

Pro Musica Colorado Chamber Orchestra PO Box 3148, Boulder, CO 80307 720.443.0565

www.promusicacolorado.org | promusicacolorado@gmail.com

Contact: Cynthia Katsarelis, Music Director and Conductor

PRO MUSICA COLORADO CHAMBER ORCHESTRA'S CLASSICAL EVOLUTION

The 2018.2019 Season explores how classical music is evolving in equality, spirit, and music development.

Boulder and Denver, Colorado—Pro Musica Colorado Chamber Orchestra (PMC) announces their 12th season – *Classical Evolution*. Each concert explores a particular facet of how classical music is evolving.

The first concert, *Women Among Men*, takes place on Saturday, September 22nd, 7:30 pm at Central Presbyterian Church (1660 Sherman St, Denver, CO), and on Sunday, September 23rd, 2:00 pm at Mountain View United Methodist Church (355 Ponca Place, Boulder, CO). The concert celebrates the ever-evolving addition of women in classical music, as artists, conductors, and composers. *Women Among Men* features violinist Yumi Hwang-Williams, concertmaster of the Colorado Symphony Orchestra, in Haydn's *Violin Concerto in C Major*.

"Yumi Hwang-Williams, concertmaster of the Colorado Symphony, is a musician of perfectly balanced intelligence and passion. This is ideal for Haydn and we look forward to our third collaboration," says Cynthia Katsarelis, Music Director and Conductor of PMC, and the only woman conductor of a professional orchestra in the front range area.

Also on the program is Bach's *Die Schätzbarkeit der weiten Erde*. PMC teams up with Yumi and local favorite, soprano Amanda Balestrieri, for these two gorgeous Bach arias for soprano and solo violin. The program opens with Mozart's *Serenade No. 6 for Orchestra in D major K. 239, Serenata notturna*, which was written for two orchestras. A quartet of the principal strings joins the PMC smaller string orchestra, along with timpani. To round out the celebration, Polish composer and violin virtuoso Grayzna Bacewicz's *Concerto for String Orchestra* (1948) provides a Neo-Classical elements and further recognition of women composers in classical music.

On Saturday, December 1st, 7:30 pm and Sunday, December 2nd, 3:00 pm, both performances at Mountain View United Methodist Church (355 Ponca Place, Boulder, CO), the evolution of the spirit of classical music, and how it can be used for positive solutions for world challenges, takes flight. *Handel's Messiah*, which includes the famous Hallelujah Chorus, is a Christmas tradition not to be missed! PMC partners with the Boulder Chamber Chorale and their artistic director, Dr. Vicki Burrichter, for these special performances. Handel presented this work annually as a fundraiser for an orphanage. In this charitable tradition, Pro Musica Colorado and Boulder Chamber Chorale are including a food drive. Details for the food drive will be announced soon.

"Messiah is a masterpiece that inspired every composer who wrote oratorios. Haydn's Creation, Beethoven's Missa Solemnis, and Mendelssohn's oratorios were directly influenced by the Messiah," says, Katsarelis, "I also love the fact that Handel presented his Messiah annually as a benefit for orphans. As someone who teaches music in Haiti, I've witnessed the power of music to lift spirits, heal trauma, and make community."

The season finale, *21st Century Style!*, will be performed in three locations: Friday, February 22, 7:30 pm at First Baptist Church of Denver (1373 Grant St, Denver, CO), Saturday, February 23, 7:30 pm at Mountain View United Methodist Church (355 Ponca Place, Boulder, CO), and Sunday, February 24, 2:00 pm at the Stewart Auditorium – Longmont Museum (400 Quail Road, Longmont, CO).

21st Century Style! explores the evolution of classical music in this century, and the inspiration from previous eras and multiple cultures. Philip Glass' Concerto for Harpsichord and Chamber Orchestra, a piece written for a Baroque instrument and a Haydn-sized orchestra, all in a new modern language, will be performed with world-renowned harpsichordist Jory Vinikour.



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"Those who heard the Glass Piano Concerto with Boulder Philharmonic last year and the American Seasons Violin Concerto with Pro Musica Colorado know that Philip Glass is at the top of his game in writing terrific concertos," says Katsarelis, "Jory Vinikour is a fabulous musician who is beloved by many harpsichord lovers in Boulder. We worked together as undergrads at the Peabody Conservatory, and I'm looking forward to this reunion!"

Also on this program is a World Premiere of composer Max Wolpert's *Harpsichord Concerto #1*, "Baroque in Mirror." This work pays homage to Scottish, Jewish, and Welsh fiddle players from the Baroque era. The concert concludes with Haydn's *Symphony No. 22*, *The Philosopher*, an exploration of the source of modern symphonic music.

Ticket prices for *Classical Evolution* – *2018-2019 Season*: \$35 General, \$5 Students, \$55 (supporter ticket). Subscriptions for the three concerts save 20% off the regular prices. Groups save 15% when you purchase 10 or more Adult tickets for the performance. Tickets are available online at: www.promusicacolorado.org. For more information, or to purchase tickets by phone, call: 720-443-0565.

Season at a Glance - Photos and Full Bios available upon request
A link to our dropbox is provided at: http://www.promusicacolorado.org/press-kit/

Women Among Men

Saturday, September 22, 7:30 pm – Central Presbyterian Church, 1660 Sherman St, Denver, CO 80203 Sunday, September 23, 2:00 pm – Mountain View United Methodist Church, 355 Ponca Place, Boulder, CO 80303

Yumi Hwang-Williams, violinist Amanda Balestrieri, soprano Cynthia Katsarelis, conductor

Program:

Wolfgang A. Mozart Serenade No. 6 for Orchestra in D major K. 239, Serenata notturna Grazyna Bacewicz Concerto for String Orchestra Franz Joseph Haydn Violin Concerto in C Major Johann Sebastian Bach Die Schätzbarkeit der weiten Erde

Handel's Messiah

Saturday, December 1, 7:30 pm – Mountain View United Methodist Church, 355 Ponca Place, Boulder, CO 80303 Sunday, December 2, 3:00 pm – Mountain View United Methodist Church, 355 Ponca Place, Boulder, CO 80303

with the Boulder Chamber Chorale and Artistic Director, Dr. Vicki Burrichter Cynthia Katsarelis conductor

Program:

George Frideric Handel Messiah

21st Century Style!

Friday, February, 22, 7:30 pm - First Baptist Church of Denver, 1373 Grant St, Denver, CO 80203 Saturday, February 23, 7:30 pm - Mountain View United Methodist Church, 355 Ponca Place, Boulder, CO 80303 Sunday, February 24, 2:00 pm - Stewart Auditorium - Longmont Museum, 400 Quail Road, Longmont, CO 80501

Jory Vinikour, harpsichord Cynthia Katsarelis, conductor

Program:

Max Wolpert Harpsichord Concerto #1, "Baroque in Mirror" - World Premiere! Philip Glass Concerto for Harpsichord and Chamber Orchestra Franz Joseph Haydn Symphony No. 22, The Philosopher



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Note: Programs are subject to change.

About Pro Musica Colorado Chamber Orchestra and Cynthia Katsarelis, Music Director and Conductor

Now in its sixth season, Pro Musica Colorado Chamber Orchestra has many of Colorado's finest musicians, and is committed to impassioned performances of repertoire ranging from the classic to the cutting edge.

Cynthia Katsarelis has served with the Cincinnati Symphony, Pops and May Festival, the Greensboro (N.C.) Symphony, and has conducted many professional, college, and youth orchestras. She has assisted James Conlon, Keith Lockhart, Erich Kunzel and Michael Christie. Most recently she conducted the Colorado Music Festival's Young People's Concerts. Katsarelis is a graduate of the Peabody Conservatory of the Johns Hopkins University, with degrees in both violin and conducting. <u>READ MORE</u>

About Yumi Hwang-Williams, violin

Yumi Hwang-Williams made her debut at the age of fifteen as a soloist with the Philadelphia Orchestra, six years after emigrating from South Korea. A graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music, she is known today both for her stylish performances of the classics and her commitment to the works of present-day composers. STRINGS magazine calls her 'a modern Prometheus' who has 'emerged as a fiery champion of contemporary classical music.' Her interpretations of concertos by Tomas Adès, Aaron Jay Kernis, Michael Daugherty, and Christopher Rouse have earned critical acclaim as well as enthusiastic approval from the composers. Yumi is a frequent soloist with the Colorado Symphony... READ MORE

About Amanda Balestrieri, soprano

Born in Harrogate, England, Amanda has an illustrious performance background in London, Europe and the United States, where her singing has been described in the press as "unusually versatile," "gorgeous," and "absolutely divine" (Washington Post, Times Union Saratoga NY, Washington Review). She began her music studies at the age of four, and enjoyed early success as a pianist, violinist, and soprano soloist. Balestrieri received her B.A./M.A. in Modern Languages from Oxford University and studied voice in London and Milan. She sang with the Academy Chorus of St. Martin in the Fields under Sir Neville Marriner and was a regular soloist in contemporary music with James Wood's New London Chamber Choir... READ MORE

About the Boulder Chamber Chorale and Dr. Vicki Burrichter, Artistic Director

The Boulder Chamber Chorale is a select small ensemble comprised of the some of the finest singers from within the Boulder Chorale. The group performs on Boulder Chorale concerts as well as in outreach performances such as this season's free library concert and Brewery Tour.

Dr. Vicki Burrichter's passion is choirs and choral singers. She brings to all of her choirs an expectation of excellence, a sense of humor, an understanding of diverse genres and cultures, and a theatrical sensibility that makes her choirs exciting and moving to experience. <u>READ MORE</u>

About Jory Vinikour, harpsichord

Jory Vinikour is recognized as one of the outstanding harpsichordists of his generation. Born in Chicago, he came to Paris on a Fulbright scholarship to study with Huguette Dreyfus and Kenneth Gilbert. First Prizes in the International Harpsichord Competitions of Warsaw (1993) and the Prague Spring Festival (1994) brought him to the public's attention, and he has since appeared in festivals and concert series, and as soloist with major orchestras, throughout much of the world. He has appeared as conductor/harpsichordist with the Juilliard415 Baroque orchestra at Carnegie Hall, as well as with the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, Hong Kong Philharmonic, Korea Chamber Orchestra, etc... READ MORE

About Max Wolpert, composer

Fiddler, composer, and storyteller Max Wolpert conjures up monsters and myth where the traditional, classical, and theatrical meet. Drawing from tradition both musical and mythological, Max Wolpert makes music inspired by stories from around the world. Whether built upon the verve and bounce of an Irish jig, the endearing asymmetry of a Welsh pipe tune, or the drive of a Virginian breakdown, Max's pieces are crafted with taut detail and a flair for the dramatic honed over years as a pit musician, conductor, and orchestrator for theatrical productions... READ MORE