



Spring in St. Petersburg

Kalena Bovell, Music Director



May 4, 7:30pm
Battell Chapel
400 College St. New Haven

www.civicorchestraofnewhaven.org

History of the Orchestra

In 1939, founding conductor Harry Berman conceived the idea of an adult orchestra whose members played not for compensation but for enjoyment. He collected a group of 30 advanced amateur musicians for a first rehearsal in his studio. They began preparations for their first concert, given on April 7, 1941, at Sprague Memorial Hall on the Yale University campus under the name "Philharmonic of New Haven, Connecticut."

In its early years, the orchestra's repertoire consisted primarily of works by Gilbert and Sullivan, light classical pieces, and traditional compositions by Haydn, Mozart, Mendelssohn, and Beethoven. In the 1960s, when Harry Berman stepped down and Gordon Emerson began conducting the orchestra, the group started to include soloists and local choruses as part of its programs.

Under Emerson's direction, the orchestra expanded its repertoire to include local, state, and world premieres of works by composers such as Carlos Chavez, Charles Ives, Leonard Bernstein, Henry Cowell, and others. In addition, the Civic Orchestra of New Haven began offering gifted local artists the opportunity to perform solo concertos, and started collaborating with local choruses for its annual holiday performance.

With the opening of the 21st century Christopher James Hisey became Music Director. Under his leadership the orchestra continued its nearly 75-year tradition of offering two annual performances in the heart of downtown New Haven. The programming remained primarily in the classical arena, and Maestro Hisey's creative direction with the group welcomed collaboration with local composers and soloists.

In 2018 the Civic Orchestra welcomed Kalena Bovell to the podium. Dedicated to outreach and education, Maestro Bovell has worked with youth orchestras and ensembles in California and Connecticut, spreading her passion for classical music. As an advocate of new music, she envisions commissions for the Civic Orchestra by local composers. Maestro Bovell is a graduate of the Hartt School of Music, and is Music Director at the Loomis Chaffee School.

For more information about the Orchestra or to schedule an audition, please e-mail us at info@civicorchestraofnewhaven.org.

Program

Spring in St. Petersburg

Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov
1844 – 1908

Capriccio Espagnol, Op. 34

- I. Alborada
- II. Variazioni
- III. Alborada
- IV. Scena e canto gitano
- V. Fandango asturiano

Pyotr Illyich Tchaikovsky
1840 – 1893

Violin Concerto in D Major, Op. 35

with Emily Uematsu, violin

- I. Allegro moderato
- II. Canzonetta: Andante
- III. Finale: Allegro vivacissimo

INTERMISSION

Franz Joseph Haydn
1732 – 1809
arr. Moreno

Finale from String Quartet Op. 33, No. 3 "The Bird"

with Wilbur Cross High School students

Alexander Borodin
1833 – 1887

Symphony No. 2 in B minor, "Heroic Symphony"

- I. Allegro moderato
- II. Scherzo. Molto vivo
- III. Andante
- IV. Finale: Allegro

Program Notes

This concert of the Civic Orchestra of New Haven puts together works from three romantic-era Russian composers, best known for developing a distinct Russian-sound, rather than following the traditions of western Europe. All three spent much of their lives in Saint Petersburg where they interacted and influenced each other's styles.

Alexander Borodin (1833 – 1887) was perhaps the least likely to succeed at musical composition. He was trained as chemist and physician, which he viewed as his true profession. He published several important contributions to organic chemistry. He also founded a medical school in St. Petersburg, where he taught. He only composed in his spare time or while recovering from illness. He played the cello and composed two string quartets. Today, he is best known for his three symphonies, the second of which we perform today. His opera, *Prince Igor*, was written at the same time as his *Second Symphony* but not completed during his lifetime. The opera contains several well-known themes used in the 1953 Broadway musical *Kismet*, for which Borodin was awarded a posthumous Tony Award. This opera also contains the *Polovtsian*

Dances, recently performed by the Civic Orchestra.

Borodin's opera *Prince Igor* was completed after his death by **Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov** (1844 – 1908). Rimsky-Korsakov was a master of orchestration and influenced many other composers. He is also recognized as an architect of the Russian sound despite his training in western music styles. He frequently incorporated Russian folk melodies in his works. Among his best known compositions are *Capriccio Espagnol*, performed today, and *Scheherazade*, also recently performed by the Civic Orchestra. He composed 14 operas. As a young man, he served in the Russian Navy. As a professor of composition in the Saint Petersburg Conservatory, he would often lecture in his military uniform, always ready to serve his country.

Despite Rimsky-Korsakov's huge musical output, he never conducted an orchestra. He frequently had to consult with his colleague **Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky** (1840 – 1893), who also taught at the Saint Petersburg Conservatory. Tchaikovsky was trained in the musical styles of western Europe, which he rebelled against. His life filled with more than its share of depression, personal

crises, and his homosexuality, which he fought to keep private. Much of his ballet music is familiar to us today, including *Swan Lake*; *Sleeping Beauty*; and *The Nutcracker*. Equally familiar is his 1812 Overture with

nationalistic themes, calling for live canon fire. The Civic Orchestra has recently performed four of his six symphonies.

by Dan Zelterman

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Sibelius Symphony #5

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Armistice & Triumph*

Elgar, Poulenc's Organ Concerto with Ned Tipton, Soloist
Faure's Requiem & songs of Butterworth, Ives, Cohan & Berlin

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2018 5:00PM

Joys of the Season: From Bach to POPS

Magnificat with Mendelssohn Choir of Connecticut
Your favorite holiday songs and the Hallelujah Chorus

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2019 8:00PM

West Side Story!

SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2019, 3:00PM

Music for All Ages: Peter & the Wolf

Holsts Jupiter from the Planets
Young Artists Festival Concerto Competition Winner

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2019 8:00PM

Season Finale: Beethoven's Symphony #9

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*Unless noted differently

2018-2019 – Our 16th Season

Saturday, November 3, 2018

Bizet – Carmen Fantasy #1
Schumann - Symphony No. 1-“Spring”
Collaboration with Fiarfield Ludlowe High School

Amahl & the Night Visitors – January 5 & 6, 2019

United Methodist Church
49 Weston Road, Westport, CT 06880

10th Concerto Competition

February 23 & 24, 2019

Saturday, March 2, 2019

Ravel – Bolero * Grieg – Holberg Suite
Bruch – Scottish Fantasy for Violin & Orchestra
Gary Cappozziello, soloist

Saturday, June 8, 2019

Brahms – Academic Festival Overture
Winners of the Concerto Competition
Cadwallader – Symphony No. 5 – PREMIERE!

Kalena Bovell, *Music Director*



Hailed as “one of the brightest stars in the world of classical music,” Kalena Bovell began her tenure as Music Director of the Civic Orchestra of New Haven for the 2018-2019 season. In addition, this season she guest conducted the New Britain Symphony in their March “Dance for Joy” concert and returned to conduct two short opera by Dawn Sonntag for Hartford Opera Theater’s New In November.

Ms. Bovell has worked with the Memphis Symphony Orchestra, assisting former Music Director, Mei-Ann Chen for her final masterworks concert in 2016. Ms. Bovell has also assisted Gemma New, resident conductor of the St. Louis Symphony and Carolyn Kuan, Music Director of the Hartford Symphony.

As a conductor with dynamic presence and charisma and praised for her “brilliant conducting skills,” (Chicago Tribune) Ms. Bovell was Assistant Conductor of the Chicago Sinfonietta, making her professional debut in 2017 during the MLK Tribute concerts in Chicago’s Symphony Center. That same year, Ms. Bovell was a Semi Finalist for Marin Alsop’s prestigious Taki Concordia Fellowship. She has held conducting fellowships with the Chicago Sinfonietta and the Allentown Symphony Orchestra. In 2015, she won 3rd place in the American Prize for the college/university division.

An active participant in workshops and festivals, Ms. Bovell has worked with renowned conductors Larry Rachleff, Donald Schleicher, Johannes Schlaefli, Diane Wittry, and Kenneth Kiesler. She received coachings from Michael Morgan, Rossen Milanov, Gerard Schwarz and Bill Eddins.

Currently the Orchestra Director at the Loomis Chaffee School, Ms. Bovell received a Masters of Music Degree and Graduate Professional Diploma in instrumental conducting from The Hartt School, where she was a student of Edward Cumming.

Emily Uematsu, *violin*



Violinist **Emily Uematsu** has performed throughout the United States and Europe as a soloist, chamber musician, and orchestral player. She was the winner of the 2017 Parnassus Society Award. A tenured member of the New Haven Symphony, she has also played with the Baltimore Symphony, Minnesota Orchestra, the New York Pops, and other noted ensembles. She was a finalist in the International George Gershwin and Mika Hasler Competitions. In 2014, Emily made her New York City debut recital at Steinway Hall sponsored by the Jascha Heifetz Society. She has performed at

celebrated music festivals including Bellingham, Aspen, Spoleto, and Sarasota. At the Sarasota Music Festival, Emily, as one of four violin soloists, distinguished herself in a performance of Vivaldi's Concerto Grosso in B minor from L'Estro Armonico with seasoned musicians Joseph Silverstein, Ani Kavafian, and Alexander Kerr. Emily has appeared on The Late Show with Stephen Colbert, where she performed with pianist Jon Batiste; on the Amazon TV show Mozart in the Jungle; and in a music video by the Dirty Projectors.

A native of Tenafly, New Jersey, Emily began violin studies with Dorothy Kaplan Roffman. Her work with Ray Iwazumi led to her acceptance at The Juilliard School Pre-College Division at age eleven, where she continued studies with Stephen Clapp and Catherine Cho. Emily earned her bachelor of music degree, magna cum laude, in violin performance with a minor in film studies at the Hall-Musco Conservatory at Chapman University as a student of William Fitzpatrick. At Chapman, she was the first recipient of the Henri Temianka Endowed Scholarship in Violin. She completed her master of music degree in violin performance with Paul Kantor at the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University, where she was awarded the Itzhak Perlman Endowed Scholarship.

**Gracious words
are a honeycomb,
sweet to the soul and
healing to the bones.**

Proverbs 16:24



Civic Orchestra of New Haven

Kalena Bovell, *Music Director*

VIOLIN I

Dan Fecteau,
Concertmaster
Kate Altman
Ciara Cohen
Amy S. Ferris ≠
Stephen Grodzinsky
Sue Prasad
Cesar Queen
Lauren Winkler

VIOLIN II

Sarah Roman *
Elaine Braithwaite
Jerry Anne Dickel
Alaina Fagan
Lore Higgins ≠
Yasmina Martin
Catherine Miller
Lawrence Zukof

VIOLA

Margaret Liddell *
Marnielle Charles
Ron Moore
Laurie Ongley

CELLO

Cheryl Martin *
Jillian Emerson
Jane Farrell

CELLO (cont)

Meg Myers
Gary Orlofsky
Alayna Overly
Jill Polisson ≠
Susan Solomon

BASS

Andrew Martin *
Sooo-z Mastropietro
Andrew Muench

FLUTE/PICCOLO

Libby Seidner *
Judith Kramer Koret
Lucas Guedes

OBOE

Anthony Marra *
Karen Devonshuk

CLARINET

Amanda Hetric *
Robert LaMotte

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Thomas Heilman

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Jessica Shaver *
Dani Heller
Jean Webb
Cathy Zack

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Paul Defrances ≠
Ben Heller

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Art Hovey

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* principal
≠ on leave

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Kendall Alderman, *Music Director*

VIOLIN

Gershon Ariker
Jose Benitez
Eric Burgos
Nikita Omelchenko
Nakysha Ortiz
Angelo Pena
Cesar Queen

VIOLA

Deyaneira Alvarez
Bermudez
Donzes Green

CELLO

Gabriela Berrios
Ashley Rosado

BASS

Daniel Trastsianka

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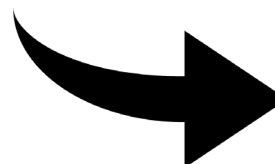
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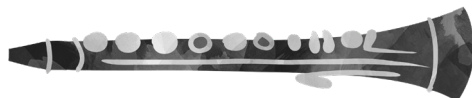
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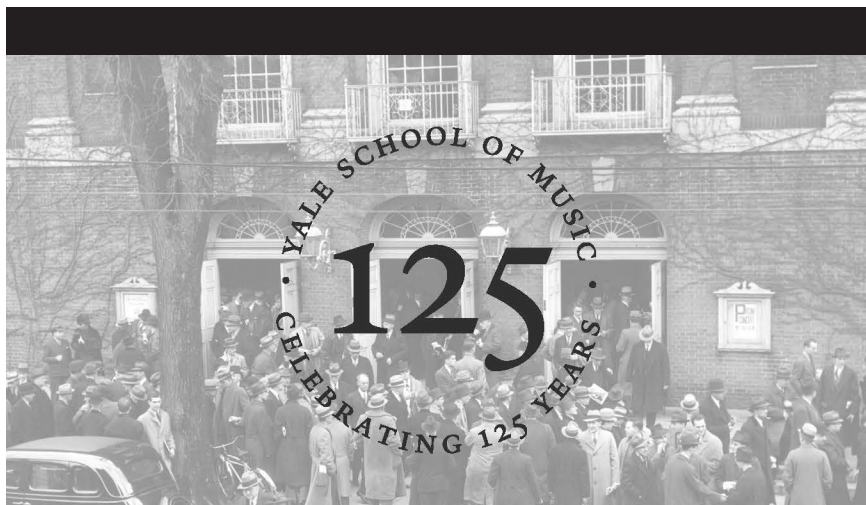
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