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University Orchestra

Department of Music, University of Richmond

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FIRST VIOLIN
Jane Hoffmann *concertmistress*
Ilan McNamara
Chung-In Park
Julie Hayes
Jessica Gilmore
Jack Gauntlett
Julia Blatzer
Mason Morris

SECOND VIOLIN
Aaron Aunins *principal*
Amy Peterson
John Colman
Emily D’Antonio
Judy Shim

VIOLA
Miriam Albin *principal*
Jenny Bernard
Molly McElroy
Danielle Haskins
Dave Berry
Dick Stone

CELLO
James Tripp *principal*
John Jorgenson
Gabe Smith
Matt McCabe
Shayne Estes
Tobias Friedl

FLUTE
Carrie Senn *principal*
Marianne Broderick

OBOE
Jen Magee *principal*
Meghan Pesch

ENGLISH HORN
Meghan Pesch

CLARINET
Steve Ahearn *principal*
Elaine Buccheimer

BASSOON
Stephanie Allen *principal*
Kathy Muller

FRENCH HORN
Ed Aunins *principal*
Mary Beth Hall
Ruth Aumins
Beth Miksovic

TRUMPET
Dana Rajczewski *principal*
Julie Cillo

TROMBONE
Robert Wagenknecht *principal*
Dave Davis
Randy Ellis

TUBA
Adam Hall

PERCUSSION
John Hubbard
• • PROGRAM • •

Piano Concerto in A Minor op. 54  
I. Allegro affettuoso  
Robert Schumann  
(1810-1856)  
Denise Roberts (W’99) piano

The first movement of Schumann’s Piano Concerto began as a Fantasy for Piano and Orchestra in 1840. In this work, Schumann combines the formal structure of a four-movement form (Allegro, Adagio, Scherzo, and Finale) into a single movement in sonata form with a technique of thematic transformation that holds the movement together. About the work, Clara Schumann wrote, “The piano and orchestral parts are interwoven to the highest degree. One can’t imagine one without the other.” The premiere of the Fantasy was given by Clara and the Gewandhaus orchestra in 1841. Schumann completed his op. 54 Concerto in 1845.

Cello Concerto in E Minor op. 85  
I. Adagio-Moderato  
Edward Elgar  
(1857-1934)  
James Tripp (R’00) cello

Edward Elgar composed only two concerti: one for violin (his own instrument) and the other for cello. He completed his Cello Concerto in 1919—it was his final substantial work. The first movement begins with a solo recitative for the cello, followed by the main theme presented by the violas. The theme is meditative and, some may say, melancholy. The first performance was given in October, 1919.

• • INTERMISSION • •

Symphony No. 9 in E minor, op. 95  
From the New World  
Antonin Dvorak  
(1841-1904)

I. Adagio. Allegro molto  
II. Largo  
III. Molto vivace  
IV. Allegro con fuoco

In 1892 Dvorak was appointed director of the National Conservatory of New York for the then astronomical salary of $15,000 per year. He worked in New York for three years before homesickness drove him back to Prague, where he died in 1904.

While at the National Conservatory Dvorak wrote his Symphony No. 9, subtitled From the New World, making strenuous efforts to capture African-American nationalism—including attending Buffalo Bill’s Wild West Show and listening to an African-American student sing. However, Dvorak did not choose to use actual spirituals or folk melodies, and notwithstanding the suggestion of Swing low, sweet chariot in the first movement’s second theme, nor the famous Largo melody, with its resemblance to Massa dear (later becoming the song Goin’ home), the spirit is markedly Bohemian. At the same time, there is no doubt that a most important role was played by Longfellow’s Song of Hiawatha, with which Dvorak had been long acquainted in a Czech translation and which he re-read in America with such interest that for long he considered setting it to music. According to his own statement, the two middle movements were written under the impression evoked by Longfellow’s poem and provide very clear testimony of the deep and powerful effect of the solemn beauty of the American prairies and virgin forests which the poem exercised on the composer’s imagination. Said, Dvorak, “I should never have written the symphony like I have, if I hadn’t seen America.”

The first performance took place at Carnegie Hall on December 16, 1893. The audience responded with seemingly unending ovations, and the National Conservatory awarded Dvorak the prize of $300 for the “most original symphony” in a nationwide contest.