



HAMPTON ROADS PHILHARMONIC PRESENTS

*Winter Classics
&
Holiday Favorites*

*Ft. Monroe Theatre
Sunday, December 12, 2021*

A FESTIVE PROGRAM OF WINTER
CLASSICS AND HOLIDAY
FAVORITES. TUNES FROM THE
CLASSICS, FILM, GUEST
APPEARANCES, AND MORE!



Welcome!

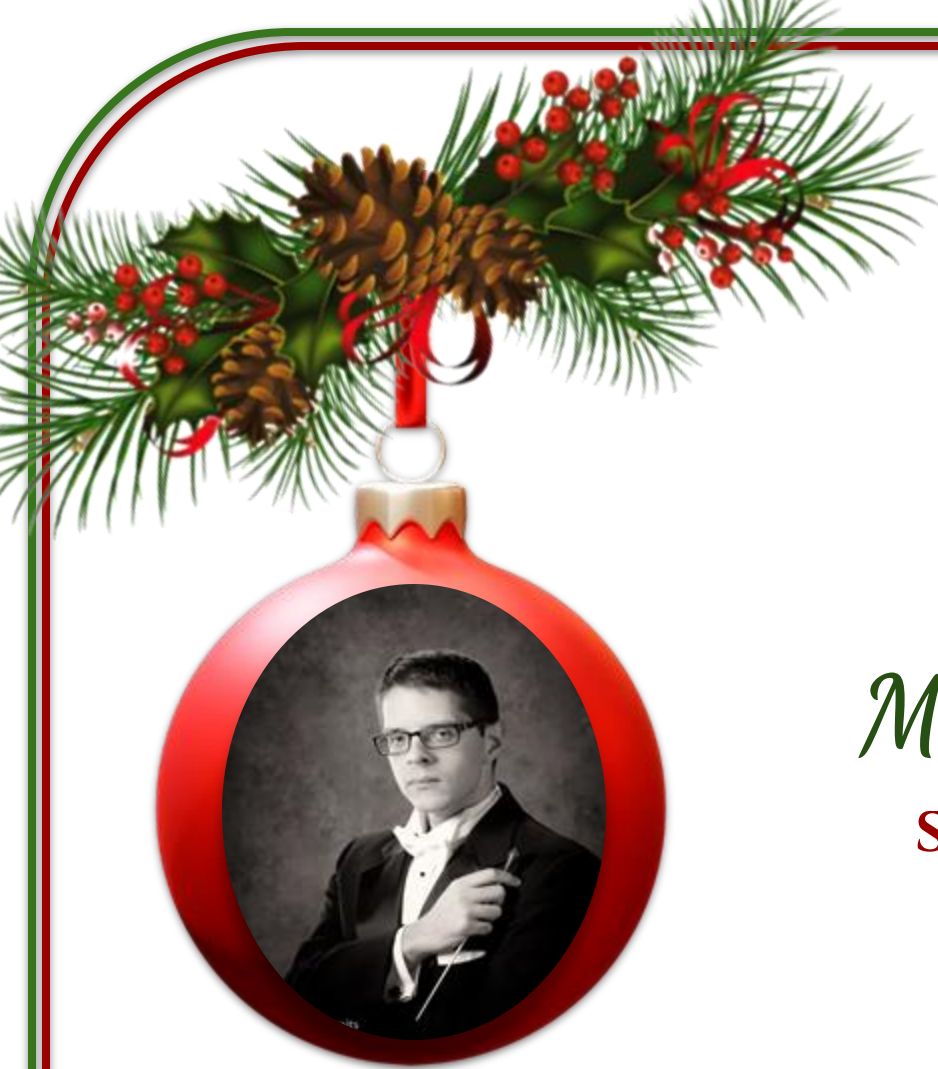
It is my extreme pleasure to welcome you to the Hampton Roads Philharmonic's concert of Winter Classics and Holiday Favorites. With this performance, I am wrapping up my first half-season as Executive Director of the lower Peninsula's premiere community symphony orchestra. I am truly fortunate to be affiliated with this terrific organization made up of wonderful local musicians, free-lance professionals, teachers, students, retired military, and talented amateurs, all led by a dynamic young maestro who is a local product of Christopher Newport University. Before joining the the HRP, I was a former member of the United States Continental Army Band. Playing in this orchestra, who is in residence at the historic Fort Monroe, has been something of a happy homecoming for me.

This season we have added some terrific new musicians, board members, staff and volunteers and have returned to live performances. Our annual Young Artist Competition on November 14th was a rousing success. It was encouraging to see the caliber of young talent in our area. We are excited to feature the competition's winner, Ritchie Bui, with a performance of a Mozart's Piano Concerto in C Major at our next performance. For this concert we will return to the American Theater in Phoebus on March 6th for the first time in two years, and we hope you will join us!

Accomplishing all of this in the landscape of an ever-evolving global pandemic has been quite a challenge in every way, including financially. As we offer you this festive free performance, we humbly request that those who can donate do so to keep this dynamic cultural institution developing and thriving. We respectfully request that you consider remaining masked while inside the theater. Thank you for your attendance today and may you and your loved ones enjoy a happy and healthy holiday season!

Sincerely,
Gene Chieffo
Executive Director
Hampton Roads Philharmonic





Music Director

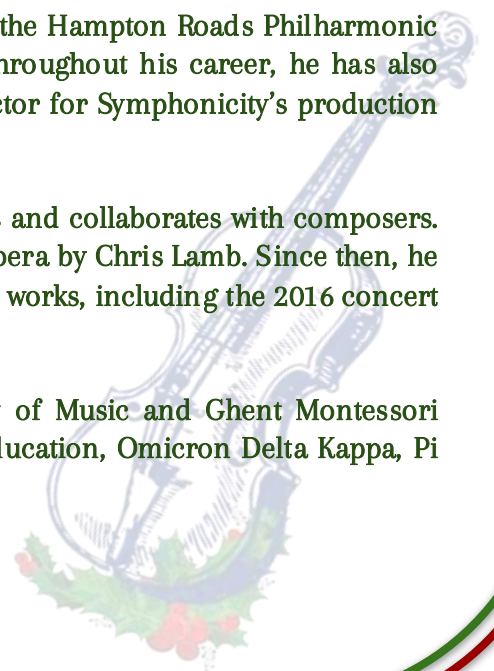
STEVEN BRINDLE

Steven is a conductor, cellist, and music educator who works with musicians of all ages and backgrounds. Steven studied at Christopher Newport University, earning his degree in Music Education, and has attended conducting workshops at the College-Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati and at the Peabody Conservatory.

Since 2013, Steven has served as the founding Music Director for the Hampton Roads Philharmonic and as conductor for Bay Youth Concert Orchestra since 2016. Throughout his career, he has also served as the Music Director for Tidewater Opera Initiative, conductor for Symphonicity's production of *The Nutcracker*, and conductor for Capitol Opera Richmond.

As a proponent of new music, Steven regularly commissions works and collaborates with composers. In 2010, he conducted the world premiere of *David and Glass*, an opera by Chris Lamb. Since then, he has conducted and performed in the premiere of over a dozen new works, including the 2016 concert premiere of *The Snow Maiden of Appalachia* by Andrew H. Austin.

Steven lives in Norfolk, Virginia, and teaches with The Academy of Music and Ghent Montessori School. He is a member of the National Association for Music Education, Omicron Delta Kappa, Pi Kappa Lambda, Alpha Chi and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia.



Musicians

Violin I

Peggy Watson, *Concertmaster*
Alice Cryer
Mary Huber
Luke Heddle

Violin II

Stephen Wood, *Principal Second*
Laurie McNemar
Margaret Mastbrook
Myfanwy Morgan

Viola

Will Hederer, *Principal*
Sarah Quemada
Bryan Williams
Charlie Whittacre

Cello

Anna Moyer, *Principal*
Joanna Pearson
John Lenwell
Charlie Norris
DJ Whittacre
Shea Matthews

Bass

Kevin Garner, *Principal*
Bradley Blair

Harp

Melvin Lauf, Jr.

Flute

Traci Bluhm, *Principal*
Cathy Francis

Piccolo

Cathy Francis

Oboe

Melinda McKenzie, *Principal*
Todd Worsham

English Horn

Todd Worsham

Clarinet

Gene Chieffo, *Principal*
Camiel Sims

Bass Clarinet

Gabriel Gravini

Bassoon

Mike Marshall, *Principal*
John Parker

Horn

Paul Tiller, *Principal*
Chelsey Hamm
Emily Judd
Samuel Brady

Trumpet

Kerry Moffit, *Principal*
Shahana Keisler
Christian Van Deven

Trombone

Bob Ford
Dave Anson
Steven Thompson

Tuba

Steve Rossman

Timpani

David Randolph

Percussion

Michelle Price

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Program

Steven Brindle, Conductor

A Christmas Festival Overture

Leroy Anderson (1908-1975)

Toccatta on Carol of the Bells

Mykola Dmytrovych Leontovych

Arr. David Lovrien (b. 1963)

Lux Aurumque

Eric Whitacre (b. 1970)

In the Bleak Midwinter

Gustav Holst (1874-1934)

Arr. Robert W. Smith (b. 1958)

Canadian Brass Christmas

Luther Henderson (1919-2003)

Arr. Calvin Custer (1939-1998)

Sleigh Ride

Leroy Anderson (1908-1975)

James Morgan, conductor

Golden Baton Winner

--Brief Intermission--

The Christmas Tree Ordeal

Mel Lauf (b. 1972)

The Nutcracker Suite

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840-1893)

II. March

III. Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy

IV. Russian Dance

V. Arabian Dance

VI. Chinese Dance

VII. Dance of the Reed Pipes

VIII. Waltz of the Flowers (1877-1921)

Program Notes

Written by

Gabriel Gravini

Music Major, Christopher Newport University

A Christmas Festival - Leroy Anderson (1908–1975)

Leroy Anderson has been described as a master of light orchestral music and *A Christmas Festival* is no exception. Consisting of 7 Christmas carols and Jingle Bells, this medley sets the scene of a delightful holiday experience. This work was completed in 1950, where it was premiered by the Boston Pops Orchestra in Boston, Massachusetts.

Toccata on "Carol of the Bells" - David Lovrien (b. 1963)

Starting off as the recognizable Christmas tune before delving into the dramatic antics of an orchestral work, David Lovrien's *Toccata on "Carol of the Bells"* is a modern take on the Ukrainian Christmas tune. *Carol of the Bells* was originally written in 1914 and was based off of a folk chant with the name *Shchedryk*, meaning "the generous one". Between 1919 and 1922, *Carol of the Bells* became widely popular in Europe and the Americas where it has remained a well-known Christmas tune to this day.

Lux Aurumque - Eric Whitacre (b. 1970)

Lux Aurumque, translated to "Light and Gold", was originally written in 2000 for a choir to be sung during the holiday season. The Latin name comes from a poem of the same name which, when translated, is "Light, warm and heavy as pure gold, and the angels sing softly to the newborn babe". In the words of Whitacre, "if the tight harmonies are carefully tuned and balanced they will shimmer and glow", referring to the delicate harmonies and orchestration techniques employed.

In the Bleak Midwinter - Arr. Robert W. Smith

In the Bleak Midwinter was originally written by poet Christina Rossetti and was first published in 1872. In 1906, composer Gustav Holst took the text of Rossetti's poem and composed a choral arrangement that is now performed around the world as a Christmas carol. This version of the classic carol, arranged by Robert W. Smith, begins with an epic opening fanfare followed by a beautiful solo clarinet voice. The countermelody of Smith's arrangement is taken from the American folk song *Shenandoah*, bringing a new and interesting twist to this well-known tune.

A Canadian Brass Christmas - Arr. Calvin Custer, Luther Henderson

Originally released in 1985 by the Canadian Brass, *A Canadian Brass Christmas* is an album consisting of 17 classic Christmas tunes. This rendition, arranged for orchestra by Luther Henderson, is a medley consisting of the tunes "Ding Dong! Merrily On High", "I Saw Three Ships", "The Huron Carol", and "Here We Come A'Wassailing", all stylized as if performed by the Canadian Brass.

Program Notes (cont.)

Sleigh Ride - Leroy Anderson

A standard in orchestral literature during the holiday season, *Sleigh Ride* gives musical imagery of riding a sleigh through town and engaging in other winter activities. Through the percussion, sounds reminiscent of a horse galloping and a whip cracking can be heard and, towards the end of the piece, the “horse” can be heard whinnying from the trumpet section.. Ironically enough, Leroy Anderson received the inspiration needed to begin composing this work during a heatwave in July of 1946. Since its release, *Sleigh Ride* has been performed countless times through settings ranging from orchestras to pop artist groups.

The Christmas Tree Ordeal

(*The Maze of Ghouly Holiday Décor in the Attic*)- Melvin Lauf, Jr. (b. 1972)

While serving her guests drinks and pastries, Miss Millie regaled them with their decoration happening. Miss Millie asked for some help from the neighborhood children to fetch the lavish and ornate Christmas decorations from the attic. little did they know that Miss Millie's impish husband placed Halloween decorations all about the attic, creating a frightening maze to the prized adornments. Nervous tension lurks around every corner. The children do, however, prevail in the end, and recover all the decorations for the happy couple. 'O Christmas Tree' is the musical basis of this scene with motifs from well known works of the macabre.

--Written by Melvin Lauf, Jr.

The Nutcracker Suite, Op. 71a - Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840-1893)

This suite, completed and premiered as a replacement for another of Tchaikovsky's works entitled *The Voyevoda*, is a collection of 8 selections from the ballet *The Nutcracker*. It was a grand success at its premiere in March of 1892, eight months ahead of the ballet's premiere in December of 1892, reportedly receiving an encore for nearly every number. Following the premiere, Tchaikovsky published the work for orchestras to perform worldwide.

Special Thanks

BOB HARPER for his photography expertise
FT. MONROE THEATER for the use of this wonderful venue
DONORS SUPPORT - We couldn't do this without you!
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HAMPTON ROADS PHILHARMONIC VOLUNTEERS who make everything happen.

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The Hampton Roads Philharmonic relies on your generous support to continue growing and to bring exciting music to your community. In addition to supporting the HRP Presents concert series, your donation helps the orchestra plan community events and bring great music to churches, outdoor events, local organizations, and businesses.

There are many ways to support such as individual giving, Amazon Smile, Business Sponsorships and Facebook Fundraiser.

The Hampton Roads Philharmonic is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. All donations are tax-deductible.

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YOUNG ARTISTS COMPETITION SHOWCASE PERFORMANCE

MARCH 6, 2021 AT 2:30PM

AMERICAN THEATER - PHOEBUS, VIRGINIA

VIRGINIA COMMUNITY MUSIC FESTIVAL

APRIL 24, 2021 AT 1PM

CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT UNIVERSITY

FINALE CONCERT

MAY 15, 2021 AT 2:30PM

FORT MONROE THEATER



*Happy
Holidays!*