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CSU Symphony Orchestra

Wes Kenney, Director

Concerto for Flute and Orchestra in D Major, op. 283 Carl Reinecke

Brianne Little, Flute

(1824 - 1910)

II. Lento e mesto.

III. Finale: Moderato

Der Schwanendreher

Paul Hindemith

(1895 - 1963)

Sabrina Romney, *Viola*III. Variation "Seid ihr nicht der Schwanendreher?"

Rapsodie for Orchestra and Saxophone

Claude Debussy

(1862 - 1918)

Nathan Wilson, *Alto Saxophone*

INTERMISSION

Symphony No. 4 in F minor, op. 36

Pytor Ilyitch Tchaikovsky

(1840 - 1893)

I. Andante sostenuto – Moderato con anima

II. Andantino in modo di canzona

III. Scherzo; Pizzicato ostinato: Allegro

IV. Finale: Allegro con fuoco



CSU Symphony Orchestra

Wes Kenney, Director and Conductor

Violin I

Hannah Barnes, Concertmaster Juliana Byess, Asst. Concertmaster Lydia Demi-Smith Nicole Fassold Natalie Iones Kathryn Kiefhaber Rachel Napper Allison Rickel **Jaclyn Salts** Patrick Weseman

Violin II

Karmen Mitchell, Principal Royston Hunget, Asst. Principal Jayme Cole Melissa Gross Haley Heer Courtney Peterson Brittany Schaeffner Lucas Thompson Olivia Trinko Elizabeth Vega

Viola

Sabrina Romney, Principal Chealsea Bernhardt, Asst. Principal Margaret Babb Kyle Caulkins Chris Huang Grayson Waldie Andrew Zbryk

Cello

Kenneth Martin, Principal Jake Thaler, Asst. Principal David Bayless Brighton Bledowski Lauren Brissey **Emily Carpenter** Sara Espinosa Kayla Haves Madeline Haves Shakira Johnson Justin Kattnig Sally Murphy Matthew Snyder Eric Sorenson Whitney Stuberg Rachel Wilson

Bass

Kenny Jones, Principal Erik Deines, Acting Principal Zachary Bush, Acting Asst. Principal Evan Gohring Marcus Heath Brandon Katz Andrew Miller Crystal Pelham

Flute

Kurt Peterson

Brianne Little, Principal Lindsey Noble, Asst. Principal Sam Hood Mando Surita

Piccolo

Sam Hood

Oboe

Caleb Bradley, Principal Shane Werts, Asst. Principal

English Horn

Steven Amburn

Clarinet

Tom Wilson, Principal Nicole Jensen, Asst. Principal

Bassoon

Jessie Sawyer, Principal Lynn Bonomo, Asst. Principal

Trumpet

Tony Whitehead, Principal Scott Weber, Asst. Principal

Horn

Molly Salika, Principal Christie Bass Kevin Olson Lindsey Poppe

Trombone

Dave Ellis, Principal Logan Kingston, Asst. Principal

Bass Trombone

Jesse Sylvester

Tuba

Chris Krueger

Percussion

Mark Coup, Principal Colin Constance, Asst. Principal Brandon Arvay Ben Justis Anthony Lederhos Colin Sitgreives

Graduate Teaching Assistants

Karmen Mitchell Christy Muncey Sabrina Romney Lydia Demi-Smith

Graduate Conductor

Christy Muncey

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traditional form. Instead of taking his luscious melodies and developing them as in the German symphonic tradition, he simply moves from melody to melody, allowing the music to express a variety of emotions.

Where the first movement expresses the starkness of Fate, the second is more muted, a deliberate exploration of melancholy. The movement begins with a plaintive oboe solo that is picked up and passed around the orchestra, interrupted in the middle by an almost cheerfully dance-like interlude before returning to the theme from the beginning of the movement.

The third movement seems almost out of place in its playfulness. The strings are pizzicato throughout, framing the first the woodwinds then the brass in different dance-like motives. Listening to this movement it is easy to hear the parallels to Tchaikovsky's ballet music, especially Swan Lake which was premiered not long before the Fourth Symphony was written.

The final movement begins explosively, a triumphant testament that life is indeed worth living. Partway through the movement, however, the paralyzing theme from the first movement returns, a stark reminder that Fate cannot be fully escaped. The opening motive again takes over, Tchaikovsky's way of telling us that "If you find no joy in yourself, look around you. Go to the people: See how they can enjoy life and give themselves up to festivity . . . There is still happiness, simple and naïve; rejoice in the happiness of others and you can still live."

It is important to remember, however, that despite the program written by Tchaikovsky to his patron, he still felt that words were a poor representation of the true meaning of this work:

Of course my symphony is programmatic, but this program is such that it cannot be formulated in words. That would excite ridicule and appear comic. Ought not a symphony – that is, the most lyrical of all forms – to be such a work? Should it not express everything for which there are not words, but with the soul wishes to express, and which requires to be expressed?

Notes by Christy Muncey

Applied Faculty

<u>Violin</u>	<u>Oboe</u>	<u>Saxophone</u>
Ron Francois	Gary Moody	Peter Sommer
Leslie Stewart		
	<u>Organ</u>	Trombone
<u>Viola</u>	Joel Bacon	Greg Harper
Margaret Miller		0 1
	<u>Clarinet</u>	Tuba
<u>Cello</u>	Wesley Ferreira	Robert Brewer
Barbara Thiem		
	<u>Bassoon</u>	Percussion
<u>Bass</u>	Gary Moody	Eric Hollenbeck
Forest Greenough		
	<u>Horn</u>	<u>Harp</u>
<u>Flute</u>	Matthew Evans	Rachel Ellins
Michelle Stanley		
	<u>Trumpet</u>	<u>Piano</u>
	Steven Marx	Janet Landreth
		Silvana Santinelli



Wes Kenney is Professor of Music and Director of Orchestras at Colorado State University where he conducts the CSU Symphony and Chamber Orchestra as well as CSU Opera productions and teaches graduate conducting. He is also currently in his ninth season as Music Director of the Fort Collins Symphony. In the summer of 2004 he was named to an additional post of Music Director of Opera Fort Collins helping that organization establish a full season of three productions a season. Last season he renewed a relationship with bands stepping in to conduct CSU's Wind Ensemble while a search for a permanent director began. Mr. Kenney was named the 2009 Outstanding Teacher by the Colorado American String Teachers Association. He was also awarded the Grand Prize in the Summer 2007 Varna (Bulgaria) International Conducting Competition. He traveled back to Bulgaria in March 2008 for concerts in Vidin and to conduct La Traviata in Stara Zagora. Mr. Kenney is a frequent guest conductor of professional and educational ensembles. He has appeared with orchestras both nationally and internationally including Europe and Asia. He has also given orchestra clinics in

all corners of Colorado as well as being sought after for sessions at the Colorado Music Educators Association Conference. He is a former president of the Conductors Guild and serves currently on their advisory board.

CONCERTO COMPETITION SOLOIST BIOS

Nathan Wilson is a seconded year graduate student at Colorado State University pursuing a Master of Music degree in saxophone performance, studying with Peter Sommer. He received his Bachelors of Music degree in saxophone performance from the University of Colorado at Boulder, class of 2009 as a student of Tom Myer. Mr. Wilson has been a member of numerous musical groups and ensembles performing in and out of the state of Colorado. As a soloist he performed at the North American Saxophone Alliance Region 2 Conference at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, New Mexico in February of 2009, playing Ryo Noda's Improvisation 1 on baritone saxophone (the work was originality written for alto saxophone). He has performed numerous times with the Denver Philharmonic Orchestra, the Western Colorado Jazz Orchestra, Fort Collins Wind Symphony, the Loveland Symphony Orchestra, as the assistant director of the Grand Junction Centennial Band (spring and summer 2010), and numerous collegiate classical and jazz ensembles, such as the CSU Wind Ensemble and Jazz Ensemble 1. Other notable performances include the UNC Jazz Festival (2005 & 2010) and the Reno Jazz Festival (2006). In June 2010 he joined a regional ska/punk band, the "Bad Karma Kings", based out of Grand Junction, CO and in July 2011 the band released its first album nothin' to lose.

Brianne Little hails from northwest Ohio but currently resides in Fort Collins, Colorado where she is working toward a Masters Degree in Flute performance at Colorado State University. As a Graduate Teaching Assistant, she is the Lead Teaching Assistant for all Music Appreciation classes and directs the Colorado State University Flute Choir. Ms. Little is currently Principal of the Colorado State University Symphony Orchestra. Ms. Little has been heard in recital in Ohio, Colorado, and Italy and is a Finalist in the Colorado State University Concerto Competition 2011/2012. She is an active member of the Boulder Alumnae Chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota National Women's Music Fraternity where she is in her second year of serving on the Executive Board as Editor. Ms. Little was recently asked to participate as an intern for the newly formed Fort Collins Chamber Music Society.

Ms. Little currently studies with Dr. Michelle Stanley. Her previous instructors include Dr. Lisa A. Jelle and Melody Jones. She has participated in the masterclasses of Dr. Stephanie Jutt, Gary Shocker, and Rhonda Larson. In the summer of 2009, Ms. Little was chosen to attend the masterclass of Grammy award winning flutist Rhonda Larson in Casperia, Italy and has been given the opportunity to receive coaching from Rhonda in the United States.

Sabrina Romney began her violin studies at age four under the direction of her mother, a Suzuki violin teacher. Seven years later, she started playing on the viola and has continued with it since. She has been coached as a chamber musician by the Fry Street Quartet, the Ying Quartet, the Calder Quartet, the Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio and the Shanghai Quartet through the Chamber Music Society of Logan in addition to the Borromeo Quartet. As a soloist she has performed in masterclasses for Kirsten Docter, Andrés Cárdenas, Brian Finlayson, Basil Vendryes, Hariolf Slichtig, Atar Arad, James Dunham and Antoine Tamestit.

Sabrina received her Bachelor's Degree from Utah State University in Viola Performance with a French Minor. In August of 2010, Sabrina became a founding member of the Cadena Quartet, Colorado State University's graduate string quartet in residence in Fort Collins, Colorado. She is looking forward to completing her Master's Degree in Viola Performance this spring, studying with Margaret Miller.

Sabrina has enjoyed sharing her love for performing music with the Aspen Music Festival & School, Le Domaine Forget's International Academy of Music and as a freelance chamber musician. Sabrina is currently an acting member of the Fort Collins Symphony and plays on occasion with the Cheyenne Symphony. Most recently she received the second place award at the T. Gordon Parks Memorial Collegiate Concerto Competition. Between concerts and recitals, Sabrina prefers to pass the time reading or pursuing her interests in French language and culture.

PROGRAM NOTES

Rapsodie for Orchestra and Saxophone

Claude Debussy was an intriguing composer who was a French contemporary of Mahler, and became known as an "impressionist" composer. The term "impressionist" was a derogatory term which was not favorable in the eyes of Debussy, but nonetheless stuck as a style-identifying term for his music. The term was originally used to describe art, concerning the school of French painters such as Claude Monet (1840-1926), and the style which uses color and texture as a tool to transmit such impressions as light and water. Similarly, this style can be heard through Debussy's treatment of sound as a texture.

This style of composition is widely apparent in Debussy's Rhapsodie pour Orchestra et Saxophone, which explores the tonal color and nuances of the saxophone within the sphere of an orchestral texture. Because the focus of the piece is color and exclusively virtuosity (as is the emphasis in most concerto style solo works), the musical quality is transient and unique.

The work was commissioned by Elise Hall (formerly Elizabeth Boyer Coolidge, prior to marriage of prominent American surgeon Richard J. Hall) in summer of 1901; Debussy inexplicably did not release the manuscript of the work, even though he was pre-paid for it. The piece was finally premiered in Paris in 1919, after Debussy's death, when it was released by Debussy's second wife Emma and finally given to Mrs. Hall. There has been much conjecture about Debussy's motivation (or lack thereof) for withholding the work, but it is undoubtedly a textural representation of his compositional style and the sonorities of the saxophone.

Notes by Lydia Demi-Smith

Concerto for Flute and Orchestra Op. 283

Carl Reinecke was born in Altona, Germany in 1824. From a young age, he was trained in music; on the piano, violin, and in music theory. His father, a music theoretician, was his music teacher. At the age of 21, Reinecke traveled Europe for about a year before taking on the job as a court pianist. He took several performance positions in the early stages of his career and soon transitioned into teaching counterpart and piano, as well as directing. His dedication and musical knowledge strongly influenced audiences, raising their musical expectations. His most prestigious position was at Leipzig Conservatory, where he taught and eventually became the director in 1897. Reinecke improved the teaching standards at this conservatory, insisting the musical training was very thorough, and hired many notable teachers. He retired at the ripe age of 78; however, he continued writing music. *Concerto for Flute and Orchestra, Op. 238* is one of eight pieces he composed in his last two years of life, and his final composition before his death in 1910.

Stylistically, Reinecke's music is similar to that of Schumann's, yet also reflects the melodic style of Mendelssohn. He composed three pieces for flute, all of which hold an important place in standard flute repertoire. *Concerto for Flute and Orchestra, Op. 238* greatly demonstrates his style and exemplifies his focus on the content and depth of emotion, rather than virtuosity. Listen for the thick harmonies stylistic of the late Romantic period, the smooth and flowing counterpoint throughout, and the easy-to-listen-to melodies in the solo, supported by the orchestra in a manner that isn't overpowering. Also, subtle differences can be found in moments of repetition, such as differences in chord voicing and articulation. He felt this piece had a sort of youthful spirit about it, stating: "I am overjoyed above all that I still have strength and desire to create and that my newest works do not carry the stamp of old age, as sincere men have assured me." Franz Liszt once said to a pupil, "Do you know Reinecke's compositions? Get them, they will interest you."

Notes by Karmen Mitchell

Der Schwanendreher

Paul Hindemith grew up studying music at an early age, due to the eagerness of his father for all of the children in the family to become musicians. The young composer's first music lessons were on the violin. Eventually, he shifted his focus to performing on the viola. This concerto, literally called "The Swan Turner," was written in 1935 during a phase in Hindemith's life when he was trying to create a closer connection between the composer and the listener. The term "Schwanendreher" has two meanings in German. The most obvious of the two is in reference to one who would turn the swan on a spit as it is cooking. The second reference is to an organ grinder - a musician whose instrument is cranked by a handle often carved in the shape of a swan's head and neck. In describing the entire concerto, Hindemith writes:

A traveling musician comes to a joyful party and shares what he has brought with him: serious and cheerful songs, and lastly a dancing piece. The right musician embellishes and enriches the tunes according to his ideas and abilities, preludes and improvises.

The "dancing piece," is a set of variations based on a German folk melody. The rather taunting words to the lively finale of this concerto are as follows:

Are you not the Swan Turner?
Are you not the one?
Then turn the swan for me,
so that I can believe it.
If you don't turn the swan for me,
then you are no Swan Turner,
Turn the Swan!

Notes by Sabrina Romney

Symphony No. 4 in F minor

Tchaikovsky's Fourth Symphony was written between 1877 and 1878, one of the most personally turbulent years of the composer's life. On one side Tchaikovsky began his famous relationship with Nadezhda von Meck who was to become his patron and confidant for several years although the two supposedly never met, communicating only through numerous letters. On the other side, Tchaikovsky married Antonia Miliukhova, supposedly a former student from twelve years prior. Tchaikovsky consented to marry Antonia for several reasons, one of which was the hopes that he would stop rumors of his homosexuality, a severely punishable offense in Tsarist Russia. While his relationship with Madame von Meck flourished and helped Tchaikovsky in his musical endeavors, his relationship with his new wife was nothing short of disastrous, ending after only nine weeks and causing Tchaikovsky to have a nervous breakdown. Because a divorce in Russia at that time was only allowed due to infidelity (which neither side committed), the couple remained officially married until Tchaikovsky's death in 1893, although they never lived together again.

The Fourth Symphony is dedicated to Madame von Meck, marked in the score as "My Best Friend" and referred to the piece as "our symphony," emphasizing not only the equality of patrons and artists in Russia at this time, but also the genuine partnership Tchaikovsky felt with von Meck. Although Tchaikovsky hated the concept of programs for his symphonies, at Madame von Meck's request he did include a program for this symphony in a letter to his patron not long after the completion of the symphony. According to Tchaikovsky the symphony centers on Fate "the inexorable power that hampers our search for happiness . . ." Tchaikovsky's program notes generated some controversy among scholars for many years who chose to quibble over his words instead of focus on the music itself, creating a negative impact on the symphony for several years.

The first movement opens with the powerful Fate fanfare in the horns and bassoons and osscilates between the darker motives of the opening – in which the Fate motive returns – and a lighter, almost dream-like waltz. In Tchai-kovsky's words "A sweet and tender dream enfolds me, a serene and radiant presence leads me on, until all that was dark and joyless is forgotten . . . But no, these are but dreams. Fate returns to waken us, and we see that life is an alternation of grim reality and fugitive dreams of happiness." The movement is a testament to Tchaikovsky's difficulties with