MSO members

For our members, the MSO provides an opportunity for skilled volunteer musicians to join together in performing symphonic music of all periods and styles at the highest artistic level.

For our audiences, the MSO gives unique access to symphonic music by performing throughout the metropolitan area at no charge.

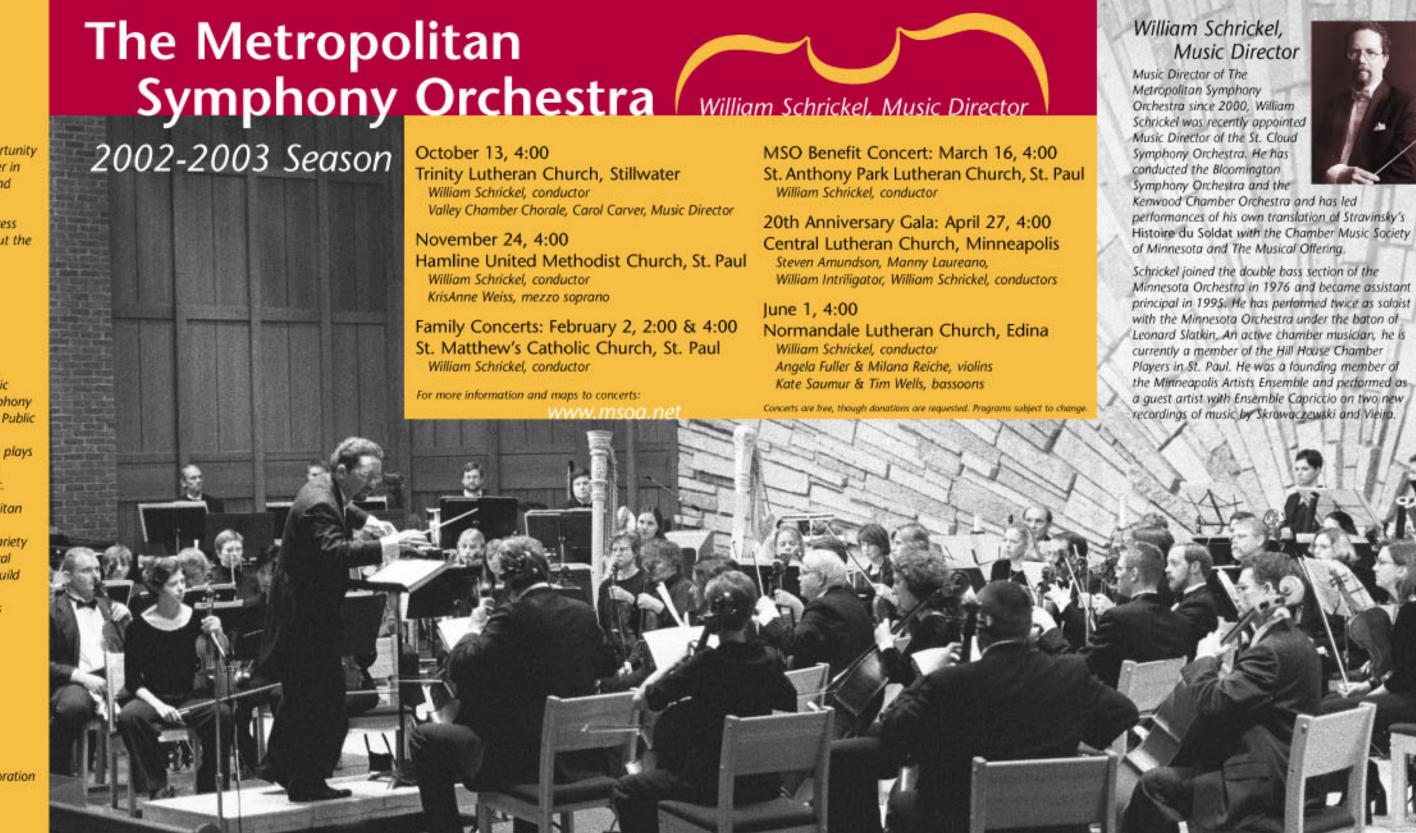
Symphony Orchestra.

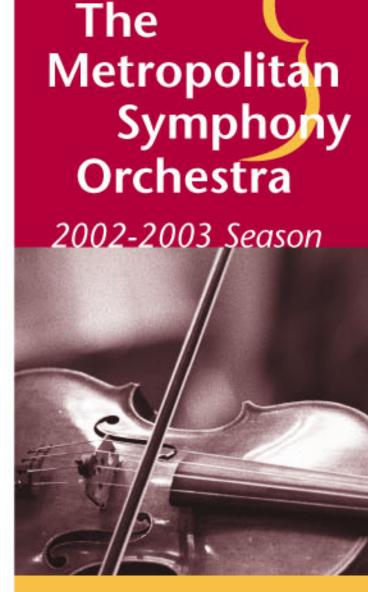
One of Minnesota's most highly regarded civic orchestral ensembles, The Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra has been broadcast on Minnesota Public Radio and featured on public television. As a modern community-style orchestra, the MSO plays a critical role in the development of new and diverse audiences who enjoy orchestral music.

Individual contributions enable The Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra to fulfill its mission of bringing first class performances to a wide variety of audiences at no charge. By covering general operating expenses, donated funds help us build a music library, rent equipment and venues, and feature professional musicians as soloists with the orchestra.

(See reverse side.)

Season sponsored in part by the Target Corporation and by our members.





Music Director

William Schrickel,

William Schrickel, conductor Valley Chamber Chorale, Carol Carver, Music Director

- 1.5. Bach Chorales
- J.S. Bach/Stokowski Ein Feste Burg ist unser Gott
- J.S. Bach/Stokowski Komm Süsser Tod
- J.S. Bach/Bantock Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme
- J.S. Bach/Luck Jesu, meine Freude
- J.S. Bach/Stokowski O Haupt voll Blut und Winden John Tartaglia - Reflections on a Chorale of Bach

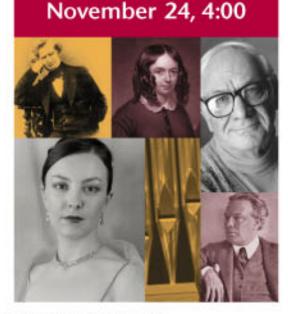
(World Premiere, commissioned by the MSO) Felix Mendelssohn - Symphony No. 5, "Reformation"

Music Director William Schrickel opens the 20th anniversary season of The Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra with a program featuring the music of J.S. Bach and composers who have been inspired by the chorales of the great Baroque master. The concert includes the world premiere performance of John Tartaglia's Reflections on a Chorale of Bach, written especially for the MSO, as well as Mendelssohn's "Reformation" Symphony, which concludes with a finale based on the great Bach chorale we know as "A Mighty Fortress is Our God." The Valley Chamber Chorale sings Bach's chorales in their original settings, and the MSO performs seldom-heard orchestral arrangements of Bach chorale preludes.

Trinity Lutheran Church 115 North 4th Street, Stillwater

Photos: John Tartaglia, the MSO (by Greg Helgeson), 15. Bach, Valley Chamber Charale

Italian Celebration



William Schrickel, conductor KrisAnne Weiss, mezzo soprano

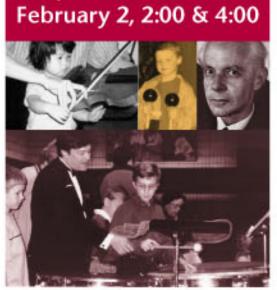
Hector Berlioz - Roman Camival Overture

Dominick Argento - Casa Guidi (Five Songs on letters of Elizabeth Barrett Browning)

Ottorino Respighi - Roman Festivals

The magnificent Italian cities of Rome and Florence are the inspiration for a program featuring mezzo soprano KrisAnne Weiss performing Dominick Argento's poignant song cycle Casa Guidi. Argento, who lives and teaches in Minneapolis, chose his texts from letters written by Elizabeth Barrett Browning to her sister back in England during the years when Elizabeth and her poet husband, Robert Browning, were living in Florence. Berlioz' tempestuous Roman Carnival Overture ushers in the musical celebration that closes with Respighi's Roman Festivals, a spectacular orchestral blockbuster with four movements which vividly depict religious feast days from the Roman church calendar.

Hamline United Methodist Church 1514 Englewood Avenue, St. Paul Family Concerts



William Schrickel, conductor

Béla Bartók - Concerto for Orchestra

Bring the entire family and join the MSO and Music Director William Schrickel as they explore and perform Bartók's Concerto for Orchestra in two performances of this special one-hour Family Concert. Hear how Bartók, penniless, ill and living in New York, reluctantly agrees to write this masterpiece only after repeated urging by conductors Serge Koussevitsky and Fritz Reiner. Discover how the composer molds the work's five movements into a cohesive whole, marvel at the virtuosity he requires from every section of the orchestra and chuckle at the musical insult he hurls at Russian composer Dmitri Shostakovich's 7th Symphony. You won't be scared of 20th century music ever again! After the performance, come up on the stage and chat with the musicians. A splendid time is guaranteed for all!

St. Matthew's Catholic Church Hall Avenue & Robie Street, St. Paul

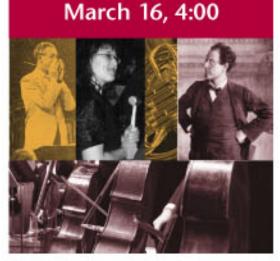


The Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra

For more information and maps to concerts:

www.msoa.net

20th Anniversarv Gala April 27, 4:00



William Schrickel, conductor

MSO Benefit

Osvaldo Golijov - Deaths of the Angel (for Strings)

Benjamin Britten - Russian Funeral (for Brass & Percussion)

Gustav Mahler - Symphony No. 6 in A minor, "Tragic"

In his monumental 6th Symphony, Mahler bares the deepest, darkest aspects of the human soul in music that is by turns assertive, ironic, terrifying, lyrical, defiant, comforting and death-obsessed. The symphony incorporates themes that illuminate the tremendous passion Mahler feels for his wife, Alma, as well as the fierce struggles raging in his heart and psyche not to be overcome by the tragedies of life and the inescapability of death. Two short works serve as prelude to Mahler's colossus: Osvaldo Golijov's contemplative Deaths of the Angel (In its first Twin Cities performance) and Benjamin Britten's rarely-performed Russian Funeral, a solemn work which simultaneously evokes the spirits of both Mahler and Shostakovich. Come to the church early to bid on the wide range of items offered in the silent auction. All proceeds benefit The Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra.

St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church 2323 Como Avenue West, St. Paul Steven Amundson, Manny Laureano, William Intriligator, William Schrickel, conductors in conjunction with the Music at Central 2003 Series Igor Stravinsky - Greeting Prelude

Johannes Brahms - Academic Festival Overture, op. 80

Steven Amundson - Sola Gratia Ludwig van Beethoven - Leonore Overture No. 3, op. 72a

Paul Dukas - The Sorcerer's Apprentice

Christopher Brubeck - Convergence (Concerto for Orchestra)

For The Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra's 20th Anniversary Gala Concert, William Schrickel is joined on the podium at Central Lutheran Church (the place where the MSO was born) by all three previous MSO Music Directors. Steven Amundson, the MSO's first Music Director, conducts Brahms' celebratory and witty Academic Festival Overture as well as his own Sola Gratia. William Intriligator returns with Beethoven's powerfully dramatic Leonore Overture No.3. Manny Laureano leads Dukas' The Sorcerer's Apprentice. (Remember Mickey Mouse and all those brooms carrying pails of water?!) Schrickel ends the program with Christopher Brubeck's Convergence, an energetic, rhythmically compelling showpiece written for Keith Lockhart and The Boston Pops in 2001 and receiving its Midwest Premiere on this concert. Throw in Stravinsky's witty version of "Happy Birthday" for an opener, and you have an anniversary party you won't want to miss!

Central Lutheran Church 333 South 12th Street, Minneapolis

Season Finale



William Schrickel, conductor Milana Reiche & Angela Fuller, violins Kate Saumur & Tim Wells, bassoons

J.S. Bach - Concerto for Two Violins in D minor, BWV 1043

Johann Baptist Vanhal - Concerto in F Major for Two Bassoons

Leonard Bernstein - Fancy Free (Ballet)

The Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra's season finale includes a pair of doubles —double concerti, that is. Angela Fuller and Milana Reiche, both first violinists in the Minnesota Orchestra, team up to open the concert with J.S. Bach's brilliant Concerto for Two Violins. The solo spotlight then shifts to two members of the MSO, bassoonists Kate Saumur and Tim Wells, who perform the Concerto for Two Bassoons by Mozart's contemporary, Johann Baptist Vanhal. William Schrickel and the MSO wrap up the season with Leonard Bernstein's Fancy Free, the sassy, Jazzy dance score composed in 1944 for Ballet Theatre and later developed by Bernstein into the Broadway musical On the Town.

Normandale Lutheran Church 6100 Normandale Boulevard, Edina

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Photos: Leonard Bernstein, Kate Saumur & Tim Wells, Milana Rocke & Angele Fulker (by William Schrickel). Program notes by William Schrickel & Pamela Hilli Nettleton, Katherine Biland.

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MSD Family Concert (by Lisa Mirklin Lowis), Billa Bortick