. Aino later said that she was instantly taken by Jean's "passionate gaze." The romance was cut short, however, when Sibelius left to study in Berlin. Two years later, the couple found each other again when Jean returned to Finland for a summer vacation. By September, they were engaged, but marriage would have to wait until the composer achieved a more solid financial footing. Jean and Aino Sibelius wed on June 10, 1892. The first of six daughters arrived soon afterward. The marriage had many ups and downs, fueled by Sibelius's drinking, health, and financial issues. Their lives were further complicated by Russian oppression of Finland and difficulties imposed by two World Wars. Yet the relationship remained steadfast. Aino later stated, "I am happy that I have been able to live by his side. I feel that I have not lived for nothing. I do not say that it has always been easy—one has had to repress and control one's own wishes—but I am very happy. I bless my destiny and see it as a gift from heaven."

Benjamin Britten: Simple Symphony

The Simple Symphony, Op. 4, is a work for string orchestra or string quartet by Benjamin Britten. It was written between December 1933 and February 1934 in Lowestoft, using material that the composer had written as a young teenager, between 1923 and 1926. It received its first performance in 1934 at Stuart Hall in Norwich, with Britten conducting an amateur orchestra.

The piece is dedicated to Audrey Alston (Mrs Lincolne Sutton), Britten's viola teacher during his childhood. The piece is based on eight themes which Britten wrote during his childhood (two per movement) and for which he had a particular fondness. He completed his final draft of this piece at age twenty.

The entire piece lasts about 20 minutes. The second movement is popular with mandolin players as it is pizzicato. Prominent in this popular theme are eight notes which sound familiar as echoing the opening of "Barwick Green", the theme music to the long-running BBC Radio 4 programme, "The Archers", written in 1924 by Arthur Wood. The third movement samples a traditional Swedish melody heard also in the popular Christian hymn "How Great Thou Art".



The Octava Chamber Orchestra Personnel

(section members listed alphabetically)

Violins

Matthew Weiss Concertmaster
Luis Nenninger Assistant Concertmaster
Brant Allen Principal
Eileen Aagaard
Jackie Gause
Margaret Hendrickson
Nathan Jensen

Violas

Susanna Haley Principal
Charlene Utt
Ryan May

Bass

Darth Nielsen Principal

Cellos

Chris Worswick Principal
Kumiko Chiba

The Octava Chamber Orchestra was originally formed by Maestro Johan Louwersheimer and Concertmaster Matthew Weiss in 1991 after they met as students at the *University of Washington School of Music*. We put on a number of performances in the USA and Canada before disbanding after Johan completed his studies and returned to his home in Abbotsford, Canada. Octava reformed in the summer of 2007 and we have been going strong ever since!

The Octava Chamber Orchestra is a non-profit corporation in the State of Washington, a tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

~ Our Board Members ~

Matthew Weiss *president*
Ian Alvarez *vice president*
Brant Allan *secretary*
Lesley Petty Jones *treasurer*
Jason Kuo *advisor*

Trevor Lutzenhiser *advisor*
Terri Sandys *advisor*
Chris Worswick *advisor*
Charlene Utt *advisor*
Beverly Weiss *advisor*

The Octava Chamber Orchestra would like to thank everyone at **Maple Park Church** for their enthusiasm and support in today's concert.

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