

VC CHAMBER ORCHESTRA / VC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 2:30 PM



PERFORMING ARTS CENTER LAWN 4700 LOMA VISTA RD., 93003



SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA & CHAMBER ORCHESTRA DIRECTED BY ASHLEY WALTERS

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

String Quartet Op. 76, No. 2 ("Quinten") (1797)

Franz Joseph Haydn

Allegro

Andante o più tosto allegretto

Menuetto-Allegro ma non troppo

Vivace assai

String Quartet in C minor, Op. 108 (1960)

Dmitri Shostakovich

Largo

Allegro molto

Allegretto

Largo

Largo

Short Intermission

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Overture to La Forza del Destino (1862)

Giuseppe Verdi

Symphony No. 4 in A Major, Op. 90 ("Italian")

Felix Mendelssohn

Allegro vivace

Andante con moto

Con moto moderato

Presto and Finale—Saltarello

SPECIAL THANKS: Jennifer Kalfsbeek-Goetz, Bernard Gibson, Brent Wilson, Noelle Neal, Jamie Birkett, Brian Hotchkin, Jeanne Tanner, Janeene Nagaoka, Lisa Smith, Susan Royer, David Howarth, Jake Phillips

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CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Violin I Sophia Holdorf Laura Liang Violin II Blair Crossman Aleah Delgado **Viola** Diane Gilbert^ Natalie Lefevre Joseph Parcher **Cello** Alanm Magana Gonzalez Ashley Walters^

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Violin 1

Tarah Brown, Concertmaster Tracy Clark Sophia Holdorf Kathleen Roos Andrew Tholl

Violin II

Julissa Bozman^ Aleah Delgado Laura Liang Melanie Festa Annette Halpern Ann Kosinski

Viola

Patrick Barros Diane Gilbert^ Connie Hood Joseph Parcher Yoav Vega Cello

Erica Duke-Kirkpatrick* Alanm Magana Gonzalez Hovik Hovhanissyan*

Bass

Barry Newton[^]

Flute

Danielle Bonnici Melissa Flores Mary Peterson

Oboe

Kimaree Gilad^

Clarinet

Jose Hernandez

Bassoon

Nick Akdag^

Horn

Jon Titmus[^] Rachel Berry*

Trumpet

Victor Lozano Emilio Shuman

Trombone

Aidan Richie*

Bass Trombone
Rose Doylemason*

Percussion

Maritza Alejos Diego Lara

Piano

Alex Curry

Conductor

Ashley Walters

^ faculty

* guest

UPCOMING EVENTS:

April 22 & 23: VC Opera, "Hansel and Gretel"

April 30: VC Symphony/Chamber Orchestras

May 4, 5 & 6: VC Theatre, "Almost, Maine"

May 7 & 8: VC Chamber Music

May 9: VC Chorus & Singers

May 11: VC Music Final Concert (with guests from VC Dance)

May 14: Jazz Band

PROGRAM NOTES: Thank you for joining us for some Music in the Air! This afternoon you will hear four works spanning 250 years of the Classical musical canon. Starting the show is the Chamber Orchestra performing the oldest work on the program, Haydn's String Quartet, Op. 76, no. 2 "Quinten" from 1797. Haydn wrote 83 string quartets over the course of forty years; it is no surprise that he is referred to as the "Father of the String Quartet." Among these works was the "Quinten" (fifths), so called because of the opening descending interval of a fifth played by the first violin then echoed by other instruments. Each movement of this work has a distinct character ranging from playful to brooding to virtuosic. While not as prolific in his string quartet writing as Haydn, Dmitri Shostakovich wrote fifteen memorable quartets, the eighth being his most popular and most frequently performed. Like Haydn's "Quinten," the Shostakovich also begins with a musical signature, in this case not merely a common musical interval but the composer's own signature. In German, the composer's name is spelled **D**mitri **Sch**ostakowitsch. To translate this into a musical signature, Shostakovich took the letters DSCH and assigned them pitches from the German musical alphabet: D, E-flat, C, B. You will hear these four notes at the start of the work in the cello, and throughout the five movements, all of which are played without a pause. If you are a fan of Shostakovich you will also hear quotes from his other works, including the second piano trio, the cello concerto, and the fifth symphony. This work is dark, heavy, and pleading and will, for many, resonate with the heaviness of current political events abroad. Living and working in Stalin's Russia left Shostakovich constantly fearing for his own life. He dedicated his eighth guartet "to the victims of fascism and war" and today's performance is dedicated to those who are needlessly suffering in Ukraine.

The second half of the program, performed by the VC Symphony Orchestra, takes us to Italy. We begin with Verdi's Overture to his opera La Forza del Destino (The Force of Destiny). The opera premiered in Russia in 1862, but, after several years of international performances, Verdi revised the work. One of the largest revisions was to the overture, which he expanded to the version you will hear today. Listen for the three ominous low E's at the beginning of the work, which return throughout the piece. To close our program, we have Mendelssohn's Symphony No. 4, the "Italian." For two years, from 1829–1831, Mendelssohn toured Europe and it was inspiration that he found in Italy that helped him to create this joyous work. While in Rome, he wrote a letter to his sister, the great musician Fanny Mendelssohn, saying, "The 'Italian' symphony is making great progress. It will be the jolliest piece I have ever done, especially the last movement. I have not found anything for the slow movement yet, and I think that I will save that for Naples." This joyful

exuberance is one of the reasons I programmed the work – to express how happy I feel to be performing music with this wonderful group of musicians despite the challenges of the past two years.

-Ashley Walters