

S99
2007
12.6

School of Music

University of Washington Seattle, Washington

noncirc CD 15,548

presents

THE UNIVERSITY SYMPHONY

Peter Erös, *conductor*

December 6, 2007

7:30 PM

MEANY THEATER

CD 15,549

PROGRAM

- 1 FONTANA DI ROMA 16:42
(THE FOUNTAINS OF ROME) (1916)..... OTTORINO RESPIGHI (1879-1936)
The Fountain of Valle Giulia at Dawn
The Triton Fountain in the Morning
The Trevi Fountain at Mid-Day
The Villa Medici Fountain at Sunset

- 2 from PRINCE IGOR 13:05
POLOVETSIAN DANCES (1869-1890).... ALEXANDER BORODIN (1917-1999)

INTERMISSION

- CONCERTO FOR VIOLIN AND ORCHESTRA, 35:37
OP. 35 PETER ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY (1840-1893)
- 3 I. Allegro moderato 19:00
4 II. Canzonetta: Andante 6:16
5 III. Finale: Allegro vivacissimo 9:47

Lauren Rustad Roth, *violin*

OTTORINO RESPIGHI explained that he composed his symphonic poem *FONTANE DI ROMA (THE FOUNTAINS OF ROME)*, "to reproduce by means of tone an expression of nature," and to impart a feeling for the "principal events of Roman life." Based upon the sentiments and visions suggested to him by four of Rome's fountains, he noted in the score that each movement was "contemplated at the hour in which their character is most in harmony with the surrounding landscape or in which their beauty appears most impressive to the observer." The poem is remembered as his most creative turning point, as it constituted his first great success as an orchestral composer and has become his best known work.

Respighi arrived in Rome in 1913, when it was becoming Italy's most vigorous center of orchestral concert-giving, thus providing stimulation for *Fontane di Roma*. Prior to his arrival there, he taught at the Bologna Liceo Musicale. While in Bologna, he associated with the *lega dei Cinque*, an anti-establishment pressure-group, whose members included Pizzetti, Malipiero, Bastianelli, and Renzo Bossi. Although he had studied violin as a child, during this time he was more active as a piano accompanist than as a string player. When he was denied a permanent post in Bologna, he applied elsewhere, gaining a position as professor of composition at the Liceo Musicale di S Cecilia, Rome. He flourished there as a teacher. His students included Elsa Olivieri, whom he married in 1919. Rome, in its positive stage of musical development, provided Respighi with the perfect opportunity to present *Fontane di Roma*, which, although not immediately accepted, eventually brought him enormous success, wealth, and reputation.

In Rome, where the water has been good since ancient times, fountains carrying public water are an attraction in nearly every square. The fountains about which Respighi wrote, as well as many others in the area, were actually created in the Baroque style in the seventeenth century by the sculptor Bernini. The first part of the poem is inspired by the "Fountain of Valle Giulia" and depicts its peaceful pastoral landscape, where cattle pass at dawn. Blasts of horns and trills from the orchestra conjure up the image of joyful tritons and water-nymphs mingling and splashing at the "Triton Fountain." The "Fountain of Trevi" at midday, with a solemn theme, assumes a triumphal character depicting Neptune's chariot passing across the water, drawn by seahorses, followed by tritons and sirens. Finally, birds sing and bells toll to close the day at the "Villa Medici Fountain."

The work had its first performance in Rome on March 11, 1917, and in the United States on February 13, 1919. Shortly thereafter, Respighi was appointed director of the now state-funded Conservatorio di S Cecilia. *Fontane di Roma* has become inseparably linked with two additional symphonic poems, *Pini di Roma* (1923-1924) and *Feste romane* (1929), which were intentionally written as sequels. These works continue to have international success.

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ALEXANDER BORODIN, who was born in St. Petersburg on November 12, 1834, and died there on February 27, 1887, was one of the most characteristic repre-

sentatives of the "young Russian" school. His principal composition, the opera *Prince Igor*, remained unfinished. Composers Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov and Alexander Glazunov completed it after Borodin's death, and the first production occurred in 1890. The second and third acts of the opera take place in the field-camp of the Polovetsians and offer an opportunity for brilliant dance music. These "*POLOVETSIAN DANCES*," parts of which are given to the chorus in the opera, the composer arranged in the form of an orchestral Suite.

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TCHAIKOVSKY'S *VIOLIN CONCERTO* was written in 1878 in Clarens, a Swiss resort on the shores of Lake Geneva where Tchaikovsky had gone to recover from the depression brought on by his disastrous marriage to Antonina Milyukova. Tchaikovsky was accompanied there by his composition pupil, the violinist Yosif Kotek, and the two played works for violin and piano together, which may have been the catalyst for the composition of the concerto. Tchaikovsky was not a violinist, and he sought the advice of Kotek on the completion of the solo part. Swift progress was made, and the work was completed within a month despite the middle movement getting a complete rewrite.

Kotek did not have a strong enough reputation to premiere the work, so Tchaikovsky instead intended the first performance to be given by Leopold Auer, and accordingly dedicated the work to him. Auer refused, however, saying the work was unplayable – though he did play the work later in his life – meaning that the planned premiere for March 1879 had to be cancelled and a new soloist found. The first performance was eventually given by Adolph Brodsky on December 4, 1881 in Vienna, under the baton of Hans Richter. Tchaikovsky changed the dedication to Brodsky.

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LAUREN RUSTAD ROTH is 20 years old and a graduate of Lakeside School in Seattle. Shortly before her third birthday, she informed her parents that she wanted a violin and private lessons. They complied, and her musical career began. She studied the Suzuki method until she began working with Ron Patterson five years ago. She is now in her third year at the University of Washington majoring in violin performance and Italian. Lauren has performed as soloist with the Bremerton Symphony and the UW Symphony Orchestra as a winner of the University's annual concerto competition. She is also concertmaster for both the UW Symphony and the Seattle Philharmonic Orchestra and teaches violin as an adjunct faculty member at Holy Names Academy in Seattle.

CLASSICAL

KING FM 98.1

THE UNIVERSITY SYMPHONY

VIOLIN I

Julia Tai, *concertmaster*
 Audrey Djunaedi
 Kelli Geiger
 Rae Kim
 Rebecca Kim
 Steven Lin
 Sampson Lu
 Drew Nobile
 Jonathan Schooler
 Rachel Simon
 Eric Wong
 Annie Wong
 Kang Yu

VIOLIN II

Matt Wu, *principal*
 Emily Bishop
 Aurora Byrd
 Ricky Chan
 Sean Chang
 Josh Chang
 Rosie Kerington
 Min Kim
 Monica Ledford
 Janie Liaw
 Su-Min Lim
 Seoyoung Lim
 Michelle Mackenzie
 Brittany Newell
 Alex Pham

VIOLA

Sarah Bass, *principal*
 Sam Alkek
 Jacqueline Benthuyssen
 Anna Gorn
 Jonathan Ip
 Carol Jia
 Julia King
 Lisa Philip
 T. J. Pierce
 Colleen Taylor

CELLO

Ho-Lin Hsu, *principal*
 Chloë Binderup
 Suhrim Choe
 Joanne de Mars
 Natalie Hall
 Monica Huang
 So-Young Lee
 Amy McAdams
 Simone Placentia
 Hae-Yoon Shin

BASS

Jeff Norwood *
 Nic Eisele
 Emily Farnham
 Will Jameson
 Taylor Kent
 Evan Muehlhausen
 Brett Nakashima
 Andrew Ostericher
 Shaunessey Scott

FLUTE

Borodin
 Jessica Polin *
 Brian Fairbanks
 Hsiao-Chieh Lin
 (piccolo)
Respighi
 Hsiao-Chieh Lin *
 Torrey Kaminski
 Brian Fairbanks
 (piccolo)
Tchaikovsky
 Torrey Kaminski *
 Jessica Polin

OBOE

Chris Aagaard *
 Justin Henderlight *
 Haley Franzwa

ENGLISH HORN

Haley Franzwa

CLARINET

Kent Van Alstyne *
 Yong Kim
 Tim Nelson

BASSOON

Kirsten Alfredsen *
 Bruce Carpenter

HORN

Josiah Boothby *
 Kenji Ulmer, *associate principal*
 Peter Galus, *assistant principal*
 Sarah Mortland
 Chris Sibbers

TRUMPET

Toby Penk *
 Christopher Clarke
 Josh Gailey

TROMBONE

Joshua Bell *
 Daniel Rossi

BASS TROMBONE

Grant Ausley

TIMPANI

Paul Pogreba *
 Eric Remme

PERCUSSION

Memmi Ochi *
 Emily Kimes
 Paul Pogreba
 Eric Remme
 Jenna Schroeter

HARP

Ashley Wong *
 Juyong Kwon