University Symphony Orchestra

A Century of Romanticism

Tuesday, November 6, 2018 at 8pm
Lagerquist Concert Hall, Mary Baker Russell Music Center
Pacific Lutheran University
School of Arts and Communication / Department of Music presents

University Symphony Orchestra
A Century of Romanticism

Jeffrey Bell-Hanson, Conductor

Tuesday, November 6, 2018 at 8pm
Lagerquist Concert Hall, Mary Baker Russell Music Center

Welcome to Lagerquist Concert Hall.
Please disable the audible signal on all watches, pagers and cellular phones for the duration of the concert.
Use of cameras, recording equipment and all digital devices is not permitted in the concert hall.

PROGRAM

Overture to Nabucco ..........................................................Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)

Fantasia on Greensleeves ..................................................Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)
arr. Ralph Greaves

Symphony No. 2, op. 30 (“Romantic”) ..................................Howard Hanson (1896-1981)
Adagio—Allegro moderato
Andante con tenerezza
Allegro con brio

Please Join the PLUSO on Tuesday, March 19, 2019 for the Student Showcase,
featuring our own PLU students as soloists,
and the premiere of a new work by a PLU student composer.
Program Notes

Nabucco was composed at a difficult juncture in Verdi’s life. Only eighteen months earlier his wife, Margherita, had died. Her death was preceded in the previous two years by the deaths of two of their children. At one point in 1840 he had gone so far as to renounce composition altogether. Even so, he continued at least to tinker with previously successful works until the dam burst in 1842 with the premiere of Nabucco to immediate acclaim. The next sixteen operas followed at the pace of about one every nine months.

The opera is a political and love story set against the backdrop of the Jewish exile in Babylon at the hands of the title character, known better to English-speaking audiences as Nebuchadnezzar. “Va pensiero,” a chorus sung in the opera by Hebrew slaves, has enjoyed lasting fame. Its popularity was likely connected with the ongoing—at the time—struggle for Italian unity. It was sung spontaneously by crowds along the route of Verdi’s funeral procession in Milan, and is yet regarded as a quasi anthem of the Italian people. The lyrical melody at the center of the overture is a version of this much-loved chorus.

Ralph Vaughan William’s Fantasia on Greensleeves is actually an arrangement by Ralph Greaves of music from Vaughan William’s opera, Sir John in Love, composed in 1924, and based on Shakespeare’s Merry Wives of Windsor. Though a complex work to stage, Hugh Ottaway and Alain Frogley characterize the music as more relaxed than some of the composer’s earlier, more visionary work. They called it “an enjoyment of traditional cakes and ale,” undoubtedly referring to Vaughan William’s frequent use of traditional folk materials.

Howard Hanson wrote Symphony No. 2 during an unusually fallow period for him as a composer. He had been appointed director of the Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester six years earlier (a post that he held for forty years), and was no doubt immersed in the hard work that would turn it into one of the premiere university music programs in the country. Prior to this appointment Hanson had been abroad in Rome as a winner of the Rome Prize. The lush orchestration displayed in this work is clearly related to his study there with Ottorino Respighi. The symphony was commissioned by Serge Koussevitzky, who conducted the premiere in 1930 with the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

The ”Romantic” Symphony is cast in three movements, a more common arrangement in the twentieth century than the traditional four-movement scheme familiar in the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. As its nickname suggests, it is filled with rich tonal harmonies, and easily-assimilated melodies. Nonetheless, the basic materials of the work are undeniably contemporary for their day. Perfect fourth relationships are as common in this piece as the thirds and fifths that characterize earlier romantic symphonies. Complex harmonies related in non-functional ways are also heard frequently; heavily veiled, ragtime rhythms can be heard occasionally as well.

The Conductor

Jeffrey Bell-Hanson begins his seventeenth season as Music Director of the Pacific Lutheran University Symphony Orchestra and Professor of Music in 2018. Since arriving in the Pacific Northwest in 2002, he has become a familiar presence as a conductor, clinician, adjudicator and orchestral educator. Each year he works with school orchestras at all levels throughout the region and beyond, bringing to them the perspective of his thirty-eight year career as a conductor and as a scholar. In 2017-2018 alone he served as clinician to dozens of orchestras throughout Washington, Michigan, Minnesota, on the east coast and in California.

Dr. Bell-Hanson has conducted orchestras and wind ensembles throughout the United States and in Bulgaria and the Czech Republic, including the West Bohemian Symphony Orchestra, the Olympia Symphony, the Marquette Symphony Orchestra, the Vratza Philharmonic and the Philharmonia Bulgarica. His long career on the podium and as a teacher has also included faculty appointments in Kansas, Louisiana and Michigan, where he won recognition for excellence in teaching both from Michigan Technological University and the State of Michigan. He has served as music director of both the Hutchinson Symphony Orchestra in Kansas and, for fourteen years, the Keweenaw Symphony Orchestra in Michigan.
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<th>Flute/Piccolo</th>
<th>Bass Trombone</th>
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JOIN US FOR THE GRAND REOPENING OF THE PANTAGES THEATER!

SYMPHONIE FANTASTIQUE

Sat, Nov. 17 | 7:30 pm
Pantages Theater
Sarah Ioannides, conductor
Henry Kramer, piano

Chabrier: España
Prokofiev: Piano Concerto No. 2
Berlioz: Symphonie Fantastique

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STUDENT15 | 15% off any seat
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$12 day-of Sec. D tickets
TEENTIX.COM
$5 day-of tickets

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Fall Events
at Pacific Lutheran University

ALL MUSIC EVENTS ARE IN MARY BAKER RUSSELL MUSIC CENTER, LAGERQUIST CONCERT HALL UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

SEPTEMBER
15 Saturday, 5:30pm
   Artist Series: Two Piano Recital
16 Sunday, 3pm
   Richard D. Moe Organ Recital Series: Jonathan Moyer, Organist
   Tickets: $17 general admission; $10 seniors, PLU alumni, and military; $5 PLU community, students & 18 and under
21 Friday, 8pm
   Regency Series: Regency Jazz Ensemble
27 Thursday, 6pm
   Voice Recital: Students of Cyndia Sieden, free admission
30 Saturday, 3pm
   Artist Series: Nyaho Garcia Duo

OCTOBER
4 Thursday, 8pm
   University Jazz Ensemble. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center
5 Friday, 8pm
   Consonare Amici. Jennie Lee Hansen Recital Hall, free admission
9 Tuesday, 8pm
   University Symphony Orchestra
11 Thursday, 8pm
   Regency Series: Regency Voices
12 Friday, 3pm
   Orchestra Festival concert, free admission
13 Saturday, 8pm
   Artist Series: Jason Gilliam, Euphonium
14 Sunday, 3pm
   University Wind Ensemble
16 Tuesday and 17 Wednesday, 8pm
   Choral Concert
21 Sunday, 3pm
   Richard D. Moe Organ Recital Series: Works for Organ Solo and Organ Plus. Tickets: $17 general admission; $10 seniors, PLU alumni, and military; $5 PLU community, students & 18 and under
21 Sunday, 8pm
   Regency Series: Regency String Quartet. Jennie Lee Hansen Recital Hall
25 Thursday, 8pm
   Artist Series: Naomi Nikula, Piano
26 Friday, 3:40pm
   Artist Series: Women on the Verge, performance and masterclass
26 Friday, 3:40pm
   Sydney Carlson Flute Masterclass. MBR 334, free admission
27 Saturday, 3pm
   PLUtonic/HERmonic. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center, free admission
28 Sunday, 5pm
   Regency Series: Lyric Brass Quintet

NOVEMBER
3 Saturday, 4:30pm
   Music Education Summit concert, free admission
6 Tuesday, 8pm
   University Symphony Orchestra
8 Thursday, 8pm
   Steel Pan and Percussion Ensembles, free admission
9 Friday, 3:40pm
   Regency Series: Camas Wind Quintet. Jennie Lee Hansen Recital Hall
15 Thursday, 6pm
   Keyboard Students Recital, free admission
16 Friday, 8pm
   University Jazz Ensemble. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center
17 Saturday, 3pm
   Woodwind Students Recital, free admission
17 Saturday, 4:30pm
   Brass Students Recital, free admission
18 Sunday, 3pm
   University Wind Ensemble
18 Sunday, 8pm
   Guitar Orchestra and Ensemble, free admission
27 Tuesday, 5pm
   Saxophone Quartets and Jazz Combos. AUC Cave, free admission
30 Friday, 8pm
   Piano Ensemble, free admission

DECEMBER

NOVEMBER, Cont.

A PLU CHRISTMAS, Winter Rose
   Tickets go on sale Thursday, November 1
   Saturday, December 1, at 8pm - Lagerquist Concert Hall
   Sunday, December 2, at 3pm - Lagerquist Concert Hall
   Monday, December 3, at 7:30pm - Benaroya Hall, Seattle
   Friday, December 7, at 8pm - Lagerquist Concert Hall
   Saturday, December 8, at 8pm - Lagerquist Concert Hall

1 Saturday, 12pm
   Sølvvinden Flute Ensemble, free admission
4 Tuesday, 6pm
   Chamber Music Kaleidoscope, free admission
4 Tuesday, 8pm
   String Kaleidoscope, free admission
5 Wednesday, 8pm
   University Concert Band, free admission
6 Thursday, 8pm
   Sounds of Christmas, featuring the University Singers and University Men’s Chorus
8 Saturday, 1pm
   Artist Series: Trio Esades, free admission
9 Sunday, 3pm
   Composers Forum, free admission
9 Sunday, 5:30pm
   Songwriters Workshop. Jennie Lee Hansen Recital Hall, free admission
10 Monday, 7:30pm
   Artist Series: Fan Li Voice Recital, free admission
11 Tuesday, 8pm
   Consonare Amici. Jennie Lee Hansen Recital Hall, free admission

JANUARY

1 Saturday, 5 and 6:30pm
   Northwest High School Honor Band, free admission
20 Sunday, 5pm
   PLU Honor Orchestra for Strings, free admission
24-26 Thursday-Saturday, 7:30pm; and 27 Sunday, 3pm
   W. A. Mozart’s Le Nozze di Figaro. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center. Tickets: $17 general admission; $10 seniors, PLU alumni, and military; $5 PLU community, students & 18 and under
19 Saturday, 4:30pm
   Northwest High School Honor Jazz Band. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center, free admission

To Order Tickets:
   On Campus: PLU Concierge Desk (253/535-7411)
   At the Concert: Lobby Desk in Mary Baker Russell Music Center

CONCERTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE
   All ticket sales are final - no refunds

MUSIC EVENT TICKET PRICES: ADULT: $17 GENERAL; $10 SENIOR CITIZENS 65+; MILITARY, PLU ALUMNI, & PLU COMMUNITY, FREE TO PLU STUDENTS & 18 AND UNDER UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. CONCERTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND SOME CONCERTS MAY BE ADDED AFTER PUBLICATION.
   http://www.plu.edu/music/tickets (updated October 23, 2018)