

LIVERMORE-AMADOR SYMPHONY

2008-2009

Concerts are performed in the
Bankhead Theater,
2400 First Street, Livermore

**DR. ARTHUR BARNES,
MUSIC DIRECTOR**

www.livamsymph.org

Celebrating Mendelssohn at 200

Saturday, December 6, 2008 8 p.m. (Prelude, 7 p.m.)

Mendelssohn: Hebrides Overture, "Fingal's Cave"
Vaughan Williams: Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis
Various arrangements for banjo and orchestra
Buddy Wachter, banjo

Mendelssohn: Symphony No. 5, "Reformation"
Handel: "Hallelujah" chorus, from *The Messiah*
(audience "sing-it-yourself")

Featured soloist is world-renowned banjo virtuoso Buddy Wachter. The Symphony kicks off a bicentennial tribute to Felix Mendelssohn (b. 1809) with his depiction of an island cavern off the stormy coast of Scotland. The tribute continues with his 1832 symphonic commemoration of German Protestantism, which incorporates Luther's own choral hymn "A Mighty Fortress." The string sections are antiphonal in Ralph Vaughan Williams' fantasia on his Renaissance countryman's 1567 psalm tune. The audience helps celebrate the holiday by joining in for Handel's "Hallelujah" chorus. (Vocal music to be provided.)

Buddy Wachter, as performer, teacher, composer, and orchestral arranger, has brought the four-string banjo to the world's concert stages. He appears regularly in concert as a soloist with symphony orchestras, performing his own arrangements for banjo and orchestra. Performances include a Carnegie Hall debut as guest soloist with Boston Pops. He was inducted into the National Banjo Hall of Fame in 2000.



Special Family Concert:

**Buddy Wachter
on the Banjo
plus the Horn Man
and the Symphony**



**Saturday, December 6, 2008
2 to 3 p.m.**

Music from the movies will be performed at this afternoon concert. Featured soloist Buddy Wachter will play banjo music, and Bill Nemoyten, "The Horn Man," will demonstrate orchestral instruments; both will be accompanied by the Symphony.

**Tickets—youth \$5, adults \$8—
are available through
LVPAC at (925) 373-6800.**

Winter Landscape, Summer Romance

Saturday, February 14, 2009 8 p.m. (Prelude, 7 p.m.)

Mendelssohn: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*
Hanson: Symphony No. 1, "Nordic"
plus solos by winners of the 2008-2009 Competition for Young Musicians

The Symphony's tribute to Mendelssohn concludes with his incidental music for Shakespeare's comical romantic fantasy; the 1843 piece incorporates one of the first concert overtures, composed by Mendelssohn at age 17. The 20-century Neo-Romantic Howard Hanson's first symphony looks to his ancestral Scandinavia; Nebraska-born Hanson was a conductor and composer who championed American classical music.

From Spanish Gypsies to Danish Kings

Saturday, March 28, 2009 8 p.m. (Prelude, 7 p.m.)

Mozart: *Così fan tutte* Overture
Khachaturian: Flute Concerto
Jeffery Pelletier, flute
Bizet: *Carmen* Suite No. 2
with the Los Positas College Orchestra
Sibelius: *King Christian II*

Fickleness is indicted in Mozart's opera buffa, one of his last and greatest works. Flutist Jeffery Pelletier performs a most impressive concerto. Bizet's earthy, yet tuneful, Realist opera is considered by many to be the world's most popular. Sibelius' incidental music for a historical play recounts the tragic life, love, and revenge of the 16-century king of Denmark.

Jeffery Pelletier, the Symphony's own former principal flutist, returns from Canada to perform as soloist with the orchestra. Prior to his relocation to Vancouver, he appeared in concerts and as a soloist throughout the United States with ensembles including the Silicon Valley Symphony and Ohlone Wind Orchestra as well as the Symphony. Now residing in British Columbia, he performs with the Vancouver Chamber Players and is artistic director of Ventos.

The Las Positas College Orchestra, conducted by Cindy Browne-Rosefield, was formed in 2005 to give students an opportunity to rehearse and perform a variety of orchestral works by noted composers. In this way, they learn not only about orchestral literature and styles, but also about ensemble performance techniques and how individuals contribute to successful performance.

Along The Rhine

Saturday, May 16, 2009 8 p.m. (Prelude, 7 p.m.)

Rossini: *La Gazza Ladra* Overture
Schumann: Symphony No. 3, "Rhenish"
Joshua Cohen, guest conductor
Bruch: Violin Concerto No. 2
Anthony Doheny, violin
Glière: "Russian Sailor's Dance" from *The Red Poppy*

A silver spoon-stealing magpie brings false accusations upon a poor servant girl in Rossini's melodrama; legend has it that he wrote the popular overture in a single day, the day before the opera's premiere. Schumann's third symphony suggests scenes along the Rhine river, including that of a solemn cathedral in Cologne, Germany. Featured soloist Anthony Doheny performs the rarely-heard second violin concerto by Bruch. Russian sailors dance in celebration at a port in China in Glière's ballet of doomed romance during the 1917 revolution.

Josh Cohen has been involved with music around the Bay Area for many years. At California State University, Hayward (now East Bay), he studied violin with Daniel Kobialka and Nate Rubin, and conducting with Denis de Coteau. Founding musical director and conductor of the Castro Valley Chamber Orchestra, he produces and performs chamber music concerts, directs opera and musical theater productions, and performs on violin and bass.

Anthony Doheny, Australian born, graduated with a doctorate in music from Stanford University, where he is currently a Lecturer in Music. He has had a long career performing and teaching violin and viola in Australia and the United States. In March of 2008 he was the Visiting Orion Scholar in residence at the University of Victoria in British Columbia, Canada, where he gave master classes and performances.

Programs subject to change.

To add to your enjoyment of each concert, hear the **Prelude**, a 30-minute talk starting at 7 p.m.

Grants

Funding has been received from:

- Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC
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