Balcones Community Orchestra

Dr. Robert Radmer, Conductor

Concert Program

Introduction, Aria and Presto (ca. 1725) arr. Bonelli Benedetto Marcello (1686 - 1739))

String Sinfonia No. 2 in D Major (1821)

Felix Mendelssohn (1809 - 1847)

Allegro Andante

Allegro vivace

All' Ungherese (1886) from Five Novelettes

Alexander Glazunov (1865 - 1936)

Cello Concerto in C Major (1761) Moderato

Adagio

Finale - Allegro molto

Joseph Haydn (1732 - 1809)

Yeyoung Yoo, Cello



April 24, 2022 4:00 p.m. St. Martin's Lutheran Church 606 W. 15th, Austin, TX 78701

Our Soloist Yeyoung Yoo, Cello



Born in Seoul, Korea, Yeyoung Yoo began playing the cello at the age of seven. Yeyoung made her solo debut with the Kansas City Symphony in 2010, and is a prize-winner of various competitions, including the Sarasota Artist Series, Kansas City Young Artist Competition, NEC Honors Ensemble Audition, and NEC Techhler-Forster Cello Competition in which she was awarded a Tecchler cello (1711) for a year. She has collaborated and worked with cellists Janos Starker, Pieter Wiespelwey, Gary Hoffman, Violinist James Buswell, Lucy Chapman, members of the Borromeo, Miro, and Juilliard Quartets, and appeared on a documentary with pianist Tong-il Han on Korea Broadcasting System(KBS) in 2016.

Her festival appearances include Kneisel Hall Chamber Music Festival, Orford Academy Music Festival, Bowdoin International Festival, Sarasota Music Festival, and Meadowmount School of Music. She received her Bachelor and Master's degree at New England Conservatory studying with Laurence Lesser, Natasha Brofsky, and she is currently pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts at the University of Texas at Austin studying with Bion Tsang.

Program Notes

Benedetto Marcello was an amateur musician and composer whose vocation was primarily in government in various positions in Northern Italy. His youthful interest in music was discouraged by his father, who insisted instead on a career in law. In Venice at the age of 21 he was chosen in a lottery to be a member of the Grand Council of the Republic (a fine way to construct a government!), and this began a career in the upper reaches of government in various Italian cities. His Introduction, Aria and Presto opens with a declamatory rhythmic motto of short-short-long; after a contrasting murmuring middle section the opening rhythm returns to declaim a forceful end. The Aria is a slow, gentle song, highly embellished in the manner of an operatic soprano with a very fecund imagination, and the exciting Presto closes the work in a flourish of triple time 16th notes.

The 12-year-old Felix Mendelssohn was studying the art of music composition and produced a dozen "Sinfonias" for string orchestra to demonstrate his understanding of the compositional process to his teacher. In Sinfonia No. 2 in D Major the young student draws upon influences from composers of earlier generations, primarily Bach, Handel and Mozart. However, he has a style of his own, and in these works one can hear seeds that later sprout in his mature works. In the first movement Allegro a rising-and-falling motive is set against a more gentle leaping figure. The middle movement Andante is constructed around a phrase that rises gracefully and ends with a bit of melodic decoration at its finish. This tune and its decoration separate at times and accompany each other. The third movement Allegro vivace features an energetic triplet rhythm that leads to a rousing finish.

Continued on p. 7

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Violin I

Melissa Ruof,
Concertmaster
Walter Romanko
Catherine van Zanten
Elizabeth Jackson
Ellie Hunt
Elena Montepinto

Violin II

Tony Stedge Laurie Peckins Kay Mueller Olive Forbes

Viola

Mike Domjan Jennifer Moon

Cello

Karen Foster Cason Johannes Brinkmann Marguerite Clayton Howard Clayton

Bass

Ann Smith Kevin Guico

Dr. Robert Radmer

Music Director/Conductor

Robert Alan Radmer is the founder and Music Director of the Balcones Community Orchestra, now in its twenty-third season. He has worked with youth orchestras and adult ensembles in six states, and for ten years was on the faculty of St. Edward's University conducting the orchestra and teaching strings. In addition he serves on the faculty of the Austin Chamber Music Center. He is the Music Director and Conductor for the Central Texas Medical Orchestra working closely with Executive Director Walter Laich to raise funds for Austin area medical non-profit groups.

Radmer has appeared as a violist with chamber ensembles and orchestras in over two thousand performances since 1981 in 21 states and ten countries. He was awarded the Doctorate in Viola Performance from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1993, and has served on the music faculties of Texas State University, the College of Saint Scholastica, Eastern New Mexico University, and Southwest Texas State University. Radmer was honored by being named Teacher of the Year in 1996 by the American String Teachers Association (New Mexico Chapter).

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.



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Program Notes by Robert Radmer continued...

Alexander Glazunov was a leading figure in Russian and European music from the time that his First Symphony and First String Quartet were written and performed when he was just 16 years old. Later he became renowned as a teacher and become the director of the St. Petersburg Conservatory. All' Ungherese, the last movement from his string quartet entitled, "Five Novelettes," is a delightful exploration of music in a Hungarian style. A two-note figure with extra weight on the second note characterizes the piece. A solemn middle section is built upon a chromatically-inflected scale which presents an exotic "Eastern" mood. The opening material returns, slowly fading into silence.

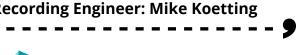
Joseph Haydn was an astoundingly prolific composer over his five decade career. Simply listing his compositions in a minuscule type font requires some 40 pages in the Grove Dictionary of Music. His catalog ranges from full length operas (14), symphonies (108), and string quartets (67) through dozens of lesser categories and concludes with 398 British folk song arrangements. Today's Cello Concerto in C Major is one of Haydn's 17 concertos for various instruments, and it is in the usual three-movement framework. The opening Allegro begins with a sprightly short-long figure which introduces a series of charming melodic ideas given out by the orchestra. The solo cello revisits and delightfully varies these ideas in a spirited back-and-forth musical conversation with the large ensemble. The middle movement Adagio is in a very broad, noble character, establishing a calm serenity which is unabashedly followed by the bustling, restless-yet-cheerful Allegro vivace.



Acknowledgements

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Recording Engineer: Mike Koetting



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Johnathan Tsay, piano

Mendelssohn: Piano Concerto in G Minor, Op. 25 Sunday, May 22, 2022 St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

2022 BCO Concert Sunday 4:00 pm

May 22 is our last concert of the season. We plan to resume our regular schedule in September 2022. Look for invitations to summer events and other musical fun with Dr. Radmer in your email or on our website:

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