Saturday, November 2, 2024 • 8:00 PM

DEPAUL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Allen Tinkham, conductor

Mary Patricia Gannon Concert Hall 2330 North Halsted Street • Chicago

Saturday, November 2, 2024 • 8:00 PM Gannon Concert Hall

DePaul Symphony Orchestra

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PROGRAM

Jessie Montgomery (1981) Hymn for Everyone (2021)

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840-1893) Symphony No. 6 in B minor, Op. 74 (1893)

I. Adagio - Allegro non troppo

II. Allegro con grazia

III. Allegro molto vivace

IV. Adagio lamentoso

BIOGRAPHIES

Allen Tinkham is increasingly recognized as one of the most inspiring and exciting conductors and teachers of his generation. He is hailed by the *Chicago Tribune* as both a conductor and teacher, described as working "wonders" conducting with "uncanny control" and as one of Chicago's most important "educators, mentors and inspirational guides in the training of tomorrow's orchestral professionals."

As the Music Director of CYSO, Tinkham oversees artistic programming and faculty and leads the Symphony Orchestra as well as CORE, CYSO's select chamber orchestra. Tinkham led the Symphony Orchestra in its Carnegie Hall debut, first live broadcast, first recording release, and seven international tours on four continents. CYSO's Symphony Orchestra, internationally acclaimed as "one of the country's most famous youth outfits" (Muso Magazine), is regularly broadcast by WFMT and has received numerous Illinois Council of Orchestras Youth Orchestra of the Year and Programming of the Year awards.

As an advocate and champion of contemporary music, Tinkham has won nine American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) National Awards for Adventurous Programming of Contemporary Music. Tinkham is also the Music Director of the Chicago Composers Orchestra, Chicago's only professional orchestra performing exclusively the works of living composers.

In high demand as a guest conductor and educator, Tinkham has conducted summer festivals and NAfME All-State Orchestras throughout the U.S. including the All-Eastern and All-Northwest Orchestras. He was the Assistant Conductor for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's holiday concerts for six seasons, and he has guest conducted the Colorado Symphony, Kansas City Symphony, and the Members of Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

Tinkham attended the Eastman School of Music, University of Michigan School of Music, and American Academy of Conducting of the Aspen Music Festival. He was invited to the 14th International Nicolai Malko Competition and the 4th International Conductors Competition Sir Georg Solti and is a laureate of the League of American Orchestras Bruno Walter Conductor Preview.

Tinkham began his career as Apprentice Conductor at the Oregon Symphony where he mentored under conductor and poet James DePreist. Before the end of his apprenticeship, he was appointed Music Director of CYSO—the youngest to win the post in its history.

PROGRAM NOTES

Jessie Montgomery (1981) Hymn for Everyone (2021)

Duration: 12 minutes

Hymn for Everyone is based on a hymn that I wrote during the spring of 2021 that was a reflection on personal and collective challenges happening at the time. Up until that point, I had resisted composing "response pieces" to the pandemic and social-political upheaval, and had been experiencing an intense writer's block.

But one day, after a long hike, this hymn just came to me - a rare occurrence. The melody traverses through different orchestral "choirs", and is accompanied by the rest of the ensemble. It is a kind of meditation for orchestra, exploring various washes of color and timbre through each repetition of the melody.

Notes by Jessie Montgomery

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840-1893)

Symphony No. 6 in B minor, Op. 74 (1893)

Duration: 46 minutes

This symphony is Tchaikovsky's last work—he died of cholera only nine days after its première—and it is universally hailed as one of his finest. It exhibits all of the characteristic passion and melodic beauty for which the composer justly is known, and is suffused with a dark and tragic essence. Tchaikovsky struggled all of his life with his identity, fears of social rejection, and frustrated relationships with others. By the end of his life these issues had surely come to a head, and the composer freely spoke with his brother of the reflection of his suffering in this final, gripping composition. There is even a current musicological fight over whether or not he poisoned himself to end his life (under threat of social disgrace), or deliberately drank the unboiled glass of water during an epidemic. In any case, the circumstances of his life's final struggles are manifest in this beautiful and tragic work. In the event, he had at first actually considered "Tragic" as a subtitle for the symphony, but his brother suggested the Russian for "pathos." and the French equivalent, "pathétique," is the evocative descriptor that we all know. But, be aware of inexact translations--there is nothing pathetic here.

The first movement is conventional in its form, but the mature composer exhibits a sense of tight construction, and weaves the movement with his characteristic contrast of exciting, dynamic motives and delicious lyrical melodies. The mood for the entire symphony is set at the very beginning by the brooding bassoon solo. The second movement is one of the most

DEPAUL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA • NOVEMBER 2, 2024 PROGRAM NOTES

well known of his symphonic movements, cast as it is in five-four time, an absolutely innovative use of the metre in art music (is it not unknown in Russian folk music). The main theme and its manipulation is so smooth and adroit that it is altogether easy to forget the unusual time signature, and simply experience the music as being some kind of waltz with a "limp." And remember, no one excelled Tchaikovsky in the waltz. The third movement is an exciting and optimistic march, but the heavy brass and snappy rhythms notwithstanding, it doesn't seem a military march at all, Rather, it is a march from the world of the ballet—the Nutcracker and Sleeping Beauty come to my mind. No Shostokovitchian Russian soldiers are goose stepping here! The final movement in many respects is the characteristic movement of the symphony. It is most unusual in that it ends softly—very softly. No Romantic symphony had ever ended that way—they end loud and with a bang-right? And great applause! But in this case the agony and beauty of this reflection of the composer's life and experience terminates in a final expiration that is remarkable for its challenging softness. "This is the way the world ends/Not with a bang but a whimper."

Notes by William E. Runyan

| | DEI AGE STRIPTIONT ORGILISTRA | 140VLMBLR 2, 2024 |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Personnel | | |
| FLUTE | TUBA | VIOLA |
| Xander Day | Juan Peinado | Elena Galentas, |
| Chaosupei Gao | Castin York | principal |
| Amanda Welch | | Phoebe Hu |
| | PERCUSSION | Casey Lebkicker |
| OBOE | Pou I Chao | Darren Carter |
| Emily Mendez | Adriana Harrison | Lucie Boyd |
| Bryan Rodriguez | Eunkyul Lee | Facundo Ortega |
| | Tae McLoughlin | Alejandra Contrera |
| CLARINET | Emma Mitchell | Sophia Schölch |
| Adam Boswell | Kyle Scully | Julia Seabron |
| Eric Bromberg | Kevin Tan | Madeline Guyer |
| BASSOON | VIOLIN | CELLO |
| Angela Hernandez | Sean Hsi, concertmaster | Sydney Andersen |
| Jason Huang | Jason Hurlbut | principal |
| Xavier Woodley | Henry Hsueh | Aurian Kutner |
| | Ben Koenig | Francisco Garay |
| HORN | Justine Teo | Ramida Nivasnan |
| Jasmin Bolanos-Merlos | s Elise Maas | Ryan Han |
| Adam Hendrick | Joey Lau | McKayla Fetters |
| Eli Hoffmann | Naomi Southard | Gita Srinivasan |
| Trevor Huffman | Mia Smith | Brendan Stock |
| Katy Meffert | Carlysta Tran, principal 2nd | Rachel Volk |
| Tarre Nelson | Alec Tonno | |
| | Alyssa Orantes | BASS |
| TRUMPET | Angela Rojas | Sebastian Sanche |
| Hamed Barbarji | Benjamin Mora Neira | principal |
| Maria Martinez | Nicole Kwasny | Mateo Estanislao |
| | Jenna Krause | Stephen Kilpatrick |
| TROMBONE | Joshua Sukhdeo | Adam Wang |
| E : 1 O (| 0 | |

Stela Mkrtichian

Lily Enderle

Yuyan Wang

Erich Corfman

Amanda Pinos

Tim Warner

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School of Music

November 3 • 3:00 p.m. Allen Recital Hall DePaul Baroque Ensemble

November 3 • 3:00 P.M.
Dempsey Corboy Jazz Hall
DePaul Jazz Ensemble

November 3 • 6:00 P.M. Gannon Concert Hall DePaul Brass Ensemble

November 4 • 8:00 P.M. Gannon Concert Hall DePaul Ensemble 20+

November 5 • 7:00 P.M.
Dempsey Corboy Jazz Hall
DePaul Jazz Combos II

November 5 • 8:00 P.M. Gannon Concert Hall DePaul Concert Orchestra

November 6 • 7:00 P.M.
Dempsey Corboy Jazz Hall
DePaul Jazz Workshop

November 7 • 7:00 P.M.
Dempsey Corboy Jazz Hall
DePaul Jazz Combos III

November 7 • 7:00 P.M.
Allen Recital Hall
Wind/Mixed Chamber Showcase II

November 8 • 7:00 P.M.
Dempsey Corboy Jazz Hall
DePaul Vocal Jazz Ensemble

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November 15 • 7:00 р.м. Allen Recital Hall Jeremy Ruthrauff, saxophone

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