

Balcones Community Orchestra

Dr. Robert Radmer, Conductor

27th Season

Concert Program

Symphony No. 99 in E-flat (1793) Franz Josef Haydn
(1732 - 1809)
I. Adagio - Vivace assai
II. Adagio
III. Menuetto: Allegretto
IV. Finale: Vivace

Coriolanus Overture (1807) Ludwig von Beethoven
(1770 - 1827)

Piano Concerto No. 2 in G minor, Op. 22 (1868) Camille Saint-Saens
(1835 - 1921)
Andante sostenuto
Allegro scherzando
Presto

Michelle Schumann, Piano

Our next concert is November 16th 4:00 pm

Devin Cornacchio, Cello

Episcopal Church of the Resurrection
2200 Justin Ln. 78757

October 19, 2025 4:00 p.m.
St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
8134 Mesa
Austin, TX 78759



Our Soloist
Michelle Schumann, Piano



Hailed for her “...sensitive, flexible, and tempestuous dexterity,” (Fanfare Magazine) Michelle Schumann has built a reputation for evocative and moving performances that are infused with unique energy and zeal. Having recently moved to Santa Fe, NM, Michelle previously served as Artistic Director of the Austin Chamber Music Center from 2006-2024. There, she won awards from the Austin Critics Table for Best Chamber Music Performance, Best Instrumentalist, and Best Body of Work/Season. She performs internationally at festivals in Turkey, Slovenia, England, Scotland, Germany, Austria, France, and Canada; and nationally at the Austin Chamber Music Festival, Tanglewood, Round Top, Long Beach, the Massachusetts Museum of Modern Art, Victoria Bach Festival, and Snake River Music Festival.

Michelle was Professor of Piano and Artist in Residence at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor for 23 years. She holds a Doctorate from the University of Texas Butler School of Music, a Performer’s Certificate from the Vienna Conservatory, and a Young Artist Diploma from the Cleveland Institute of Music.



Dr. Robert Radmer
Music Director/Conductor

Robert Alan Radmer is the founder and Music Director of the Balcones Community Orchestra, now in its 26th season. He has worked with youth orchestras and adult ensembles in six states. For twelve years he served as Music Director and Conductor for the Central Texas Medical Orchestra, and he has been a faculty member of the Austin Chamber Music Center since 2010.

Radmer has appeared as a violist with chamber ensembles and orchestras in over two thousand performances since 1981 in 21 states and ten countries, and he was awarded the Doctorate in Viola Performance from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1993. For ten years he served on the faculty of St. Edward’s University teaching strings and conducting the orchestra, and has been a member of the music faculties of Texas State University, the College of St. Scholastica, Eastern New Mexico University, and Southwest Texas State University. Radmer was honored by being named Teacher of the Year in 1996 by the New Mexico Chapter of the American String Teachers Association.

Radmer teaches violin, viola and guitar in his private studio, and in his spare time he is a composer of concert music and is also an active member of the popular music scene in Austin. He performs and records as a guitarist, singer, songwriter and improvising violist with Jack Jensen in their band, Reel Sheboygan, and in 2022 he accompanied the Eagles with 37 of Austin's finest in concert at the Moody Center.

Program Notes

by Robert Radmer

Haydn's Symphony No. 99 in E-flat Major opens with a curious Adagio that although not fast employs an unsettling use of varied note values - seven different lengths in the first six beats. This gives a sprightly sense of forward motion further heightened by a melodic leap of ten notes in the first measure answered by a 12-note leap in bar three. Haydn plays more rhythmic, melodic and harmonic tricks before revealing the main building blocks of the rest of the movement: a long-short-short motive and a quick, turning figure. The slow movement tune hovers closely around the tonic note of the surprising key of G major. Beautiful sections for solo winds and solo strings feature this tune in varied harmonizations, each a prime example of Haydn's phenomenal inventiveness, while the tremendous force of the whole ensemble provides weighty contrast to the airy melody. In the Menuetto Haydn brings rhythmic humor and off-beat accents to the old dance. Rhythmic simplicity appears in the middle section, or Trio, but displaced accents once again abound with the return of the opening material. The Finale features a melody combining a leaping figure with a simple ascending scale, answered with a gesture of repeated descending scales. Haydn finds the most ingenious ways to re-introduce a tune that really ought to seem over-familiar, but instead it always seems to freshly reveal itself. Haydn's invention and re-invention entertains and delights the listener all the way to the last, satisfying, chord.

Gaius Marcus Coriolanus was a legendary (and possibly apocryphal) 3rd-century B.C. figure from northern Italy who raised an army to invade Rome in revolt. Both Shakespeare (in 1607) and the Viennese playwright Joseph von Collins (200 years later) brought this story to the stage. As the Romantic style of composition was making itself evident at turn of the 19th century, and while **Beethoven** was composing his famous 5th Symphony, he provided the curtain-raiser for Coriolan. A series of orchestral explosions announce the tragedy's martial mood. Strength and determination are paired with a sinister, nervous theme. In response, we hear the plaintive melancholy of Coriolan's mother pleading for him to end his quest, to turn back and return home. Her tender love reaches him, touching his heart. Torn by the conflict between the passion of war and the comfort of his mother's love, in despair he ends his own life.



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Balcones Community Orchestra Players



Violin I

Mary Brown,
Concertmaster
Walter Romanko
Melissa Ruof
Bowie Lin
Lucia Woodruff
Mallory Matsumoto
Elizabeth Jackson

Violin II

Andrea Gore
Nancy Hoagland
Joseph Lloyd
Param Bajaj
Deb Weltzer
Susan Versluys
Yanling Lo

Viola

Mike Domjan
Jen Moon
Dixie Addington
Bethany Wharton

Cello

Karen Foster Cason
John Cox
Devin Cornacchio
Mary Beth Widhalm
Johannes Brinkmann
Marguerite Clayton
Steve Duprez

Bass

Ann Smith
James Lemuel

Flute

Kyndra Cullen
Byron Gifford

Oboe

Herson de la Garza
Noah Bihan

Clarinet

Raylin Hooks
Richard Davis

Bassoon

Chuck Hazlewood
Lori Willoughby

Horn

Genevieve Rucker
Joanne Delk

Trumpet

Eric Bittner
David Jones

Tympani

Jamar Gooden

“

The BCO thanks St. Matthew's
Episcopal Church
and staff for the opportunity
to perform in their lovely facility

Promotion: Libby Bryer
Recording: Mike Koetting
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27th Season

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Anonymous
Anonymous

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Joanne Delk
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Redford Hazlewood
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Nancy Hoagland

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We thank you and to all that give at the door!

**The BCO is supported by donations from our members,
our audience, and classical music enthusiasts.**

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Or by mailing a check to:
Balcones Community Orchestra
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Program Notes cont...

Camille Saint-Saens was one of the foremost French composers of the 2nd half of the 19th century. He was schooled as a young pianist on the music of the old masters and as a composer he maintained a relatively conservative outlook throughout his life. However, his Piano Concerto No. 2 in G Minor opens with an expansive and introspective cadenza which sets the stage for the entrance of the orchestra. A gentle discussion ensues, revolving around a very slow and melancholy tune. Another moment of solo virtuosity is answered by a short, powerful orchestral exclamation. The middle movement is a contrasting triple-time dance of gentle humor joined to a simple swinging tune of Sunday-afternoon joy. The final movement employs a rapid, triplet figure of great power. The soloist and orchestra trade sweeping gestures as all assembled are carried forward to the work's conclusion.

2025-2026 Concert Calendar



Sept 21 - 4:00 pm
Jordan Bartel, Violin

Episcopal Church of the Resurrection
2200 Justin Ln 78757



Oct 19 - 4:00 pm
Michelle Schumann

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
8134 Mesa



Nov 16 - 4:00 pm
Devin Cornacchio, Cello

Episcopal Church of the Resurrection
2200 Justin Ln 78757



Jan 25 - 4:00 pm
Olga Kossovich, Violin

Episcopal Church of the Resurrection
2200 Justin Ln 78757



Feb 22 - 4:00 pm
Alexander Smith, Viola

Episcopal Church of the Resurrection
2200 Justin Ln 78757



March 22 - 4:00 pm
Bryan Hall, Violin

Episcopal Church of the Resurrection
2200 Justin Ln 78757



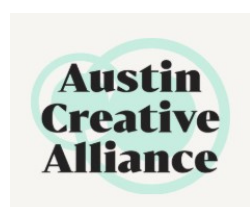
April 19 - 4:00 pm
Ian Davidson, Oboe

Episcopal Church of the Resurrection
2200 Justin Ln 78757



May 17 - 4:00 pm
Adrienne Inglis, Flute

Episcopal Church of the Resurrection
2200 Justin Ln 78757



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small orchestra for your next
event?

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