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Welcome to the Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra's 41st season, my 23rd as the MSO's Music Director. We're excited to open with two of Debussy's greatest orchestral works, La Mer and Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun, as well as Matthew Peterson's The Singing Wilderness, a new MSO commission. Principal players Heather

Phillips and Paul Schulz are spotlighted in Bruch's Double Concerto for Viola and Clarinet, and Jake Endres, Chadwick "Niles" Phillips, and students from Catalyst premiere Peter and the Timberwolf, a new take on Prokofieff's classic children's tale. Mahler's iconic Fifth Symphony, Kodály's brilliant Háry János, and Berlioz' groundbreaking Symphonie Fantastique are complemented by music of William Grant Still and Roque Cordero, and conductor Jingqi Zhu leads music of Beethoven and Adolphus Hailstork. Come celebrate our 40th Anniversary Season with us!

-William Schrickel, Music Director

MSO Photos by R. Kingsley Elder, Craig Stilen

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**CELEBRATING** OUR 40TH **ANNIVERSARY!** 



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## Beautiful, Powerful Nature

Sunday, October 16 at 4pm Central Lutheran Church 333 South 12th Street, Minneapolis, MN

William Schrickel, conductor

Claude Debussy – Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun Matthew Peterson - The Singing Wilderness (MSO Co-Commission) Claude Debussy - La Mer

Matthew Peterson, a native of Grand Forks, North Dakota and a graduate of St. Olaf College, was inspired to compose The Singing Wilderness by the writings of conservationist Sigurd Olson, a driving force behind the founding of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. Composed in 2021, the work was co-commissioned by the MSO, St. Olaf College, and the Northern Symphony Orchestra. French composer Claude Debussy created two of the orchestral world's undisputed masterpieces around the advent of the 20th century. His languid and sensual Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun, based on a poem by Stéphane Mallarmé, and the exquisitely evocative La Mer (The Sea), which he understatedly subtitled Three Symphonic Sketches, serve as musical bookends of the MSO's season-opening concert under the baton of Music Director William Schrickel.

#### Peter and the Timberwolf One-Hour Family-Friendly Concerts

Sunday, January 29 at 3pm North Community High School 1500 James Avenue North, Minneapolis, MN

Sunday, February 5 at 3pm Church of St. Matthew 490 Hall Avenue, St. Paul, MN

> William Schrickel, conductor Jingqi Zhu, conductor Jake Endres, narrator Chadwick "Niles" Phillips and members of Catalyst Music, performers

Adolphus Hailstork – Celebration! Adolphus Hailstork – Fanfare on Amazing Grace Ludwig van Beethoven - Overture to Egmont, op. 84 Sergei Prokofieff-Peter and the Timberwolf, op. 67

These special 1-hour concerts open with American composer Adolphus Hailstork's dazzling curtain-raiser, Celebration! Jingqi Zhu conducts Hailstork's Amazing Grace fanfare as well as Ludwig van Beethoven's dramatic overture to Egmont, Johann von Goethe's tragic drama from 1788. The family-friendly program concludes with Chadwick "Niles" Phillips, Jake Endres, and the youthful members of Catalyst Music joining forces with the MSO and William Schrickel to perform Peter and the Timberwolf, a clever 21st century update of Sergei Prokofieff's charming tale of a young boy's resourcefulness and ingenuity.



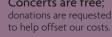


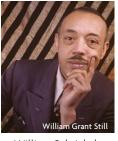












## Double Concerto and Tall Tales

Sunday, November 20 at 4pm St. Philip the Deacon Lutheran Church 17205 County Road 6, Plymouth, MN

William Schrickel, conductor Heather Phillips, viola Paul Schulz, clarinet

William Grant Still - Tamborito from Danzas de Panama

Max Bruch - Double Concerto in E Minor, op. 88 for Clarinet, Viola & Orchestra

Zoltán Kodály – Háry János (Suite)

Black American composer William Grant Still composed Tamborito in 1948, incorporating Panamanian folk songs collected by Elizabeth Waldo 25 years earlier. MSO principals Paul Schulz (clarinet) and Heather Phillips (viola) step into the spotlight as soloists in German composer Max Bruch's lyrical and seldomperformed Double Concerto. Hungarian master Zoltán Kodály's entertaining suite from his opera, *Háry János*, has been a favorite of performers and audiences alike since it was premiered in 1927. Comprising six numbers from the opera, the suite dazzlingly and humorously depicts the imaginary heroic exploits that the title character, a veteran of the Austrian army, recounts to the other patrons in his local tavern regarding his battles with Napoleon's French troops in the early 1800s.



# Mahler Symphony No. 5

Sunday, March 26 at 4pm Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church 900 Stillwater Road, Mahtomedi, MN

William Schrickel, conductor

Gustav Mahler – Symphony No. 5 in C-sharp Minor

Following the 1904 premiere of Gustav Mahler's massive Symphony No. 5, the composer dejectedly complained that "nobody understood it." Now

considered to be one of the greatest and most iconic symphonies in the entire orchestral repertoire, Mahler's symphony (much like Beethoven's monumental Fifth Symphony) portrays a kaleidoscopic journey from darkness and tragedy to light and renewed life. The work begins with a bipartite funeral march that is alternately profoundly mournful and vehemently angry. The central scherzo, bright and unbuttoned, features the solo horn and recurring Austrian dance rhythms. The sublime Adagietto for strings and harp introduces the finale, which progresses through a complex series of exhilarating contrapuntal episodes to the symphony's cathartic, victorious conclusion.

# Symphonie Fantastique

Sunday, May 14 at 4pm Roseville Lutheran Church 1215 Roselawn Avenue West, Roseville MN

William Schrickel, conductor



Roque Cordero - Adagio Trágico for String Orchestra (Twin Cities Premiere) Hector Berlioz – Symphonie Fantastique

Panamanian composer Roque Cordero studied with Ernst Krenek at Hamline University from 1943-1947. Hector Berlioz composed his *Symphonie Fantastique*, which he subtitled Episode in the Life of an Artist, in Paris in 1830. The work makes use of a recurring theme, an idée fixe, that represents the woman who is the object of "the artist's" opium-addled, all-consuming, and unrequited love. The theme variously depicts the woman when she is first viewed by the artist, when he sees her again waltzing at a ball, when his thoughts turn to her during a pastoral outing in the country, when she shows up to gloat while watching the artist's public beheading at the guillotine, and finally when she is transformed into a hellish cackling shrew in the middle of a demonic Witches' Sabbath. Join us as the MSO and William Schrickel bring down the curtain on the orchestra's 40th Anniversary Season with Berlioz' shocking, virtuosic tour de force.

Programs subject to change. For more information: msomn.org or call (612) 567-6724







