



NEWSLETTER FOR FALL OF 2017

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A Message from our Founder:

As we start Huntington Beach Symphony's 2017-18 season, I always am amazed how our programs are conceived to be so vibrant and rather challenging. The season will open with September 17, 3:30pm concert, "VENice, VErDI, VIVAldi", at Academy for Performing Arts (APA) in Huntington Beach (HB High School Campus). This musical celebration is focused on history, culture and musical traditions of Venice, Italy. This lagoon city-state played crucial political, economic and cultural role in eastern Mediterranean for many centuries and inspired artists and musicians to dream and create works of unsurpassed artistry and beauty.

We are very pleased to have Westminster Chorale (director Jared Pugh) join the orchestra for some exquisite opera repertoire. We are also privileged to have Clifton Dance Project dancers take part in this exhilarating "adventure". This kind of growth of interest and participation from local community organizations is truly exciting.

In our last season we were very fortunate to find more dedicated music supporters and many have not only contributed financially, but have become volunteers and ardent supporters of HBSO. I encourage all of you who are reading this newsletter and who are interested in a continuing presence of affordable, quality symphonic music to at least "dip your toe in the water" and attend our first concert on Sept. 17. All of us pros and volunteers look forward to meeting you at beautiful Huntington Beach Academy for the Performing Arts Theater on the third Sunday in September!

Grant Sevdayan – Music Director/Founder

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Save the dates:

Sunday, September 17, 2017 at 3:30pm – Venice, Verdi, Vivaldi

Venice: Music inspired by and created in this lagoon city

Huntington Beach Academy for the Performing Arts Theater, 1905 Main St, HB.

Huntington Beach Symphony Orchestra opens its ninth season with a concert featuring music created and inspired by the Italian city of Venice with selections from G. Verdi's operas: *Aida*, *Otello*, and *La Traviata*. Soloists Coril Prochnow-soprano, Duke Rausavljevich-tenor, James Salazar-tenor will join Westminster Chorale in this exciting adventure. Clifton Dance Project dancers will perform along with a new choreography by Keith and Linda Clifton. Program also includes R. Wagner's *Prelude to Tristan and Isolde*, G. Rossini's *Tancredi-Overture* and A. Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons(Winter)*- soloist Edgar Sandoval .

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Westminster Chorale-Jared Pugh/director

Clifton Dance Project

Coming soon!

Don't miss the fun!



HBSO Gala Celebration fundraiser will be held on Saturday, November 11, 2017 at 5:30pm, which will include catered dinner, dancing, entertainment and silent auction. Call 714-274-5524 or e-mail info@hbsymphony.org for further information.

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'Noel Night' - Christmas Concert featuring the Symphony Chamber Orchestra and the St Vincent de Paul Adult & Children's Choirs.

Come and enjoy the Christmas Spirit of carols, Halleluiah sing-along and fantastic acoustics of this sanctuary.

Friday, December 15, 2017 at 7:30 pm
St Vincent de Paul Catholic Church
8345 Talbert Ave. Huntington Beach, CA 92646

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Sunday, March 4, 2018 at 3:30pm- Brahms and Stravinsky

Robert B. Moore Theatre, Orange Coast College Campus, 2701 Fairview Rd. Costa Mesa, CA 92626

Brahms Double Concerto for Violin and Cello

Soloists Roberto Cani – violin(LA opera concertmeister) and Ruslan Biryukov - cello

Stravinsky's Firebird Suite



Roberto Cani



Ruslan Biryukov

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

Concerto for violin, cello and orchestra in A minor, OP. 102 composed summer 1887 in Thun, Switzerland, premiered October 18, 1887, in Cologne, by the Gürzenich Orchestra, with the composer conducting, violinist Joseph Joachim and cellist Robert Hausmann, soloists.

Johannes Brahms first met the violinist Joseph Joachim in 1853. They became close friends and musical allies — the Violin Concerto was not only written for Joachim in 1878 but also benefited from his careful advice in many matters of string technique. Joachim was a faithful champion of Brahms' music, playing it at every possible occasion and helping to establish the

young composer's reputation across the Continent. In 1880, however, when Joachim was suing his wife for divorce over an alleged infidelity, Brahms took it upon himself to meddle in the family's domestic affairs. He believed Frau Joachim was innocent and sided with her. Joachim was enraged, and he broke off his personal relationship with Brahms, though he continued to play his music; the two did not speak for years.

Igor Stravinsky (1882-1971)

Ballet *The Firebird* belongs to his first creative period, when his music still showed the influence of the colorful, folk-based style favored by his teacher, Rimsky-Korsakov. It came into being thanks to impresario Sergei Diaghilev. For the second Parisian season of his celebrated company, Les Ballets Russes, Diaghilev envisioned a lavishly mounted new dance production, its plot adapted from Russian fairy tales.

The premiere on June 25, 1910 achieved a glittering triumph, launching him into the front rank of contemporary composers. He arranged three suites from the full score of *The Firebird*, in 1911, 1919 and 1945. HBSO will be performing the second of these, which is by far the most popular. It contains roughly half the music of the complete score. It follows the sequence of the original scenario. With the help of a magic firebird, the hero, Prince Ivan, rescues a group of spellbound princesses from the clutches of an evil magician, Kastcheï. Stravinsky's music is highly atmospheric, colorful, imaginative and melodious. It includes two Russian folk songs, one a lyrical tune for the princesses, the other the majestic hymn which closes the score. The whirling, nightmarish Infernal Dance performed by Kastcheï and his monstrous subjects is a tour de force of orchestral brilliance.

VIP Dinner- Our annual VIP Dinner will be held in the OCC Student Lounge immediately following the concert and is usually filled to capacity by members, sponsors, donors, musicians, volunteers and special guests.

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Sunday, June 10, 2018 at 3:30pm – Family Summer Concert

Golden West College Mainstage Theater, 15751 Gothard St. Huntington Beach, CA 92647

Family Summer Concert' an exciting end to our 2017-2018 season!

Come join us for music of movies we love featuring: "Fly Me To The Moon" and other Big Band era classics, and a rousing HBSO Young people's Choir performance.

We are very excited for our Family Concert this year as we have an exceptional line-up of extremely talented artists from our community in store for you! You will want to secure your tickets early as this show is guaranteed to sell out fast! (Last year, unfortunately, we had to turn people away.)



Bobbie Lee Anderson- an evocative soprano, will be back to perform a soulful Big Band Era swing style-arrangements of Larry Ball: Fly Me To The Moon – B. Howard and others.

Two original compositions of our own resident of Huntington Beach, composer Glenn Wescott, will be featured also.

HBSO Young People's Choir- the always enchanting Children's Choir will showcase program called Music of the World's Cultures under the loving and passionate direction of Victoria Sevdayan, and Tutti closing with audience participation of "America The Beautiful."