

University Symphony Orchestra
Finding Voice

Tuesday, October 8, 2019 at 8pm
Lagerquist Concert Hall, Mary Baker Russell Music Center

Pacific Lutheran University
School of Arts and Communication / Department of Music presents

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Finding Voice

Jeffrey Bell-Hanson, *conductor*

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Welcome to Lagerquist Concert Hall.
Please disable the audible signal on all watches 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

- Slavonic Dance, op. 46, no. 8**Antonín Dvořák (1841-1904)
- “Thema and Finale”** Antonín Dvořák
from *Symphonic Variations, op. 78*
- Symphony No. 3 in C Minor** Florence Beatrice Price (1887-1953)
Andante-Allegretto
Andante ma non troppo
Juba: Allegro
Scherzo: Finale

*The performance tonight of Florence Price’s symphony is presented with thanks to the late **Dr. Rae Linda Brown**, former Provost at PLU, and prominent and pioneering Price scholar. We dedicate this performance to her memory.*

Program Notes

The program tonight, *Finding Voice*, is so titled because it includes the music of two composers who are important to the creation of an American musical identity, albeit in somewhat different ways. When **Antonín Dvořák** was invited to come to the United States in 1891 to lead the New York Conservatory of Music, one of his charges was to help Americans discover their own musical voices. While this move betrayed what many have perceived as an historic cultural inferiority complex, the choice of this composer was not unreasonable. He had become famous by putting forward his own Bohemian musical heritage with the composition and publication of his *Slavonic Dances*. The hope was that he could encourage the nascent American musical community to follow a similar path. And so he did, by commending to us especially our African-American and Native American musical cultures, both in words and through some of his most beloved pieces.

The two works excerpted for this performance are not among his “American” pieces. However, the *Slavonic Dance No. 8* is representative of the work that persuaded his American benefactress, Jeanette Thurber, to invite him to come to New York. The *Theme and Finale* of his set of symphonic variations is a melding of the folk-like style that suffused much of the composer’s work with the symphonic language of the more broadly defined Western classical style.

Florence Beatrice Price, like most American composers of her generation and the previous one, was a pioneer on the frontier of Western musical culture. Price was pioneering on two fronts, both as a woman and as an African-American. Born in 1887, she had come along early enough to have studied with some of the first generation of American symphonists, including George Chadwick. Yet she arrived late enough to have been part of the great migration of African-Americans from the south (Arkansas in her case) to cities in the North (Chicago for Price) where they hoped to find greater opportunities, and more freedom to pursue them. In her case, at least musically, she found those opportunities. She had received enough good training from her mother to get her to the New England Conservatory at the age of sixteen. She earned artist diplomas as both an organist and pianist, and subsequently held teaching jobs in Atlanta and in Arkansas.

She had already experienced some success as a composer by the time she moved to Chicago in 1927. So it did not take her long to make connections at the Chicago Conservatory and the Chicago Musical College. Her first symphony, in E minor, won first prize in the Wanamaker competition in 1932, and was subsequently premiered by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra with Frederick Stock conducting.

Symphony No. 3 in C Minor was a Depression-era work commissioned by the Works Progress Administration, completed in 1940. Like so much of WPA-commissioned art, it celebrates American culture in vivid, colorful, and often sentimental ways. The orchestration displays the composer’s penchant for rich, thick harmonies and darker timbres. The music is suffused throughout with elements of African-American music. Most obviously, the third movement is titled for a dance (Juba) that originated in the fields in the south. The ragtime-like character of this dance is juxtaposed with slower, steamier tango-like sections. The overall form of the symphony is conservative, mostly following a Haydn-esque plan. The second movement is stately and sentimental. The first, while clearly based on a dance rhythm, is framed by a dark, almost ominous opening statement in the brass. That statement returns occasionally in this movement, and significantly, at the end of the scherzo finale.



Dr. Rae Linda Brown earned her B.S. in music education from the University of Connecticut, a M.A. in African-American Studies, and a Ph.D. in musicology from Yale University. She held full-time faculty and administrative positions at the University of Michigan and the University of California, Irvine. From 2008-16 Rae Linda served as associate provost for undergraduate education and held the faculty position of professor of music at Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles. In August 2016, she began a new position as provost and senior vice president for academic affairs at Pacific Lutheran University. Her focus was on student access, diversity, increased service to students and continued academic excellence at PLU.

Dr. Brown was a highly respected and influential scholar of American and African-American music. Her work of edited scores of Florence B. Price, the first African-American female composer to have had a symphonic composition performed by a major orchestra, and published editions of Price's music have been performed by numerous ensembles and artists in the United States and abroad. Among her many achievements and awards, Rae Linda received the first Willis Patterson Research Award by the African-American Art Song Alliance in February 2017.

In tribute to Rae Linda's legacy of care for students, especially those first in their family to attend college, PLU has established the Dr. Rae Linda Brown Access Scholarship. The university has also created an annual forum for displaying and sharing student research named in Dr. Brown's honor, the Dr. Rae Linda Brown Undergraduate Research Symposium.

About the Conductor

Jeffrey Bell-Hanson is in his eighteenth season as Music Director of the PLU Orchestra and Professor of Music in 2019. 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 is currently serving as President of the College Orchestra Directors Association.

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.

2019-2020 SEASON OPENER!

ROMEO & JULIET

Sat, Oct. 19 | 7:30 pm
Pantages Theater
Sarah Ioannides, conductor

Experience Shakespeare's epic love story through Prokofiev's Suites from *Romeo & Juliet* and dramatic excerpts portrayed by actors from Tacoma's School of the Arts.

TICKETS:
253-591-5894
symphonytacoma.org

STUDENT DISCOUNTS
STUDENT 12 | \$12 Sec. D tickets
STUDENT 4 PACK
4 concerts | \$40

SYMPHONY TACOMA
SARAH IOANNIDES
MUSIC DIRECTOR

**University Symphony Orchestra
2019-2020**

Jeffrey Bell-Hanson, *conductor*

(Strings listed in seating order, all others listed alphabetically by section)

Flute

Paige Balut*
Eva Reuter-crona
Sarah Hatcher
Cassie Duren

Oboe/English Horn

Kayleigh Peterson*
Lydia Robinson Baduria

Bassoon

Thomas J. Mallos
Dylan Cummins

Clarinet

Kendra Reeve*
Olunia Palenga

Bass Clarinet

Ian Lindhartsen

Horn

Ben Johnson*
Sophia Apgar
Kaitlyn Stabell
Kirsten Cie Monk

Trumpet

Darek Solomon*
Jessa Delosreyes

Trombone

Abigail Dean*
Jakob Johnson
Angel Steele

Tuba

Niko Woodin

Percussion

Eric Zabala*
Jordan Bluhm
Josh Hansel
Henry Hossmer
Quinn Rasmussen

Keyboard

Henry Hossmer

Harp

Alec Sjöholm

Violin I

Alexander Johnson*
Marley Cochran
Kailee Shiraishi
Arthur Keast
Jeeny Chung
Julie Chu
Cherish Scheidhauer
Hudson Link
Hannah Pena-Ruiz
Joy Edwards
Mark Jasinski©

Violin II

Naomi Southard*
Joy Han
Megan LeDuc
Jessica Yan
John Edward Dinglasan
Ashley Fletcher
Samuel Bies
Leah Foster-Koth

Viola

Abbie Foulon*
Noatak Post
Marilyn Willis
Kathryn Andersen
Ariel Johnston
Berkeley Price
Kayla Suffia

Cello

Darren Williams*
Kyle Siemers
Madelynne Jones
Jensen Lees
Alec Sjöholm

Bass

James Waltz*
Paul Duncan
Brianna Mears
Alexia Castillo
Kaia Malone
William Maxfield

* Principal or Co-principal
© Community Member

Kailee Shiraishi,
Orchestra Librarian

Thomas J. Mallos,
Logistics Manager

www.plu.edu/symphony

Want to skip the line at the door?

Tickets are available for purchase online up to two hours prior to each ticketed performance.

Visit www.plu.edu/music/calendar prior to any event to purchase your tickets ahead of time.

Simply select the event you'd like to attend and click "Buy Tickets" to visit the event ticketing page on www.eventbrite.com.

The Campus Concierge can also be reached by calling 253-535-7411 for phone sales.

Fall Events

at Pacific Lutheran University

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

SEPTEMBER

- 15 Sunday, 3pm**
Regency Series: Regency Jazz Ensemble
- 22 Sunday, 3pm**
Richard D. Moe Organ Recital Series: Paul Tegels, University Organist
Tickets: \$17 general admission; \$10 Senior Citizen (60+), Military, Alumni, PLU Community; \$5 PLU students & 18 and under
- 29 Sunday, 3pm**
Artist Series: Early Music Concert

OCTOBER

- 5 Saturday, 8pm**
Regency Series: Regency Voices
- 6 Sunday, 3pm**
Artist Series: Erik Steighner, Saxophone
- 8 Tuesday, 8pm**
University Symphony Orchestra
- 11 Friday, 12pm**
Orchestra Festival concert, free admission
- 12 Saturday, 5pm**
Artist Series: Jason Gilliam, Euphonium
- 13 Sunday, 3pm**
University Wind Ensemble
- 13 Sunday, 8pm**
Regency Series: Regency String Trio. Jennie Lee Hansen Recital Hall
- 20 Sunday, 3pm**
Richard D. Moe Organ Recital Series: Bruce Neswick, Organist.
Tickets: \$17 general admission; \$10 Senior Citizen (60+), Military, Alumni, PLU Community; \$5 PLU students & 18 and under
- 22 Tuesday and 23 Wednesday, 8pm**
Choral Concert
- 27 Sunday, 5pm**
Regency Series: Lyric Brass Quintet

NOVEMBER

- 2 Saturday, 1pm**
Regency Series: Camas Wind Quintet. Jennie Lee Hansen Recital Hall
- 5 Tuesday, 8pm**
University Symphony Orchestra
- 6 Wednesday, 8pm**
Music of Norway: Knut Vaage & the Valen Piano Trio. Scandinavian Cultural Center, Anderson University Center
- 8 Friday, 8pm**
University Jazz Ensemble. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center
- 9 Saturday, 3pm**
PLUtonic/HERmonic. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center
- 9 Saturday, 8pm**
Choral Union. Tickets: \$17 general admission; \$10 Senior Citizen (60+), Military, Alumni, PLU Community; \$5 PLU students & 18 and under
- 14-16 Thursday-Saturday, 7:30pm; and 17 Sunday, 3pm**
Leoš Janáček's *The Cunning Little Vixen*. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center. Tickets: \$17 general admission; \$10 Senior Citizen (60+), Military, Alumni, PLU Community; \$5 PLU students & 18 and under
- 21 Thursday, 8pm**
Keyboard Students Recital, free admission
- 22 Friday, 8pm**
Steel Band & Percussion Ensembles, free admission
- 23 Saturday, 3pm**
Woodwind Students Recital, free admission
- 23 Saturday, 4:30pm**
Brass Students Recital, free admission
- 23 Saturday, 4:30pm**
Brass Students Recital, free admission

NOVEMBER, Cont.

- 23 Saturday, 4:30pm**
Brass Students Recital, free admission
- 24 Sunday, 3pm**
University Wind Ensemble
- 24 Sunday, 8pm**
Guitar Orchestra and Ensemble, free admission

DECEMBER

O Nata Lux, A PLU Christmas Concert

Tickets go on sale Monday, November 4

Saturday, December 7, at 8pm - Lagerquist Concert Hall
Sunday, December 8, at 2pm - Lagerquist Concert Hall
Monday, December 9, at 7:30pm - Benaroya Hall, Seattle
Saturday, December 14, at 8pm - Lagerquist Concert Hall
Sunday, December 15, at 2pm - Lagerquist Concert Hall

- 3 Tuesday, 5:30pm**
Saxophone Quartets & Jazz Combos. The Cave, Anderson University Center, free admission
- 6 Friday, 8pm**
Piano Ensemble, free admission
- 7 Saturday, 12pm**
Sølvvinden Flute Ensemble, free admission
- 8 Sunday, 7pm**
PLU Ringers. Trinity Lutheran Church, free admission
- 10 Tuesday, 6pm**
Chamber Music Kaleidoscope, free admission
- 10 Tuesday, 8pm**
String Kaleidoscope, free admission
- 11 Wednesday, 8pm**
University Concert Band, free admission
- 12 Thursday, 8pm**
Sounds of Christmas, featuring the University Singers and Knights Chorus
- 15 Sunday, 5:30pm**
Songwriters Workshop. Jennie Lee Hansen Recital Hall, free admission
- 15 Sunday, 8pm**
Composers Forum, free admission
- 17 Tuesday, 5pm**
Consonare Amici. Jennie Lee Hansen Recital Hall, free admission

JANUARY

- 11 Saturday, 5 and 6:30pm**
Northwest High School Honor Band, free admission
- 20 Sunday, 5pm**
PLU Honor Orchestra for Strings, free admission

To Order Tickets:

On Line: <http://www.eventbrite.com/o/pacific-lutheran-university-8233304504>
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: \$10 GENERAL; \$5 SENIOR CITIZENS (60+), 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/calendar/> (updated October 4, 2019)