



PLAYING. SHARING. INSPIRING.

Yuri Ivan, Music Director

Maja Radovanlija, Guitar

Amanda Chan, Piano

Romantic Notions

Saturday, February 14, 2015

7:30 PM

St. Albert the Great Catholic Church
Minneapolis, MN

~ Program ~

Adagio of Spartacus and Phrygia from "Spartacus"

Aram Khachaturian
(1903 – 1978)

Intermezzo from "Cavalleria Rusticana"

Pietro Mascagni
(1863 – 1945)

Concierto de Aranjuez for Guitar and Orchestra

- *Maja Radovanlija, Guitar*

Joaquín Rodrigo
(1901 – 1999)

~ 10 Minute Intermission ~

Piano Concerto No. 23 in A Major, K. 488

W. A. Mozart
(1756 – 1791)

- *Amanda Chan, Piano*

II. Andante

III. Presto

Symphonic Dances from "West Side Story"

Leonard Bernstein
(1918 – 1990)

~ Biographies ~

Maja Radovanlija was born in Belgrade, Serbia and has been playing guitar since the age of nine. Ms. Radovanlija completed her bachelor's degree at the University of Belgrade and received her master's and doctor of music at Jacobs School of Music, Indiana University. During her studies, she won several prizes at international guitar competitions in Serbia and Bulgaria. Since then, she has performed frequently as a solo and chamber musician, touring European countries, the Middle East and North Africa. Ms. Radovanlija's interests include musical genres beyond classical, such as traditional Balkan music, jazz, experimental, and improvised music.

As a graduate student at Indiana University, Ms. Radovanlija won second prize at a Latin-American music competition and was included on two compilation CDs produced by the Latin-American Music Center. During her studies, she often performed new music for guitar, including pieces written by Don Freund and Aaron Travors. Her interests in guitar repertoire include a wide range of music, from early music (baroque guitar) to contemporary/experimental music.

Thirteen-year old pianist **Amanda Chan** began her musical studies at the age of four. Currently, she is a student of Professor Alexander Braginsky, the President and Artistic Director of the International Piano e-Competition, and Dr. Denis Evstuhin, a pianist and Music Director at the Museum of Russian Art in Minneapolis.

In 2010, Amanda was selected to participate in the master class with Professor Sontraud Speidel (University of Karlsruhe, Germany) organized by the Junior Piano e-Festival. At the same time, she made her public broadcast appearance on Minneapolis Television KARE 11. In 2011, Amanda won second place in the University of Northwestern Piano Solo Festival. In 2012, Amanda (with her brothers Skyler and Oliver) was selected from about 1,000 participants to play as a trio (with six hands on one piano) in the Honor Concert at the Upper Midwest Festival. In 2013, she was awarded second place (semi-finalist) in the Minnesota State Fair Talent Contest. In the same year, Amanda also performed works by Chopin in the Twin Cities Polish Festival. In 2014, she received second place (Alternate) in the Junior Level State Division of Minnesota Teachers National Association (MTNA) Competition.

Amanda's favorite composers are Bach, Liszt, Mozart, and Schumann. While participating in the *BRAVO!* Advanced Studies for the Serious String Player and Pianist

Program at the University of Minnesota, Amanda gained her chamber music experience playing Mozart Trio, K. 502 as well as developed her passion for the music of Mozart. Amanda has many other interests and activities besides piano playing and music. She enjoys volunteering at Second Harvest Heartland, an organization dedicated to solving the problem of hunger in Minnesota. Currently, as a resident of Plymouth, Minnesota, she is enrolled at the University of Minnesota Talented Youth Mathematics Program. In addition, she serves as a volunteer in the math help center at Wayzata Central Middle School where all 7th graders can drop in for math assistance. In 2012, her Math Masters team placed first out of 800 teams in Minnesota. In 2013, Amanda led her team to winning the regional Future Problem Solving (FPS) competition. She also enjoys playing board games with her family, golf, writing poems, trying world cuisines, and history.

Amanda believes that music can have a dramatic impact on a lot of people at once, yet touch them individually.

Yuri Ivan became the Music Director of the Kenwood Symphony Orchestra in 2007. He completed his formal music training in Ukraine, where his main teachers were Jarema Skybinky and Mykola Kolessa. Mr. Ivan also studied with Yuri Simonov, Adalberto Tonnini, Vjacheslav Blinov, and Yuri Lutsiv. After graduating from The State Conservatory of Music in Lviv, he was engaged from 1996 to 2000 as an Associate Conductor at The State Theatre of Opera and Ballet in Dnepropetrovsk, Ukraine, where he conducted productions including *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Rigoletto*, *La Traviata*, *Carmen*, *Pagliacci*, *Eugene Oneguine*, *Die Fledermaus*, *La Fille Mal Gardée*, *Giselle*, *Don Quixote*, *Swan Lake*, and *Sleeping Beauty*. In 2001, Mr. Ivan was named Artistic Director of Trans-Carpathian Philharmonic, co-founded the Uzhgorod Youth Orchestra and the Young Virtuosi music festival in Ukraine. He also appeared with LVMI Opera, the National Symphony-Pops Orchestra of Ukraine, the National Broadcasting Company Orchestra of Ukraine and the Northern Hungarian Symphony. Mr. Ivan holds a Doctorate Degree in conducting from the University of Minnesota, where he studied with Akira Mori and Craig Kirchoff. Mr. Ivan is the Music Director at St. Constantine Ukrainian Catholic Church and is active in the artistic life of the Twin Cities metro area, collaborating with a range of artistic and educational organizations. He has served since 2006 as the Music Director of the Linden Hills Chamber Orchestra. In 2010, Mr. Ivan founded the Byzantine Choral Festival where he serves as Artistic Director.

The **Kenwood Symphony Orchestra** was founded as the Kenwood Chamber Orchestra in 1972 as an adult education class at the Kenwood Community Center. From those humble beginnings, the orchestra quickly grew in membership, ability, and reputation. Over the years, several gifted conductors have graced the podium, including Uri Barnea, Lee Humphries, Jim Riccardo, Jeannine Wager, William Intriligator, Myles Hernandez, Kenneth Freed, and Jeffrey Stirling. Since September, 2007, KSO has been under the direction of Yuri Ivan. Based at Washburn High School, KSO is comprised of over 50 highly accomplished musicians passionate about playing and sharing great music. KSO is a nonprofit organization financed primarily by members' dues, financial gifts from supporters, our annual Masters Concerto and Aria event, performance collaborations with the Metropolitan Ballet, and a 2014/20145 Metropolitan Regional Arts Council grant.

~ Rodrigo and Bernstein Notes ~

Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez* was inspired by the gardens at Palacio Real de Aranjuez, the spring resort palace and gardens built by Philip II in the last half of the 16th century and rebuilt in the middle of the 18th century by Ferdinand VI. The work attempts to transport the listener to another place and time through the evocation of the sounds of nature. According to the composer, the first movement is "animated by a rhythmic spirit and vigor without either of the two themes... interrupting its relentless pace"; the second movement "represents a dialogue between guitar and solo instruments (English horn, bassoon, oboe, horn, etc.)"; and the last movement "recalls a courtly dance in which the combination of double and triple time maintains a taut tempo right to the closing bar." He described the concerto itself as capturing "the fragrance of magnolias, the singing of birds, and the gushing of fountains" in the gardens of Aranjuez. Rodrigo and his wife Victoria stayed silent for many years about the inspiration for the second movement, and thus the popular belief grew that it was inspired by the bombing of Guernica in 1937. In her autobiography, Victoria eventually declared that it was both an evocation of the happy days of their honeymoon and a response to Rodrigo's devastation at the miscarriage of their first pregnancy. It was composed in 1939, in Paris. Rodrigo, nearly blind since age three, was a pianist. He did not play the guitar, yet he still managed to capture and project the role of the guitar in Spanish music.

- **Bernstein's "West Side Story"**, a smash both on Broadway and later on film, is among the most successful updates of Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet since the original play hit the Globe Theater 400 years ago. With its timely story of ethnic New York rivalries, juvenile delinquency, and doomed love, it appealed deeply to Bernstein's humanitarianism and played to one of his great musical strengths, his ability to absorb and make his own the musical gestures of jazz, rock, diverse national styles, Broadway, and his thorough training as a classical musician.

In 1961, Bernstein assembled a sequence of dance numbers from the musical score, supervising the orchestration by Sid Ramin and Irwin Kostal. He adopted the term "symphonic," not to reflect scoring for full orchestra, but because of the way he had originally developed the dance music from a few basic themes, i.e., subjecting them to time-honored symphonic variation and permutation.

The Dances are played without pause, and begin with an anxious Prologue that suggests the intense rivalry between the two gangs, the Jets and the Sharks. Against the stark reality of the mutual antipathy, the dreamy Adagio (based on the song "Somewhere") is the composer's vision of reconciliation and friendship between the two adversarial groups. Scherzo continues the dream, with two adolescent boys dancing joyfully in the sunlight. Ugly, violent reality intrudes in Mambo, which re-ignites the smoldering rivalry separating the two gangs. The star-crossed lovers, Tony and Maria, dance together in Cha Cha, which segues into their first verbal communication, Meeting Scene. In a flurry of angry counterpoint, the gang rivalry intensifies in Cool, Fugue, then explodes into violence in Rumble, in which the leaders of both the Jets and Sharks are killed. In Finale, Tony dies in Maria's arms, and the music summons memories of the dream music in "Somewhere," suggesting a better world.



This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through grants from the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.



Music rental made possible, in part, by a grant from the Cy and Paula DeCosse Fund of The Minneapolis Foundation

~ Upcoming Events ~

~ 17th Annual Masters Concerto and Aria Concert ~

Saturday, March 28, 2015 at 7:30 PM
St. Albert the Great Catholic Church

Visit kenwoodsymphonyorchestra.org for information on soloists
Adults \$10 – Children 12 and under \$5

~ Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto No. 1 ~

Saturday, May 16, 2015 at 7:30 PM
Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church

~ Join the KSO! ~

KSO is currently seeking to fill positions in our string and brass sections.
Please visit the “Join the KSO” tab on our website to learn more.
kenwoodsymphonyorchestra.org

The KSO mission is to play, share, and inspire great music by:

- Offering performance opportunities
- Programming appealing repertoire
- Performing free concerts
- Including under-served communities

- ~ KSO Members ~

Violin I

Elizabeth Bell ♦
Leonard Pratt Chair
Essie Commers ❖
Brenda Haines
Aja Majkrzak
Teresa Mcdevitt
David Otero
Julie Pronovici
Steve Rollin
Ian Snyder ❖
David Wiebelhaus

Violin II

Alvina Brueggemann
Elizabeth Fairfield
Madeline Krych
David Otero
Megan Peterson ★
Derick Rehurek
Laura Simonson
Clair Tyra

Viola

Ann Bur ♦
Patrick McCarthy
Erika Neely
Sandy Sample
Katy Schalla Lesiak

Cello

Katherine Canon
Todd Grill
Sarah Hernandez
Liesl Koehnen
Katherine Nyseth
John Renwick
Diana Ringuette
Anne Swarts ★

♦ - Section Leader

Bass

Stacy Aldrich ♦
Neill Merck
Tyler Ryan

Flute

Charlotte Bartholomew ❖
Anne Cheney ♦
Leslie Pietila

Piccolo

Leslie Pietila

Oboe

Julie Brusen ♦
Alexandra Carlson ❖

English Horn

Tammy Riste Wahlin

Clarinet

Dave Clark ❖
Brian Zumwalde ♦

E♭ Clarinet

Mary Beth Huttlin

Bass Clarinet

Shelagh MacLeod

Bassoon

Alex Legeros ❖
Ellen Maas Pratt ♦

Contrabassoon

Heather Levesseur ❖

Saxophone

Scottie Wright ❖

★ - Acting Principal

Horn

Nicole Danielson ❖
Angela House Gritton ♦
Robert Meier
Lucas Schmitt ❖
Nathan Sielbeck ❖

Trumpet

Howard Brahmstedt ♦
Riley Helgeson ❖
Jim Olcott
Bob Zobal

Trombone

Hans Arlton ❖
Nate Eng ❖★
Stewart Ross ❖

Tuba

Rob Margolis ❖
Sam Sharp

Percussion

Chantise Hunt ❖
Garret Lesnar ❖
John Reinke ❖
Corey Sevet ♦
Tom Wahlrobe ❖

Timpani

John Litch ♦

Piano

Franco Holder ❖

Organ

Tom Fidiam ❖

Harp

Jim Buxton ❖

Librarians

Anne Cheney
Dave Clark

❖ - Guest Musician