

# PENINSULA *s y m p h o n y*

## *Symphony Sounds*

March, 2018

51<sup>st</sup> Season, Number 3 (Knox)

Terri Zinkiewicz

### **46<sup>th</sup> Annual Edith Knox Young Artists Competition Finals**

Sunday, April 8, 2018, at 2:00 PM

**Redondo Union High School Auditorium**  
222 North Pacific Coast Highway  
Redondo Beach, CA 90277

#### **PROGRAM**

- Dvořák      Concerto for Cello and Orchestra in B  
                 minor, Opus 104  
                 Annie SeEun Hyung, cello  
                 James Lent, piano
- Sibelius     Concerto for Violin and Orchestra in D  
                 minor, Opus 47  
                 Strauss Shi, violin  
                 Valeria Morgovskaya, piano
- Prokofiev   Concerto No. 3 for Piano and Orchestra  
                 in C major, Opus 26  
                 Max Hammond, piano  
                 Anders Martinson, piano
- Vaughan     Concerto for Tuba and Orchestra  
Williams     Clayton Dungey, tuba  
                 Hosanna Anjiki, piano
- Liszt         Concerto No. 1 for Piano and Orchestra  
                 in E-flat major, S. 124  
                 Victor Shlyakhtenko, piano  
                 Nathan Lewis, piano

#### **CONCERT DETAILS**

Doors open at 1:30 PM. There will be a question-and-answers session with the finalists after the last performance of the afternoon while we await the judges' decisions.

### **Five Finalists Set to Compete April 8**

Please plan to join us to hear the five exciting finalists from the 2018 Edith Knox Young Artists Performance Competition who will perform on April 8. The first-prize winner will be announced at the end of the program and will perform as soloist with the Peninsula Symphony at its June 17 concert. Both concerts are at Redondo Union High School Auditorium, and admission is free.

There were eighteen entrants ranging in age from 13 to 24 in the preliminary round that was held Saturday, February 24 at Harbor College. Contestants performed a complete work for solo instrument and orchestra with piano accompaniment. A panel of judges selected five individuals to perform in the competition finals.

One of the five concertos has never been played by the Peninsula Symphony, and many audience members will have their first opportunity to hear a tuba concerto.

All finalists will receive cash prizes following the April 8 concert. The finalists are:

Annie SeEun Hyung, 17, cello, Orange  
Strauss Shi, 22, violin, Monterey Park  
Max Hammond, 17, piano, Los Angeles  
Clayton Dungey, 21, tuba, La Mirada  
Victor Shlyakhtenko, 16, piano, Los Angeles

This *Symphony Sounds* includes program notes for all five concertos. Biographical information and photos of the competitors will be printed in the April 8 concert program.

**Music Preview****Concerto for Cello and Orchestra in B minor, Opus 104****Antonín Dvořák (1841-1904)**

Antonín Dvořák was born in 1841 outside of Prague and was the oldest of fourteen children. He studied organ, violin and piano, and when he began composing he supplemented his income by teaching piano and then as a church organist. He incorporated many rhythms from Bohemian folk music and is well known for his Slavonic Dances. Dvořák made several visits to England where he was very popular. The lure of big money at the National Conservatory of Music brought him to New York. During his time in the United States he wrote his cello concerto and his famous Symphony No. 9 in E minor, Opus 95 ("From the New World") that was performed at the Peninsula Symphony's June, 2015 concert.

Although Dvořák only completed one cello concerto, he started one in 1865 that was never finished. The B minor concerto received its public premiere in 1896 in London. It is written in the Romantic style, is scored for full orchestra and has three movements in the standard fast-slow-fast pattern with an overall duration of approximately forty minutes.

The first movement begins with clarinets playing the first theme. This theme appears several times in the movement and also in the third movement. The lyrical, melancholy second movement includes a theme from "Leave me alone," which is one of Dvořák's songs. The third movement is in a rondo form and includes tunes from the prior two movements. The ending coda is particularly virtuosic for the solo cello, with many octaves and double-stops (playing on two strings simultaneously).

The Dvořák Cello Concerto is one of the most popular cello concertos and is performed frequently. The Peninsula Symphony has programmed it six times, and the most recent Knox winner to play it was Eric Chong in 2014.

**Concerto for Violin and Orchestra in D minor, Opus 47****Jean Sibelius (1865-1957)**

Jean Sibelius was a Finnish composer who remains a national icon. He initially studied law but turned to the violin and then to composition. Although he aspired to be a virtuoso violinist, he began studying the instrument at the relatively late age of fourteen and he also suffered from stage fright. He wrote seven symphonies, thirteen symphonic poems, and over one hundred songs, mostly before 1926, although he lived for another thirty years. The Concerto for Violin and Orchestra in D minor, Opus 47 is the only concerto for any instrument that Sibelius wrote.

The violin concerto was composed between 1902-1904 and premiered in 1904 in Helsinki with Sibelius conducting. The premiere was not a success, and part of the reason is that the music was completed late and there was very little time for the soloist to prepare the difficult music. The concerto was revised the next year.

Sibelius treats the orchestra as an equal with the soloist. The first movement cadenza for the solo violin is in the middle of the movement rather than toward the end which is more common. The melancholy second movement is beautiful. The final movement is dance-like and is particularly difficult technically. It requires double-stops, rapid string-crossings and octaves, all of which have been characterized as "violin gymnastics."

The Sibelius violin concerto has been played twice by the Peninsula Symphony, but no Knox winners have selected it.

**Concerto No. 3 for Piano and Orchestra in C major, Opus 26****Sergei Prokofiev (1891-1953)**

Sergei Prokofiev was born in Russia and graduated from the St. Petersburg Conservatory. A pianist, composer, and conductor, he moved to San Francisco in 1918 following the Russian Revolution, but he lived there only a short time. He completed his Third

Piano Concerto in 1921 while living in France. In 1936 he returned to Russia permanently.

Prokofiev began collecting thematic material during a ten-year period before incorporating some of it into his Concerto No. 3 for Piano and Orchestra in C major, Opus 26. The concerto was premiered in 1921, and the composer was soloist with the Chicago Symphony. Prokofiev personally made the first recording of the concerto, collaborating as soloist with the London Symphony in 1932. It is the only concerto that Prokofiev recorded himself.

Each of the three movements is approximately nine minutes in length. The piano part is virtuosic, and the orchestra has a greater role than in some of the other concerti where it is just "accompaniment."

The Peninsula Symphony has performed this concerto three times, and the most recent Knox winner to play it was Kristina Jacinth in 2008.

### **Concerto for Tuba and Orchestra Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)**

English composer Ralph Vaughan Williams began piano lessons at age five and violin lessons shortly after. He attended the Royal College of Music and Trinity College, Cambridge. He volunteered to serve in World War I despite his age of forty-two, and the experience influenced him profoundly. It also impacted his hearing and led to eventual deafness. Vaughan Williams was also active in civilian war efforts in World War II. Vaughan Williams often incorporated English folk songs into his music.

Vaughan Williams' productive period extended over a period of about fifty years, and in his later years he included works for instruments that were not typically featured. One of these examples is his 1954 concerto for bass tuba that was composed at the request of the London Symphony Orchestra's principal tuba, Philip Catelinet. This concerto is a go-to piece for all professional tuba players. It requires virtuosity, agility and lyrical playing. The approximately twelve-minute concerto uses the full range of the instrument and a full range of dynamics.

This is the first time there has been a tuba in the Edith Knox Young Artist Competition final round. The Peninsula Symphony has not played the piece.

### **Concerto No. 1 for Piano and Orchestra in E-flat major, S. 124 Franz Liszt (1811-1886)**

Franz Liszt was a Hungarian composer and virtuoso pianist. He began piano study at age six. He was known to practice piano for ten-plus hours each day, and he became a famed, charismatic, virtuoso performer until he gave up public performances in 1848. He taught piano to children of the rich and famous in Paris.

Liszt's most famous works are for piano, including sonatas and his two piano concertos. Most are very demanding technically. He is given credit for thematic transformation and experimenting with musical form. Liszt provided opus numbers for his compositions, but today the Humphrey Searle catalog number starting with "S" is used.

Liszt worked on his first piano concerto during 1839-1840, although some of the themes were sketched as early as 1830. The concerto was revised in 1853 prior to its premiere in 1855 under the baton of Hector Berlioz with the composer as soloist. There are four movements that are played continuously, and two themes are transformed and appear throughout the work. The orchestra plays an important role rather than serving as just an accompaniment for a dominant solo part.

The first movement opens with the strings playing *fortissimo* (very loud). The soloist then has a cadenza. The principal motif returns frequently but is always followed by new material. The motif also appears at the end of the final movement. The third movement begins with a triangle which is a little different, and the first portion of this movement is quite playful. The final movement is considered one of the most difficult for the piano.

The concerto's duration is approximately twenty minutes, and the Peninsula Symphony has performed it five times. The most recent Knox soloist was Alice Chen in 2004.

**Photos of the Finalists**

Cellist Annie SeEun Hyung will lead off the program for the final round of the competition.



Violinist Strauss Shi performing in the preliminary round.



Pianist Max Hammond and accompanist/teacher Anders Martinson will be making their third consecutive appearance in the competition Finals.



Tubist Clayton Dungey and pianist Hosanna Anjiki played Vaughan Williams.



Victor Shlyakhtenko and accompanist Nathan Lewis will be the final performers in the competition's final round.

### **A Big Thank You to the Competition Donors and Volunteers**

Each year we depend on our "Angel" donors to provide funding for this competition. The competition is intended to be self-funding.

Prizes are only one element of the competition budget. We incur many other expenses, such as the auditorium rental, piano rental/tuning, judges' fees and printing the programs.

The 2018 cash prizes:

First Prize	\$1600
Second Prize	\$ 850
Third Prize	\$ 600
Fourth Prize	\$ 450
Fifth Prize	\$ 350

As of the middle of March, the following people have donated to the 2018 competition:

Jackie Crowley  
 Lee Dorsey  
 Mona Gifford  
 Pearl Kim  
 Marylyn and Chuck Klaus  
 Dorothy and Allen Lay  
 Marilyn and Martin Litvak  
 Helene and Bob Reid  
 Tom Roth  
 Carol and Roger Schamp  
 Lilli Tom  
 John and Sue Williams  
 Larry and Terri Zinkiewicz

If you wish to contribute, please send your check in any amount to the Peninsula Symphony Association, P.O. Box 2602, Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274, and write "Knox" in the memo section. An updated list will appear in the Knox Finals program booklet and we will announce the names onstage after the last competitor on April 8. In addition, the names of all of the 2018 Knox "Angels" will appear in the Peninsula Symphony's 2018-2019 program book.

2018 Edith Knox Committee members include:

Bruce Erickson  
 Dale Korman  
 Eugene McAdoo  
 Sophia Momand  
 Carol Schamp  
 Lilli Tom  
 Jack Trost  
 Larry Zinkiewicz, Co-Chair  
 Terri Zinkiewicz, Co-Chair

In addition to many of the committee members, Mona Gifford and Sumie Imada also assisted during the preliminary competition at the registration table, as ushers, welcoming the contestants, helping with stage setup and performing all of the other myriad tasks required for a successful event. Additional volunteers will also help greet the audience members and work with the five finalists at the competition finals at Redondo Union High School.

### **Collaboration with Classical Crossroads**

This is the second year that the Peninsula Symphony Edith Knox Young Artists Performance Competition has partnered with Classical Crossroads to provide an opportunity for the Knox Competition first-prize winner to receive an additional \$1000 honorarium for performing in a public, half-hour solo recital in Torrance. This performance will be followed by a reception providing audience members the opportunity to share conversation with the artist and fellow music lovers. The recital will be at First Lutheran Church & School in Torrance at 12:15 PM on Friday, May 4, 2018.

The mission of Classical Crossroads, Inc. is, in part, to present free or affordable classical music concerts of the highest possible artistic quality. They provide well-paid performance and educational opportunities to talented professional and student artists who have devoted their lives to the art of classical music. We are delighted to partner with this high quality, local organization in order to provide additional performance visibility to our young artists and increase their monetary awards.

### **Prior Winners**

Last year's first place winner was twenty-four-year-old Nicholas Mariscal of Los Angeles. He was the soloist in Barber's Concerto for Cello and Orchestra in A minor, Opus 22 in the Peninsula Symphony's June 18, 2017 concert.



Cellist Nicholas Mariscal the 2017 Knox winner was the featured soloist with the Peninsula Symphony in June 2017.

Below are recent winners of the Knox competition.

- 2017: Nicholas Mariscal, 24, Barber: Concerto No. 1 for Cello and Orchestra in A minor, Opus 22
- 2016: Caroline Ho, 17, Tchaikovsky: Concerto No. 1 for Piano and Orchestra in B-flat minor, Opus 23
- 2015: Lily Moon, 24, Liszt: Concerto No. 2 for Piano and Orchestra in A major, S. 125
- 2014: Erick Chong, 18, Dvořák: Concerto No. 1 for Cello and Orchestra in B minor, Opus 104
- 2013: Hao Zhou, 16, Wieniawski: Concerto No. 1 for Violin and Orchestra in F-sharp minor, Opus 14
- 2012: Michelle Tseng, 20, Tchaikovsky: Concerto for Violin and Orchestra in D Major, Opus 35
- 2011: Stephanie Ng, 21, Rachmaninoff: Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini, Opus 43  
Mimi Jung, 16, Tchaikovsky: Concerto for Violin and Orchestra in D Major, Opus 35
- 2010: Chloe J. Y. Hong, 13, Elgar: Concerto for Cello and Orchestra in E minor, Opus 85
- 2009: Kristie Su, 14, Glazunov: Concerto for Violin and Orchestra in A minor, Opus 82
- 2008: Kristina Jacinth, 19, Prokofiev: Concerto No. 3 for Piano and Orchestra in C Major, Opus 26
- 2007: Yina Tong, 19, Bloch: Schelomo Hebraic Rhapsody for Cello and Orchestra
- 2006: Min Hwan Kim, 18, Tchaikovsky: Concerto No. 1 for Piano and Orchestra in B-flat Minor, Opus 23
- 2005: Sean Lee, 18, Brahms: Concerto for Violin and Orchestra in D Major, Opus 77
- 2004: Alice Chen, 17, Liszt: Concerto No. 1 for Piano and Orchestra in E-flat Major, S.124
- 2003: Esther Kim, 15, Ravel: Tzigane for Violin and Orchestra
- 2002: Christine Yu, 22, Liszt: Concerto No. 1 for Piano and Orchestra in E-flat Major, S.124
- 2001: Joon Sung Jun, 24, Tchaikovsky: Variations on a Roco Theme for Cello and Orchestra, Opus 33  
Xin Xin, 23, Rachmaninoff: Concerto No. 3 for Piano and Orchestra in D minor, Opus 30
- 2000: Grace Fong, 20, Tchaikovsky: Concerto No. 1 for Piano and Orchestra in B-flat minor, Opus 23
- 1999: Sally Kikuchi, 11, Chopin: Concerto No. 2 for Piano and Orchestra in F minor, Opus 21
- 1998: Joseph Keel, 15, Rachmaninoff: Concerto No. 3 for Piano and Orchestra in D minor, Opus 30
- 1997: Esther Keel, 11, Beethoven: Concerto No. 1 for Piano and Orchestra in C Major, Opus 15
- 1996: Yvonne Lam, 14, Prokofiev: Concerto No. 2 for Piano and Orchestra in G minor, Opus 16
- 1995: Angela Wu, 14, Schumann: Concerto for Piano and Orchestra in A minor, Opus 54
- 1994: Jian Wang, 21, Saint-Saëns: Concerto No. 1 for Cello and Orchestra in A minor, Opus 33
- 1993: Jennifer Bai, 19, Mozart: Concerto No.4 for Violin and Orchestra in D Major, K.218
- 1992: Kevin Kumar, 16, Vieuxtemps: Concerto No. 5 for Violin and Orchestra in A minor, Opus 37
- 1991: Jeremy Justeson, 20, Ibert: Concertino de Camera for Alto Saxophone and Orchestra
- 1990: Helen Wu, 19, Barber: Concerto for Piano and Orchestra, Opus 38
- 1989: Linda Wang, 17, Barber: Concerto for Violin and Orchestra, Opus 14
- 1988: Judy Huang, 14, MacDowell: Concerto No. 2 for Piano and Orchestra in D minor, Opus

### **Thank you to our Virtuoso Level Members**

Our highest membership level, Virtuoso, is for individuals or couples who contribute at least \$5000 to the Peninsula Symphony Association in a single season. We are proud to recognize the 2017-2018 season Virtuoso contributors:

Ken and Anita Gash  
Marylyn and Chuck Klaus  
Dorothy and Allen Lay  
John and Sue Williams

## Thank you to our 2017-2018 Sponsors

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The Peninsula Symphony's concerts are also  
generously supported by the Recording  
Industry's Music Performance Trust Fund.

The next Peninsula Symphony concert  
will be held on Sunday, April 29 at 7:00  
PM at Redondo Union High School  
Auditorium

## Peninsula Symphony Concert Sunday, April 29, 2018 at 7:00 PM

### *A HOUSE DIVIDED*

Händel	<i>Music for the Royal Fireworks</i> (original version for winds), HWV 351
Shchedrin	<i>Carmen Suite</i> for strings and percussion

## Enjoy the Edith Knox Young Artists Performance Competition Finals

Sunday, April 8, 2018 at 2:00 PM

Redondo Union High School Auditorium



Post Office Box 2602  
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

### Contact Information

Any questions or requests about the Peninsula Symphony, the Peninsula Symphony Association or ***Symphony Sounds*** should be sent to the Peninsula Symphony Association office. We will route your message to the appropriate person.

The Peninsula Symphony Association  
Post Office Box 2602  
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274

The office is normally staffed from 9:00 AM to noon on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. You may call at any time (310-544-0320) and leave a message on our answering machine, but phone replies will usually be made only during normal staffing hours. You can also e-mail us at [music.pensym@verizon.net](mailto:music.pensym@verizon.net). General information about the Symphony (current season schedule, maps and directions, etc.) can be found on our website ([www.pensym.org](http://www.pensym.org)).

Other contacts are:

Peninsula Symphony Association president, John Williams [jwskrs@verizon.com](mailto:jwskrs@verizon.com)

Music Director/Conductor, Gary Berkson [conductor.pensym@verizon.net](mailto:conductor.pensym@verizon.net)