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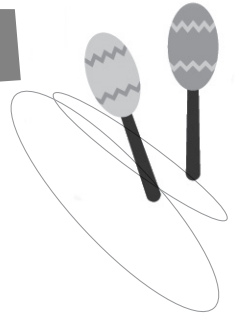
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**UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC**



University of Richmond Symphony Orchestra

Alexander Kordzaia, conductor

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

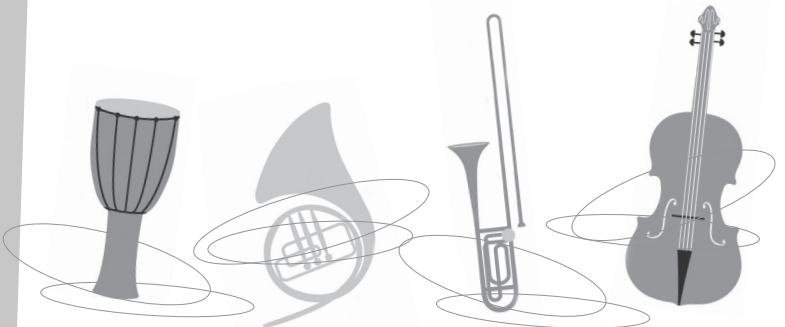
7:30 p.m

Camp Concert Hall,
Booker Hall of Music



RICHMOND
School of Arts & Sciences

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CONCERT SERIES Fall 2021-Spring 2022

PROGRAM

Symphony No. 25 in G Minor, K. 183 Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
I. *Allegro con brio* (1756-1791)

Suite No. 2 in B Minor, BWV 1067 Johann Sebastian Bach
Rondeau (1685-1750)
Polonaise
Minuet
Badinerie

Rilyn McKallip, flute
Winner of the 2021 Concerto Competition

Le quattro stagioni. “L'inverno” Antonio Vivaldi
Allegro non molto (1678-1741)
Largo
Allegro

Matthew Robinson, violin
Winner of the 2020 Concerto Competition

PROGRAM NOTES

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Symphony No. 25. Allegro con brio

Out of Mozart's 41 symphonies, only two are in G minor: numbers 25 and 40. The first movement of Symphony no. 25 (*Allegro con brio*) has all the characteristics of the Classical sonata-allegro form. The opening is very powerful and memorable, with syncopated rhythms and a sense of anxiety and drama. The second subject is in B-flat major, a light, beautiful melody heard first in the violins and later with oboe. The closing theme is also in B-flat major, which ends the exposition section. This symphony has a small development section and the recapitulation follows soon afterward. In the recapitulation, the second subject appears in G minor, instead of the previous major key, and the entire movement ends in G minor, with a small coda and syncopated chords as in the opening of the symphony.

Mozart was only 17 years old when he finished this symphony.

-- Alexander Kordzaia

Johann Sebastian Bach. Suite No. 2 in B Minor, BWV 1067

Johann Sebastian Bach, a German composer in the Baroque period, wrote his Orchestral Suite No. 2 in the early 1700s. The piece is a collection of courtly dances, several of which are inspired by French music. Each movement has its own character and is representative of a different form of dance. For example, the Minuet is based on a stately French ballroom dance with three beats per measure, while the Polonaise is inspired by a slightly faster traditional Polish dance. The title of the final movement, "Badinerie," is French for "teasing" or "banter." This reflects the light-hearted character of this popular and fast-paced movement. While Bach wrote three other orchestral suites, this piece is the only one of the collection to feature the flute.

Bach was a famous composer in his time and his work is still

Continued ...

widely performed and studied today. He was born in 1685, in Eisenach, to a family of musicians, and he worked primarily for Lutheran churches and wealthy patrons. He played the organ and the harpsichord, and much of his music is written for these instruments. His most famous works include the *Brandenburg Concertos*, the *Goldberg Variations*, and the Toccata and Fugue in D minor. Bach had twenty children, several of whom went on to become composers themselves, and he passed away in 1750.

-- Rilyn McKallip

**Antonio Vivaldi. *Le quattro stagioni* (The Four Seasons).
“L’inverno” (“Winter”)**

Vivaldi’s *The Four Seasons* – a group of four violin concertos, each corresponding to a season of the year – are among the Italian composer’s best-known works. Originally composed between 1716 and 1725, with inspiration from the city of Mantua, Italy, these works were published in Amsterdam later in 1725. Each of the concertos is accompanied by an Italian sonnet of unknown origin. However, because each sonnet is split into three sections, corresponding to the movements for each piece, there is speculation that Vivaldi himself wrote these sonnets. A translation (author unknown) for the sonnet that accompanies “Winter” is below:

Allegro non molto

To tremble from cold in the icy snow,
In the harsh breath of a horrid wind;
To run, stamping one's feet every moment,
Our teeth chattering in the extreme cold

Largo

Before the fire to pass peaceful,
Contented days while the rain outside pours down.

Allegro

We tread the icy path slowly and cautiously,
for fear of tripping and falling.
Then turn abruptly, slip, crash on the ground and,
rising, hasten on across the ice lest it cracks up.
We feel the chill north winds course through the home
despite the locked and bolted doors ...
this is winter, which nonetheless
brings its own delights.

With this accompanying sonnet, it becomes clear that this piece brings to life the multiple facets of winter, from treading through the icy snow to relaxing by the warm fire. In “Winter,” we truly see why *The Four Seasons* is considered the first piece of programmatic music. In the first movement, the overarching eighth note pulse illustrates the biting wind. The second movement showcases pizzicato from the orchestra, representing the rain outside as the solo violin melody references the relaxing fireside. The third movement brings back the harsh nature of winter, as the solo violin encapsulates the fear and dread of walking on ice, before the final section of that third movement, with the orchestra joining in, demonstrates the beauty of winter despite its dangers.

-- Matthew Robinson

Continued ...

The Performers



Rilyn McKallip is a junior at the University of Richmond majoring in mathematics and minoring in biology and health studies. She is from Forsyth, Georgia, and has played the flute for ten years in various ensembles, including the Mary Persons High School Band, the Macon Youth Orchestra, the Mercer University Flute Choir, and the Georgia All-

State Band. In Georgia, Rilyn studied flute under Kennedy Johnson, Lilly Mauti, and Joycelyn Jackson. Since coming to the University of Richmond in 2019, she has studied under Jennifer Lawson and performed both in chamber ensembles and with the orchestra.

After graduation, Rilyn is interested in pursuing a master's degree, either in public health or education. She would like to thank her flute teachers, accompanist Dr. Joanne Kong, her parents, and her friends, who have encouraged and supported her in all her musical endeavors.



Matthew Robinson is a senior at the University of Richmond studying mathematics, physics, and music. He began his music career at the age of five when he started studying the violin with Ludmilla Kaymakanova in St. Louis. After participating in various youth orchestras

in the St. Louis area throughout elementary and middle school, Matthew was accepted into the St. Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra in 2013. That same year, he also participated in the Missouri All-State Orchestra. In 2015, Matthew moved to Charlottesville, where he studied under Daniel Sender. Two years later, Matthew moved once more to Richmond and began studying under Susy Yim. While in Richmond, he was the concertmaster of the Richmond Symphony Youth Orchestra, and he performed with them as a soloist in 2018. Later that year, Matthew also had the

opportunity to perform live on WTVR CBS6. He spent the summer before college participating in the Wintergreen Music Festival. Now at the University of Richmond, Matthew continues to study with Susy Yim, and participates in both the Chamber Ensembles, under the direction of Joanne Kong, and the University Orchestra, under the direction of Alexander Kordzaia. After graduation, Matthew plans to attend medical school. He would like to thank his family, teachers, and friends for all of their support in his musical journey.

Alexander Kordzaia accepted the position of Music Director of the University of Richmond Symphony Orchestra in 2007. He is the former Principal Guest Conductor of the Filarmónica Cartagena (Colombia) and Artistic Director of the Festival of Orchestras in Cartagena.

A conductor and pianist, Mr. Kordzaia is a native of Tbilisi, the Republic of Georgia. Born into a musical family, he 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 he also had talent and a desire for conducting. By the time Mr. Kordzaia graduated from the Tbilisi Conservatory of Music, he was appointed as 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. He led both of these groups on triumphant tours of the former USSR.



Mr. Kordzaia came to the United States in 1991 to further his studies in New York at the Mannes College of Music and the

Continued ...

Juilliard School of Music. Since his arrival in the United States, Mr. Kordzaia has performed as pianist and conducted orchestras to critical acclaim. He has conducted Cincinnati Symphony musicians at the American Harp Society National Conference, the Cincinnati Symphonietta, Shenandoah Conservatory Symphony Orchestra, the Okanogan Symphony in Spokane, Washington, the Charlotte Civic Orchestra, Central Regional Orchestra of Virginia (2009 and 2012), South Central Virginia Senior Regional Orchestra, and the 2012 All-State Virginia Orchestra. He appeared as an opera conductor with CPCC Opera Company in Charlotte, North Carolina, and served as Assistant Conductor of the Richmond Philharmonic Orchestra from 1999-2001, Music Director of the Richmond Philharmonic Orchestra from 2001-2003, Music Director of the Charlotte Civic Orchestra from 2003-2006, and Conductor Emeritus of the Charlotte Civic Orchestra from 2006-2007.

Mr. Kordzaia has organized numerous international tours with the American Youth Harp Ensemble, as co-director and guest conductor. The critically acclaimed ensemble has travelled to the Netherlands, England, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Italy, and the Czech Republic. He has led them in performances at Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall, and the White House.

An active chamber musician, Mr. Kordzaia has recently performed in Washington, DC; Maryland; New York; Vienna, Austria; and Cartagena, Colombia. He is an active teacher/educator and classical music advocate throughout the mid-Atlantic states, and is frequently invited as an adjudicator, music coach, and master class clinician in schools and with youth music organizations throughout the country. He also has continued to be a frequent guest conductor and pianist in the United States, France, Austria, Eastern Europe, South America, Georgia, and Russia.

University of Richmond Symphony Orchestra

Violin I

Matthew Robinson, Concertmaster
Noah Robinson, Assistant Concertmaster
Mandy Zhou
Juan Mendez -Guzman
Nori Stone
Hannah Lwin

Violin II

Craig Caudill, Principal
Rachel Lim, Principal
Claire Blankenship
Catarina Acosta
Tim Mayes

Viola

Ben Solomon, Principal
Keaton Muench, Assistant Principal

Cello

Brianna Cantrall, Principal
Ethan Rodgers-Gates, Assistant Principal
Nile Harris
Miah Wilson
Marisa Daugherty
Amy Jablonski

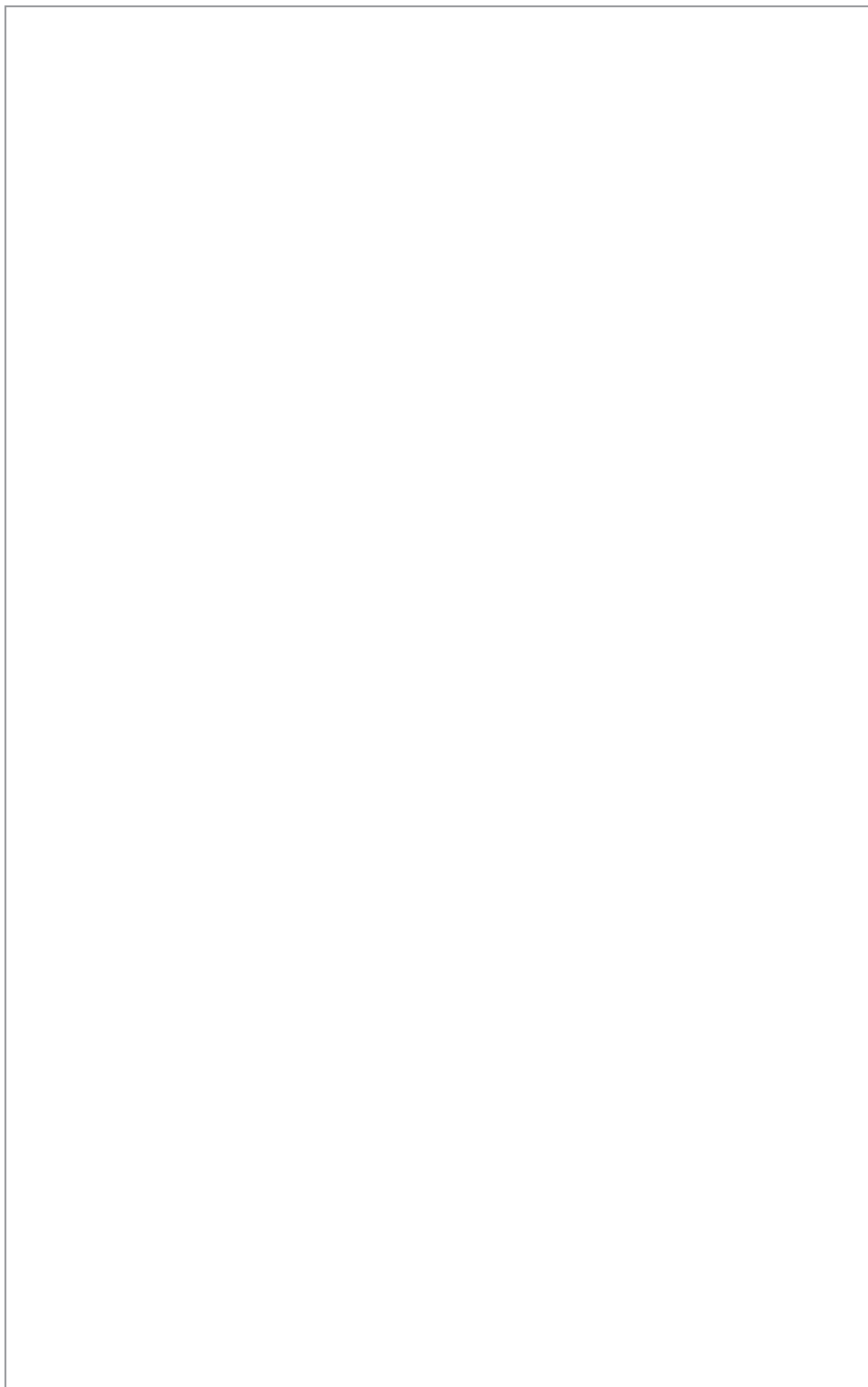
Bass

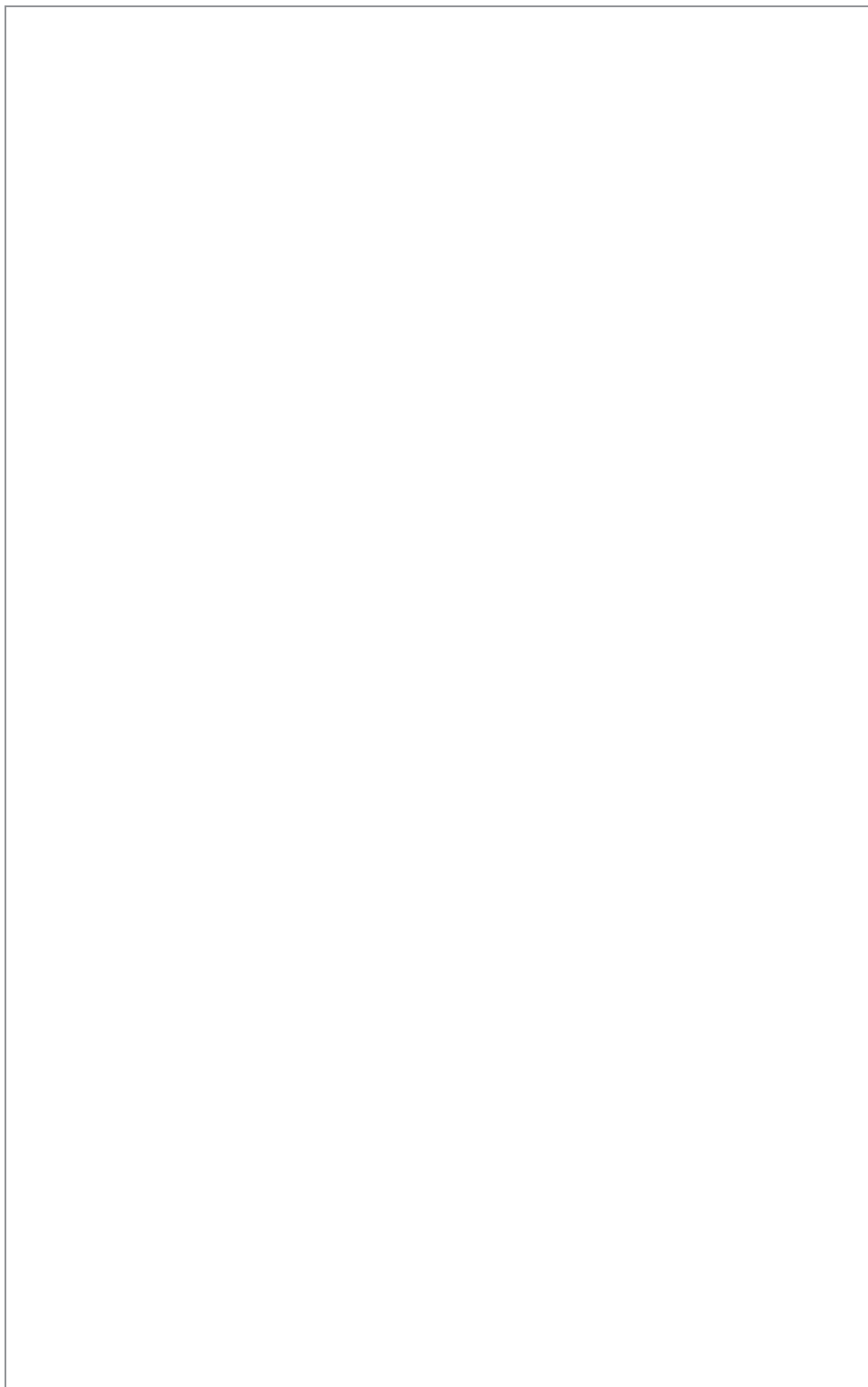
Billy Apostolou

Oboe

Bryant Keeling

Ben Solomon, Librarian and Assistant to the Conductor







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