The University of Richmond Orchestra

Department of Music, University of Richmond

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THE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Presents
in Concert

The University of Richmond Orchestra

Alexander Kordzaia
Conductor

Doris Wylee-Becker, piano

Wednesday, December 3, 2008
7:30 p.m.
Camp Concert Hall
Booker Hall of Music
University Orchestra

First Violin
Natalia Sanders, Concertmaster
Rebecca Stanley, Asst. Concertmaster
Kosh Kempter
Jamie Shoaf
Megan Abbott
Merry Gleeson
Joseph Denney
Jordan Cates
Emma Greenspon
Randy Allen

Second Violin
Caitlin Morin, Principal
Meredith Tierney, Asst. to the Director
Sarah Wallace
Radhika Parekh
Caitlin Smith
Patricia Laverty
Eileen Downey
Page Allen

Viola
Jacqueline Morin, Principal
Nicholas Trevino, Asst. Principal
Jesse Larsen
Hannah Goodman
Jordan Stewart
Ashlawe Andem
Michael Baggott

Cello
Heather Stebbins, Principal
Holly Akins
Dionne Kimani
Azariah Baggott
Douglas Kellner
Nabila Rahman
Francis Church

Bass
Samantha Lindsey, Principal
Daniel Smither
Andrew Wilhite

Flute
Amanda Sellew
Catherine Lofland
Katherine Toussaint

Oboe
Audrey Dignan, Principal
Mary Baumann

Clarinet
Michael Goldberg, Principal
Anne Jenkins
Nancy Angelica

Bassoon
Arnold Wexler, Principal
Tom Baise

French Horn
Dale Dean, Principal
Brian Fairtile

Trumpet
Patrick King, Principal
Brian Henderson

Trombone
Samuel Goldman, Principal
Lauren Taylor
Dr. Thad Williamson

Timpani
John Campbell
John Hubbard
Program

Piano Concerto in A Major, K. 488
Allegro
Andante
Presto

Doris Wylee-Becker, piano

Intermission

Symphony No. 8 in B minor, D. 759
"Unfinished"
Allegro moderato
Andante con moto

"L'italiana in Algeri"
Overture

Wolfgang A. Mozart
(1756-1791)

Franz Schubert
(1797-1828)

Gioacchino Rossini
(1792-1868)
Program Notes

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
(1756-1791)  
Piano Concerto, K.488

Scholars are still puzzled over the cause of Mozart's death—was it illness, or was it murder? Mozart died on December 5, 1791, aged 35. For reasons unknown, he was buried in a mass grave the next day. Was it because of poverty, or to prevent an autopsy? Not even a simple stone marks his final resting place, yet his music has become universally cherished.

This piano concerto was completed on March 2, 1786, and although it is universally famed for its graceful melodies and elegant structure, it was not published during Mozart's lifetime. Apparently, Mozart himself withheld the piece from publication. This special concerto was not a piece that he was willing to trade for money. If you wanted to hear this concerto, you had to attend a concert by its creator.

Franz Schubert  
(1797-1828)  
Symphony No. 8 "Unfinished"

Posterity remembers Schubert as the composer of over six hundred Lieder. However, he embraced virtually every musical genre. Not one of his symphonies was performed in the years leading up to his early death.

(more...)
In 1822, Schubert began work on his B minor Symphony, which would go down in music history as the "Unfinished." It owes its nickname to the fact that, like Schubert's other symphonies, it was originally conceived as a four-movement work, but only the first two movements were orchestrated. The mystery surrounding the piece continues to contribute to the extraordinary popularity of the "Unfinished." For many years the work languished in private hands, neglected and forgotten. Not until twenty-seven years after Schubert’s death did it receive its first, successful performance in Vienna on December 17, 1865.

**Gioachino Antonio Rossini**  
(1792-1868)  
“L’Italiana in Algeri”, Overture

Rossini was an Italian composer who created 39 operas, as well as sacred music and chamber music. His best known works include *The Barber of Seville* and the *William Tell* Overture.

The Overture to the opera *L'italiana in Algeri* (The Italian Girl in Algiers) is widely recorded and performed today. The piece is known for its distinct opening of slow, quiet pizzicato, leading to a sudden, loud burst of sound from full orchestra. This "surprise" hearkens an early admiration for Joseph Haydn, whose "Surprise Symphony" is so named for the same shocking, semi-comedic affect.

program notes per Wikipedia
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 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 has also continued to be a frequent guest conductor and pianist in the United States, France, Eastern Europe, Georgia, and Russia.

Pianist Doris Wylee-Becker, a University of Maryland DMA candidate, was a scholarship recipient and performer at the Chautauqua Music Festival, at “Piano Summer at New Paltz,” and at the Aspen Music Festival. Wylee-Becker received her B.A. from University of Richmond and her M.Mus. from Peabody Conservatory of the Johns Hopkins University, where she also served as coach/accompanist at Peabody Preparatory. She currently teaches piano at Collegiate School.

In her free time, Wylee-Becker enjoys expanding her culinary horizons. She and husband Richard enjoy preparing international cuisine together. Another love of hers, classical ballet, is a result of twelve years as a student of the dance. She can also be found at the UR courts playing tennis with her better half.
FALL 2008 – SPRING 2009
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC FREE EVENTS
Camp Concert Hall, unless otherwise noted

**Fall 2008**

**Family Weekend Concert**
Fri, Sept 19 – 7:30p

**“Music and Torture”**
Suzanne G. Cusick, musicologist
Sun, Oct 5 – 3p

**Brian Jones & Friends**
Sun, Oct 5 – 7:30p

**Duo-Piano Recital**
Richard Becker, piano
Doris Wylee-Becker, piano
Sun, Oct 26 – 3p

**Schola Cantorum and University Women’s Chorale**
Sun, Nov 2 – 3p

**Third Practice Electro Acoustic Music Festival**
Fri, Nov 7-
Sat, Nov 8

**David Esleck Trio**
Thurs, Nov 13 – 7:30p
Perkinson Recital Hall

**University Wind Ensemble**
Sun, Nov 16 – 7:30p

**University Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Combo**
Mon, Nov 24 – 7:30p

**University Chamber Music Ensembles**
Mon, Dec 1 – 7:30p

**University Orchestra**
Wed, Dec 3 – 7:30p

**Global Music Ensemble**
Thurs, Dec 4 – 7:30p

**Annual Christmas Candlelight Service**
Sun, Dec 7 – 5 & 8p
Cannon Memorial Chapel

**Spring 2009**

**Schubert’s Winterreise**
James Weaver, baritone
Joanne Kong, piano
Mon, Jan 19 – 7:30p

**“Music in Times of Civil Unrest”**
Richmond Symphony
Schola Cantorum
James River Singers
Fri, Jan 30 – 7:30p

**Richard Becker, piano**
Sun, Feb 1 – 3p

**“The Magnanimity of President Abraham Lincoln”**
William Lee Miller, speaker
University Orchestra
Thurs, Feb 12 – 7:30p

**Doris Wylee-Becker, piano**
Fri, Feb 20 – 7:30p

**“Scintillating Centenarians”**
Mon, Feb 23 – 7:30p

**“Madrigals of Love & War”**
Mon, Mar 16 – 7:30p

**University Wind Ensemble**
Sat, Apr 4 – 7:30p

**Schola Cantorum and University Women’s Chorale**
Sun, Apr 5 – 3p

**University Jazz and Brazilian Combo**
Mon, Apr 6 – 7:30p

**University Orchestra**
Wed, Apr 8 – 7:30p

**University Chamber Music Ensembles**
Thurs, Apr 9 – 7:30p

**University Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Combo**
Mon, Apr 13 – 7:30p

**World Music Concert**
Sun, Apr 19 – 3p
Jenkins Greek Theater