THE UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Presents

THE UNIVERSITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Alexander Kordzaia, Conductor and Music Director

Wednesday, November 30, 2011
7:30 p.m.

CAMP CONCERT HALL
BOOKER HALL OF MUSIC
Please silence cell phones, digital watches, and paging devices before the concert.
Program

Samson and Delilah
* Bacchanale *
Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921)

Cello Concerto in B minor, Op. 104
I. * Allegro *
Antonín Dvořák (1841-1904)

Joseph Moon, * cello *
2010 University of Richmond Concerto Competition Winner

Intermission

Peer Gynt Suite No.1, Op. 46
I. * Morning Mood *
IV. In the Hall of the Mountain King
Edward Grieg (1843-1907)

Symphony No. 9 in E minor, “From the New World”
IV. * Allegro con fuoco *
Dvořák
UNIVERSITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Violin I
Leslie Kinnas, Concertmaster
Rebecca Stanley, Asst. Concertmaster
Cristina Meehan
Kikki Tso
Lauren Guridy
Margaret Moore
Jordan Cates
Emma Greenspon
Ruiquan Hu
Stella Han

Violin II
Vivian Hsieh, Principal
Ashley Magnuson, Asst. Principal
Maggie Burch
Caitlyn Smith
Eileen Downey
Amanda Ellerbe
James Noel
Alex Muhammed
Randy Allen
Megan Campbell
Lauren Campbell

Viola
Nick Trevino, Principal
Hannah Goodman, Asst. Principal
Greg Bowen
Vance Pilkington
Samantha Bryant
Audrey Reisner
David Ray

Cello
Joseph Moon, Principal
Francisco Lee, Asst. Principal
Richard Kassner
Douglas Kelner
Andrew Jordan
Sheryl Smith
Francis Church

Bass
Emily Marsch, Principal
George Werner, Asst. Principal
Michael Stumph

Flute
Deborah Pohlmann, Principal
Katherine Cook, Asst. Principal

Piccolo
Katherine Cook

Oboe
George Pavelis, Principal
Lauren Oddo, Asst. Principal

English horn
Lauren Oddo

Clarinet
Michael Goldberg, Principal
Nicholas Yeutter, Asst. Principal
Anna Hadden, bass clarinet

Bassoon
Arnold Wexler, Principal

French horn
Andrew Pericak, Principal
Brian Fairtile
Gretchen Georgas
Jennifer Myers

Trumpet
Thomas McCarty, Principal
Marla Mrowka, Asst. Principal

Trombone
Samuel Goldman, Principal
Matt Chafin
Thad Williamson

Tuba
Robby Schranze

Timpani
John Hubbard

Percussion
Craig Lawyer
Mike Boyed
Nick Oyler

Harp
Elizabeth Khoury, Principal

LIBRARIAN: Caitlin Smith
ASSISTANT TO THE CONDUCTOR: Vivian Hsieh
ALEXANDER KORDZAIA accepted the position of Music Director of the University of Richmond Orchestra in 2007. A conductor and pianist, he is a native of Tbilisi, Republic of Georgia. Born into a musical family, Mr. Kordzaia demonstrated great musical ability at an early age. At the age of seven, he began serious study of the piano and composition in Georgia’s premiere music school. By the age of 12, he was performing as a soloist with orchestras and was considered a child prodigy as a composer. Soon it was evident to his teachers that Mr. Kordzaia also had great talent and desire for conducting. By the time he graduated from the Tbilisi Conservatory of Music, Mr. Kordzaia was the Music Director and Conductor of the Georgia State Cappella and assistant conductor at the Tbilisi Opera House, the two most prestigious musical ensembles in the nation. Mr. Kordzaia led both of these groups on triumphant tours of the former U.S.S.R.

He came to the United States in 1991 to further his studies at the Mannes College of Music and the Juilliard School of Music, both in New York City. Since his arrival in the U.S., Mr. Kordzaia has performed and conducted orchestras to critical acclaim. His recent engagements have included conducting the Cincinnati Symphony musicians for the American Harp Society National Conference; the Cincinnati Symphonietta; the Okanogan Symphony in Spokane, Washington; a European tour with the American Youth Harp Ensemble; the Charlotte Civic Orchestra, Charlotte, North Carolina; and most recently, the University of Richmond Symphony Orchestra.


An active chamber musician, Mr. Kordzaia’s recent concerts have been in Washington, D.C., Maryland, and New York. He is an active teacher/educator and classical music advocate throughout the Mid-Atlantic states. Kordzaia is frequently invited to adjudicate, coach, and give master classes in schools and with youth music organizations through the U.S. He remains a frequent guest conductor and pianist in the United States, France, Eastern Europe, Georgia, and Russia.
Cellist Joseph Moon was born and grew up in Incheon, South Korea. At the age of four, he began studying piano under the guidance of his mother Eunhee Hong, a piano instructor for young artists. In order to play in a piano trio with his two older sisters who are a pianist and a violinist respectively, he switched to cello at eleven. Inspired by Yo-Yo Ma’s passionate performance of Dvorak’s cello concerto, he started to study cello seriously in the seventh grade with Jonghan Yoo, principal cellist of the Incheon Philharmonic Orchestra.

Three years later, Joseph was accepted to attend Interlochen Arts Academy, the world's first and foremost fine arts boarding high school. Due to financial concerns, he chose not to enroll in the fine arts school, but instead went to a small, private Catholic high school in Indiana. In the ninth grade, he participated in Indiana State School Music Association's solo and ensemble competition and came home with five gold medals from solo and four from ensemble divisions. He received a perfect score from the judges for his solo performance of Bach’s Suite No. 2. Joseph has performed as principal cellist of the Clay High School Symphony, South Bend Youth Symphony, IUSB Philharmonic, Indiana All-State Orchestra, and, most recently, the University of Richmond Symphony Orchestra. For the past few summers, he has returned to his homeland and worked as a freelance cellist, performing at various social events, ranging from weddings to award ceremonies.
About the Composers

Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921)
Saint-Saëns’ Samson and Delilah may have retreated from the everyday operatic stage, but the Bacchanal remains popular in the symphonic repertoire. It is ballet music, in the style of French grand opera, with bountiful Middle-Eastern flavored melodic lines, amazing orchestration, driving rhythms and a wonderful opening solo by the oboe. The Bacchanal is tribute in dance to the god Bacchus, patron of all things sensual.

Antonin Dvořák (1841-1904)
Dvořák, a Czech, came to the United States in 1892 to direct the National Conservatory of Music in New York City. Intensely interested in American music, he traveled all over the United States to hear and learn its folk songs. Dvořák’s Cello Concerto in B minor was written in 1894-95, during his stay in New York. In this music one can clearly hear his homesickness, but there is also an additional inspiration. As a young man Dvořák had fallen in love with his piano student, Josefina Čermáková. She did not return his affection, and he eventually married her younger sister, Anna. Josefina, now Dvořák’s sister-in-law, died while the composer was in New York, and after learning of her passing he reworked the concerto’s ending as a tribute to her.

The University of Richmond Symphony Orchestra will also perform the fourth movement of Dvořák’s Symphony No. 9, “From the New World.” This symphony was completed in 1893, only a year before Dvořák began his cello concerto. Listeners may hear many similarities between the two works, such as the melodic lines and vibrant rhythms, as the Czech composer takes us through his journey from his homeland to the new world, America.

Edward Grieg (1843-1907)
Grieg composed incidental music for Henrik Ibsen’s play, Peer Gynt, in 1867, and later reworked his score into two orchestral suites. Tonight’s performance will include two selections from the first suite, “Morning Mood” and “In the Hall of the Mountain King.” Both pieces are wonderful examples of symphonic writing and are very popular, with beautiful harmonies and orchestral colors.

—Program notes by Alexander Kordzaia
THE 2011-2012 DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC CONCERT SERIES
FREE—No Ticket Required—CAMP CONCERT HALL—unless otherwise noted*

FALL 2011
Friday, Sept. 23—7:30p
FAMILY WEEKEND CONCERT
Jazz, Orchestra, Band, Choirs

Monday, Oct. 17—7:30p
LISZT BICENTENNIAL CONCERT
Paul Hanson, piano
Joanne Kong, piano

Sunday, Oct. 23—3:00p
SCHOLA CANTORUM & WOMEN'S CHORALE

Monday, Oct. 24—7:30p
DAVID ESLECK TRIO

Friday, Nov. 4—Saturday, Nov. 5
THIRD PRACTICE ELECTROACOUSTIC MUSIC FESTIVAL
Times vary—see www.thirdpractice.org

Sunday, Nov. 13—7:30p
UR WIND ENSEMBLE

Wednesday, Nov. 16—7:30p *
CUBAN SPECTACULAR—
"A NIGHT AT THE TROPICANA"
UR JAZZ COMBO & area musicians
*Ticket Required—Modlin Box Office

Sunday, Nov. 20—7:30p
GLOBAL SOUNDS—World Music Concert

Monday, Nov. 21—7:30p
UR JAZZ ENSEMBLE & CONTEMPORARY JAZZ COMBOS

Monday, Nov. 28—7:30p
UR CHAMBER ENSEMBLES

Wednesday, Nov. 30—7:30p
UR SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Featuring Joseph Moon, cello,
winner of UR 2011 Concerto Competition

Sunday, Dec. 4—5:00 and 8:00p
Cannon Memorial Chapel
38th ANNUAL CANDLELIGHT FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

SPRING 2012
Monday, Jan. 30—7:30p
LISA TERRY, viola da gamba
JOANNE KONG, harpsichord

Sunday, Feb. 5—3:00p
RICHARD BECKER, piano

Friday, Feb. 10—7:30p
Cannon Memorial Chapel
BECKERATH ORGAN 50TH ANNIVERSARY
Organists Bruce Stevens, Thom Robertson, Michael Simpson

Thursday, March 22—7:30p
Perkinson Recital Hall
LESLEE TUNG, fortepiano

Sunday, March 25—3:00p
DUO-PIANO RECITAL
Richard Becker, piano
Doris Wylee-Becker, piano

Sunday, April 1—all day, across campus
GLOBAL SOUNDS FESTIVAL

Wednesday, April 4—7:30p
UR WIND ENSEMBLE

Friday, April 6—7:30p
UR SCHOLA CANTORUM, UNIVERSITY DANCERS, AND GUEST INSTRUMENTALISTS

Monday, April 9—7:30p
UR JAZZ ENSEMBLE & JAZZ COMBO

Wednesday, April 11—7:30p
UR SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Featuring Tim Munro, flute

Monday, April 16—7:30p
UR CHAMBER ENSEMBLES