



Metropolitan Youth
Symphony Orchestra

OCTOBER 27, 2021
7:30 PM

BENJAMIN FIRER, DIRECTOR
ST. CHARLES BORROMEO CONVOCATION HALL

STRINGS HALLOWEEN CONCERT PROGRAM

Funeral March of a Marionette	Charles Gounod arr. by Lyne Latham
In the Hall of the Mountain King	Edvard Grieg arr. by Lyne Latham
Marche Funebre from <i>Piano Sonata No. 2</i>	Frederic Chopin arr. by Lyne Latham
This is Halloween	Danny Elfman arr. by James Kazik
Lyric Metal	Brian Balmages
Legends of Asturias	Isaac Albeniz arr. by Victor Lopez
Legend of Sleepy Hollow	Richard Meyer
Night on Bald Mountain	Modest Mussorgsky arr. by Carrie Lane Gruselle
“Jupiter, the Bringer of Jollity” from <i>The Planets</i>	Gustav Holst arr. by John Caponegro
“Mars, the Bringer of War” from <i>The Planets</i>	Gustav Holst arr. by Robert D. McCashin

MYSO METROPOLITAN YOUTH STRING ENSEMBLE MEMBERS

VIOLIN I

Kevin Xu, *concertmaster*
*The Nicolette Bellos
Memorial Chair*

Lauren Raimbault

Lilia Stahr

Alexandra Rocha

Wanhao Sun

Emily Formella

VIOLIN II

Ben Keene

Lenette May Lee

Abigail Hogan,
(Jan 2022)

Madison Randle

Olivia Tan

VIOLA

Margaret Randle

Eledy Cisneros

Ashely Delgado

CELLO

Mia Melde, *principal*

Claudia Danowski

Loralei Summers

Alivia Glas

Eric Radulovich

CONTRABASS

Brendan O'Connor



BENJAMIN FIRER MUSIC DIRECTOR

An award-winning conductor, Benjamin Firer is active throughout the Chicago area. He holds conducting positions at Lewis University, Northeastern Illinois University, and the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestras. Benjamin received his Doctorate in Orchestral Conducting from Northwestern University and a Master's Degree from Yale University. As an orchestral musician he has recorded for the Naxos and Albany labels.

As a guest conductor, Firer has made appearances with the symphony orchestras of Champaign-Urbana, Dubuque, DuPage, Miami, Fargo-Morehead, Orchestra de la Francophonie, Pennsylvania Chamber Orchestra, Northwestern University Opera Theatre, Alice Millar Brass Ensemble, and New Music New Haven.

Firer was selected as an Emerging Conductor with the Peninsula Music Festival and as the conducting fellow for the Atlantic Music Festival. He has garnered awards including The American Prize in Conducting, The Woolsey Concerto Competition, Yale Chamber Music Competition, Ellen Battell Stoeckel Fellowship, and the Long Island University Conductors Award. Recognized for his musical entrepreneurship, he was granted the SUNY Thayer Fellowship in the Arts and the Emma Peters Hooper Endowed Award.



IZABELLA GIERON CONDUCTING INTERN

Izabella was born and raised in the Chicagoland area. As a child, Gieron displayed advanced skills in violin and piano- she studied piano with Katarzyna Nowak and violin with Joseph Glymph. In 2021, Gieron achieved a Bachelor's degree in Music Education and Violin Performance from Northern Illinois University, where she studied with Blaise Magniere.

Upon obtaining her degree, Gieron has continued to stay active in the music community. She has taught privately for eight years with a specialization in violin and piano, and she is an active chamber coach for high school orchestra programs around the Chicago-land area. Today, she is the Orchestra Director of Prospect Heights School District 23 and the assistant conductor for the Metropolitan Youth Symphony Orchestra.

In addition to performing and teaching locally, Gieron has taken her music abilities abroad and has performed at international events such as the Folklore Music Festival in Paso Fundo, Brazil, in 2016. In 2018, she performed at the CIOFF International Festival in Arequipa, Peru. In 2019, she had the opportunity to perform at The International Folklore Festival in Zamość, Poland, also known as the EUROFOLK – ZAMOŚĆ.

MYSO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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MYSO 2021-2022 CONCERT SCHEDULE

The MYSO Board & partnering Universities will continue to evaluate the dangers of COVID-19 & decide how concert settings will function for the 2021-2022. Please visit mysomusic.org for developing information.

Sunday, October 31, 2021 5:00pm
Fine Arts Auditorium
Joliet Junior College

CD RECORDINGS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

To purchase a recording of this program, click [here](https://www.flipcause.com/secure/reward/MT100DU3) (<https://www.flipcause.com/secure/reward/MT100DU3>). Proceeds will benefit MYSO. Thank you to Recording Artist Greg Ballak for his donation of time & talent.

SOCIAL MEDIA

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This program is partially
sponsored by a grant from the
Illinois Arts Council



PERFORMING ARTS SERIES MATTHEW MCCRIGHT

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 3 • 7:30 PM
St. Charles Borromeo Convocation Hall

Pianist Matthew McCright performs a program entitled "There and Back Again" at Lewis University. The program explores the cycles of time —both of the future and our collective pasts. Andrea Mazzariello's *As Far As You Can Stretch a Web* visits his remembered past in relation to the piano while Mike McFerron loops us through the infinite series in *...apprehension of the eternal will*. The pianist's own past and current love of jazz and ragtime swirls through works by Ethan Iverson, Elena Kats-Chernin, Laura Caviani, and is flanked by the charming etudes of Adam Schoenberg and harrowing brilliance of Frederic Rzewski's *Piano Piece #4*.



ART GALLERY SHOW

Mark Swain Artificial Perceptions..... November 1 – 23
Art Reception & Gallery Talk Thursday, November 18
Wadsworth Family Gallery

Mark Swain is an Illinois artist. After graduating from Lewis University in 1993, with a BA in Art, he went on to complete his MFA in Painting at Northern Illinois University. Mark's work is representational in nature, portraying the play of light on a variety of surfaces. Mark has been at Lewis for 23 years, where he teaches primarily painting and drawing.

THEATRE EVENT

November 12-14 and Nov. 18-21

Directed by Keith White

Tickets on sale Oct 25, 2021

It is December 1936, and Broadway star William Gillette, admired the world over for his leading role in the play *Sherlock Holmes*, has invited his fellow cast members to his Connecticut castle for a weekend of revelry. But when one of the guests is stabbed to death, the festivities in this isolated house of tricks and mirrors quickly turn dangerous. It is then up to Gillette himself, as he assumes the persona of his beloved Holmes, to track down the killer before the next victim appears. The danger and hilarity are non-stop in this glittering whodunit set during the Christmas holidays.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Quantitative Approaches to Social Justice Part I: Education and Arts** Thursday, Oct. 28 – 5pm
SB171
- Quantitative Approaches to Social Justice Part II: Criminal Justice** Thursday, Oct. 28 – 6pm
SB171
- American Guild of Organists Concert** Friday, Oct. 29 – 7:30pm
St. Charles Borromeo Convocation Hall
- The Power of Inquiry: Buddhism** Monday, Nov. 1 – 2pm
AS158
- Translating Science to Policy and Practice** Monday, Nov. 1 – 3pm
AS158
- Discover Languages: Chinese** Monday, Nov. 8 – 2pm
AS156
- Knowing God through Knowing the World in Islamic Traditions** Tuesday, Nov. 9 – 4pm
AS158



DEPARTMENT OF
MUSIC
LEWIS UNIVERSITY