Two concerts, two different experiences

Auburn, WA: Auburn Symphony Orchestra presents two upcoming concerts. A chamber concert, Mountains: From the Urals to the Cascades on November 20, 4:00 - 6:00 PM, at St. Matthew - San Mateo Episcopal Church, will provide a smaller and more intimate experience with the music. Holiday Spectacular, on December 5 at 7:30 PM in the Auburn Performing Arts Center, is a grander experience with the whole symphony, for the whole family, celebrating the whole season. Tickets and information can be found at auburnsymphony.org or by calling the ASO office at 253-887-7777. Ticket prices for the chamber concert are $25 general and $10 students. Prices for the Holiday concert are $40 general, $32 seniors, and $12 students.

The November 20 performance is the first chamber music concert in Auburn since March 6, 2020. Smaller concerts like this one allow the audience to see and hear the ensemble up close since there are fewer musicians and they perform in a smaller space. This is an excellent opportunity to watch closely how the instruments are played and see the dynamics of a small group in performance.

In Mountains: From the Urals to the Cascades, percussionists will shine alongside violin, cello, and piano. Three percussionists will play: Matt Kocmieroski, Phil Hansen, and Rob Tucker. Rounding out the group will be Christina Siemens, piano; Emilie Choi, violin; and Brian Wharton, cello.

The program includes a tour de force arrangement of Dmitri Shostakovich’s Symphony No. 15 arranged by Victor Derevianko for piano trio and three percussionists. George Crumb’s Dream Sequence is an evocative piece with wisps of tunes and memories of Appalachia by this American maverick for violin, cello, piano, percussion and glass harmonica. Alan Hovhaness, who lived in SeaTac, wrote Spirit Cat - a song cycle for soprano and marimba/vibraphone remembering the many cats he owned throughout his life. Varied Trio by Lou Harrison is just that - highly melodic, inquisitive music for violin, piano, and percussion by this California based composer.

And then, for something completely different, Auburn Symphony will perform Auburn’s annual Holiday Spectacular on December 5 at 7:30PM in the Auburn Performing Arts Center. It’s the perfect way to get into the holiday spirit at the beginning of the season.

Holiday Spectacular is perfect for the entire family, those who are new to orchestral music, and long-time fans of the orchestra. This year you’ll hear favorites like Polar Express and Greensleeves, as well as newer works. Navidad Latina! was composed by Anthony DiLorenzo of Seattle. Songs within this piece are Campanas Sobre Campanas, Los Peces en el Rio, Ya Viene el Ninito, Mi Burrito Sabanero, and Feliz Navidad. DiLorenzo is not the only living composer on the program. The orchestra will honor the Jewish Festival of Lights with Chanukah 5776 written by Sam Hyken.
In a special partnership, Rainier Youth Choir will perform selections from the movie *Home Alone* including *Somewhere in My Memory*. Rainier Youth Choirs is a community-based organization with no religious affiliation. Members come from Auburn, Burien, Covington, Des Moines, Enumclaw, Federal Way, Issaquah, Kent, Maple Valley, Puyallup, Renton, Snoqualmie, and Sumner, with no restrictions. It is a tuition-based music performance and education program for children and youth emphasizing the development of high caliber musical skills and outstanding artistic performances to inspire, enrich, and transform the lives of children.

No matter your age, musical experience or holiday preferences, this concert will leave you with warm memories you’ll enjoy for years to come.

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Auburn Symphony Orchestra changes lives and our South Puget Sound community through the shared experience of live orchestral music performances and by nurturing the relationship between our audience and our artists. Learn more at auburnsymphony.org and social media pages Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube.

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