



Interlochen

ARTS CAMP

Interlochen, Michigan
145th Program of the 96th Season

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WORLD YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Jader Bignamini, conductor

featuring members of the
DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Sunday, July 23, 2023
7:30pm, Kresge Auditorium

WORLD YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Jader Bignamini, conductor

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Detroit Symphony Orchestra

PROGRAM

Symphony No. 1 in D Major..... Gustav Mahler
Langsam, schleppend (1860-1911)
Kräftig bewegt, doch nicht zu schnell
Feierlich und gemessen, ohne zu schleppen–Sehr einfach und schlicht wie
eine Volksweise–Wieder etwas bewegter, wie im Anfang
Stürmisch bewegt–Energisch

*The audience is requested to remain seated
during the playing of the Interlochen Theme.*

*Tonight's World Youth Symphony Orchestra concert is dedicated to the
following generous supporters of the Detroit Opportunity Scholarship; Joanne
Danto and Arnold Weingarden, The Ralph L. and Winifred E. Polk Foundation,
David and Christine Provost, Craig and Shari Morgan, Dr. Craig D. Silverton,
The Honorable Kurtis T. Wilder, and Drs. David and Bernadine Wu.*

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PROGRAM NOTES

by Amanda Sewell

Symphony No. 1 in D Major

Gustav Mahler

Instrumentation: 4 flutes, with 2 alternating on piccolos; 4 oboes, with 1 alternating on English horn; 4 clarinets, with players alternating on E-flat clarinet and bass clarinet; 3 bassoons, with 1 player alternating on contrabassoon; 7 horns; 5 trumpets; 3 trombones; tuba; 4 timpani, played by two percussionists; cymbals; triangle; tam-tam; bass drum; harp; strings

Duration: 60 minutes

Viennese audiences and critics weren't quite sure what to make of Gustav Mahler's symphonies during the 1890s and 1900s. They were enormous (his two

shortest symphonies are each an hour long); required massive performing forces; had formal designs that weren't familiar to audiences; and borrowed and reused melodies and entire sections of Mahler's own compositions as well as music by other composers. Mahler also refused to write programs or notes to help his audiences understand what was happening in the music.

His Symphony No. 1 has all of these characteristics. It is about an hour in length, making it the shortest symphony he would ever compose. The orchestra, although the smallest of all his symphonies, is massive compared to other symphonies of the era: it is impossible to play with fewer than 50 musicians on stage. Mahler initially wrote program notes to help explain the story of the piece, but he withdrew them almost immediately because he thought they might mislead the audiences or give them the wrong ideas about what they were going to hear. He also gave it the nickname "Titan" for its first three performances, then removed the nickname for all subsequent performances (although that redacted nickname sticks with this piece well over a century later). Musically, Mahler included familiar folk melodies and styles throughout the symphony, including Jewish klezmer music, an Austrian folk dance called a *ländler*, and a minor-mode version of the folk song "Frère Jacques." He also quoted generously from his own previous compositions, such as multiple songs from the cycle *Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen* (Songs of the Wayfarer) and incidental music he had written for a dramatic play by Joseph Victor von Scheffel called *Der Trompeter von Säckingen*.

Contemporary critics and audiences were stumped by this symphony. At one performance in 1900, the renowned music critic Eduard Hanslick seemed to have wanted to praise the piece but was at a loss of how to do so. He wrote, "I do not want to be hasty in my judgment of this strange symphony, but I owe sincerity to my readers and must sadly admit that the new symphony is the kind of music which, for me, is not music." Hanslick went on to say of Mahler, "One of us must be crazy, and it is not me."

Today's performance is conducted by Detroit Symphony Orchestra Music Director Jader Bignamini and features members of the DSO playing alongside the World Youth Symphony Orchestra musicians. The DSO and Interlochen have been connected since the earliest days of the National Music Camp. Conductor Ossip Gabrilowitsch, the music director of the DSO during the 1920s, was a guest conductor of the National High School Orchestra in 1928—just as Jader Bignamini is today.

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JADER BIGNAMINI was introduced as the 18th music director of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra in January 2020, commencing with the 2020–2021 season. He kicked off his tenure as DSO Music Director with the launch of DSO Digital Concerts in September 2020, conducting works by Copland, Puccini, Tchaikovsky, and Saint-Georges. His infectious passion and artistic excellence set the tone for the season ahead, creating extraordinary music and establishing a close relationship with the orchestra. A jazz aficionado, he has immersed himself in Detroit’s rich jazz culture and the influences of American music.

A native of Crema, Italy, Bignamini studied at the Piacenza Music Conservatory and began his career as a musician (*clarinet*) with Orchestra Sinfonica La Verdi in Milan, later serving as the group’s resident conductor. Captivated by the operatic arias of legends like Mahler and Tchaikovsky, Bignamini explored their complexity and power, puzzling out the role that each instrument played in creating a larger-than-life sound. When he conducted his first professional concert at the age of 28, it didn’t feel like a departure, but an arrival.

In the years since, Bignamini has conducted some of the world’s most acclaimed orchestras and opera companies in venues across the globe including working with Riccardo Chailly on concerts of Mahler’s Eighth Symphony in 2013 and his concert debut at La Scala in 2015 for the opening season of La Verdi Orchestra. Recent highlights include debuts with the Houston, Dallas, and Minnesota symphonies; Osaka Philharmonic and Yomiuri Nippon Symphony Orchestra in Tokyo; with the Metropolitan Opera, Vienna State Opera, and Dutch National Opera (*Madama Butterfly*); Bayerische Staatsoper (*La Traviata*); *I Puritani* in Montpellier for the Festival of Radio France; *Traviata* in Tokyo directed by Sofia Coppola; return engagements with Oper Frankfurt (*La forza del destino*) and Santa Fe Opera (*La Bohème*); *Manon Lescaut* at the Bolshoi; *Traviata*, *Madama Butterfly*, and *Turandot* at Arena of Verona; *Il Trovatore* and *Aida* at Rome’s Teatro dell’Opera; *Madama Butterfly*, *I Puritani*, and *Manon Lescaut* at Teatro Massimo in Palermo; *Simon Boccanegra* and *La Forza del Destino* at the Verdi Festival in Parma; *Ciro in Babilonia* at Rossini Opera Festival and *La Bohème*, *Madama Butterfly*, and *Elisir d’amore* at La Fenice in Venice.

When Bignamini leads an orchestra in symphonic repertoire, he conducts without a score, preferring to make direct eye contact with the musicians. He conducts from the heart, forging a profound connection with his musicians that shines through both onstage and off. He both embodies and exudes the excellence and enthusiasm that has long distinguished the DSO’s artistry.

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SECTION FACULTY

Violin I—Jeff Thayer
Violin II—Tami Lee Hughes
Viola—Eric Nowlin
Cello—Melissa Kraut
Double Bass—Kurt Muroki
Flute—Matthew Roitstein
Oboe—Pedro Diaz
Clarinet— YaoGuang Zhai

Bassoon—William Short
Horn—Brad Gemeinhardt
Trumpet—Caleb Hudson
Trombone—Benjamin Green
Euphonium/Tuba—David Zerkel
Percussion—Keith A. Aleo
Harp—Sylvia Norris

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WORLD YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA NAMED GIFTS

Special gifts to Interlochen's endowment support our students, faculty and programs. Interlochen gratefully recognizes the following donors and their named World Youth Symphony Orchestra gifts:

Orchestral Scholars: William and Martha Paine
Orchestral Scholar: Wiebener Family
Nancy and Phillip Meek WYSO Conductor Endowment
Valade Fellows Teaching Endowment

Principal Chair (Viola): Bettyjo Heckrodt Endowed Viola Chair
Principal Chair (Cello): Martha L. Snyder Endowed Chair
Principal Chair (Clarinet): Drs. Neil and Susan Bressler Endowed Chair
WYSO Chair (Oboe): Rev. Dr. Linda Patrick and Rebecca Phelps

Gifts to perpetuate the cultural treasure that is WYSO are always welcomed. To learn more about WYSO endowment opportunities, please contact the Interlochen Philanthropy Office at 231-276-7623 or visit interlochen.org/give.

WYSO Roster Denotes

+ Denotes Concertmaster

^ Denotes Principal Chair

*Denotes Interlochen Orchestral Scholar. This merit-based scholarship recognizes exceptional high-school musicians in the Orchestra program.

~Denotes Paine Orchestral Scholar. This merit-based endowed scholarship recognizes exceptional high-school musicians in the Orchestra program.

** Denotes Fennell Scholar. This merit-based Fennell Scholars Award, named after Interlochen alumnus Frederick Fennell, the world's most distinguished wind conductor, recognizes exceptional high-school musicians in the Wind Ensemble program.

The musicians are listed alphabetically after principals.

WORLD YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Blaine Schultice, manager Sarah Garretson, librarian/Colin Hochstetler, asst. librarian

VIOLIN I

Nichole Aye, Calif.+
Elyse Flynn, N.H.
Dominic Guevara, Calif.
Gabriel Harding, Va.
Angela Huffer, Alaska
Yuri Ishida, Calif.
Caden Jiang, Calif.
Mila Keres, Calif.
Rosy Kojis, Wis.
Fangyu Helen Liu, China
Rudhran Sathish, Texas*
Vladimir Tsiper, Minn.*
Alia Uffenorde, Wash.
Alex Workman, N.C.
Ella Zack, N.Y.
Philip Zhang, N.Y.

VIOLIN II

Hannah Schweiger, Calif.^
Selah Dowell, Mich.*
Alex Gemeinhardt, N.Y.
Kevin Hu, Calif.
Elizabeth Jeon, Wis.
Sasha Kirby, N.Y.*
Zoë Lelevich, Texas*
Julian Recio, Fla.
Mia Sakonju, N.Y.
Mallika Sheshadri, Calif.
Emil Stachyra, Mich.~
Yale Xie, Texas
Sarah Yang, Calif.
Tristin Yun, N.J.

VIOLA

Lily Wodzisz, Mich.*^
Camryn Bourne, Texas
Gilana Bush, Fla.
Tristan Chaffee, Ohio
Chloe Cohen, Ill.
Angel De Hoyos, Texas
Dylan Gutierrez, Ga.
Lucy Harris, N.Y.
Jane Morrison, Va.

VIOLA cont.

Jocelyn Scully, Va.
Benji Whiting-Eisemann,
Md.

CELLO

Lucy Ebben, Texas^
Hal Beatty, Minn.
Jad Benslimane, N.Y.
Carmel Goraly, Calif.
Ian Gu, N.Y.
Jade Jaffee, N.Y.*
Meena Karimi, Mass.
Jupiter MacAvoy, Calif.
Ryan Park, Texas*
Elias Shapero, Va.*
Isaac Ward, Alaska
Julia Yuan, Mass.~

DOUBLE BASS

Collin LeBlanc, Fla.~^
Mia Bayardo, Mich.
Parker Duncan, Mich.
Dante Espinoza-Villasenor,
Ill.
Devon Lee, N.Y.
Troy Perkins, Mich.
Grace Winters, Mass.

FLUTE

Corva Graham, Colo.*^
Heidi Gubser, N.J.
Grace Kim, Ohio
Hannah Wang, Canada

OBOE

Kyle Cho, Md.*^
Nabeel Ansari, Canada
Joe Mitchell, Ky.
Emily Quintana Pazmino,
Ecuador

CLARINET

Anton Dmitrik, Canada^
Aydin Iqbal, Wash.*

CLARINET cont.

Kevin Jin, Ga.*
Aldo Villanueva, Texas

BASSOON

Madeline Zhang, Wash.*^
Lindsay Glaccum, Texas
Fabrizio Milcent, Ill.~
Ally Rogers, Tenn. (contra)

HORN

Connor Cowart, Ark.*^
Madeline Cagle, Ala.
Chih-Yu Ashley Chiang,
Taiwan
Lauren Herman, N.J.
Connor Powers, Texas
Ben Shugart, Texas
Jak Vargas, Texas
Jacob Wiley, Texas**

TRUMPET

Lily Clark, N.Y.^
Rowan Anthony, Texas
Mariella Brayton, Ore.
Annie Walton, Mich.

TROMBONE

Malik Hamza, Texas*^
Wesley Connor, N.C.

BASS TROMBONE

Kean Adair, Fla.*

TUBA

Benson Wang, Calif.*

PERCUSSION

Hannah Lam, Ill.*^
Isabel Armenta, Ill.*
Nava Gold, Ind.
Phineas Lee, N.Y.*
Dane Warren, Ga.

HARP

Cory Lin, Canada^
Greta Hodes, Mo.

DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
JADER BIGNAMINI, Music Director
Music Directorship endowed by the Kresge Foundation

**Detroit Symphony Orchestra members
performing with WYSO**

Violin I

Kimberly Kaloyanides Kennedy
Hai-Xin Wu
Greg Staples
Eun Park Lee
Rachel Harding Klaus
Kyoko Kashiwagi

Violin II

Adam Stepniewski
Hong-Yi Mo
Elizabeth Furuta
Alexander Volkov
Molly Hughes
Joachim Stepniewski

Viola

Eric Nowlin
Hang Su
John Madison
Romona Merritt

Cello

Abraham Feder
Peter McCaffrey
David LeDoux
Sarah Cleveland

Double Bass

Stephen Molina
Christopher Hamlen

Flute

Sharon Sparrow

Oboe

Monica Fosnaugh

Clarinet

Ralph Skiano

Bassoon

Conrad Cornelison

Horn

Scott Strong

Trumpet

Hunter Eberly

Trombone

Kenneth Thompkins

Tuba

David Zerkel

Percussion

Keith Claeys

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An Evening with the World Youth Symphony Orchestra on Classical IPR
This performance of the World Youth Symphony Orchestra is recorded by Interlochen Public Radio and broadcast live on Classical IPR 88.7 FM, Interlochen; 94.7 FM, Traverse City; 88.5 FM, Mackinaw City and online at classicalipr.org. This season **An Evening with the World Youth Symphony Orchestra** starts at 7 p.m. Ahead of the live concert you can experience a half hour of treasures from the Interlochen archives, conversations with conductors and more. This concert is also webcast live and in its entirety at live.interlochen.org beginning at 7:30 p.m. (*schedule subject to change*).

INTERLOCHEN ARTS FESTIVAL UPCOMING HIGHLIGHTS

World Youth Symphony Orchestra: Gemma New, conductor Sunday, July 30, 2023 - 7:30 p.m., Kresge Auditorium

New Zealand Symphony Principal Conductor Gemma New joins the World Youth Symphony Orchestra for their fifth performance of the season. New conducts the ensemble in an exciting program featuring Lera Auerbach's "Icarus" and Dmitri Shostakovich's Symphony No. 10 in E Minor.

"Ragtime" Music by Stephen Flaherty, Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens, and Book by Terrence McNally

August 3, 4, and 5, 2023 - 7:00 p.m., Corson Auditorium

Sunday, August 6, 2023 - 2:00 p.m., Corson Auditorium

Relive the events, issues, and leading figures of turn-of-the-century America in Stephen Flaherty, Lynn Ahrens, and Terrence McNally's Tony Award-winning musical *Ragtime*. Based on E.L. Doctorow's acclaimed 1975 novel, *Ragtime* follows the intertwined lives of three groups of New Yorkers: an upper-class white family; an estranged Black couple and their son; and a recently arrived family of Latvian immigrants. As the real events of the early 1900s unfold around them, the characters grapple with their own challenges and interact with historical figures such as Booker T. Washington, Harry Houdini, J.P. Morgan, and Henry Ford. Featuring timely themes such as racism, police violence, immigrant rights, and the impact of technology, *Ragtime* offers a riveting reflection on life in contemporary America through the lens of our past.

For information and tickets, visit tickets.interlochen.org

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You can ensure the next promising young artist has the opportunity to come to Interlochen by supporting student scholarships. Make your gift to the Interlochen Annual Fund by visiting www.interlochen.org/giveonline.

Many of our venues are equipped with induction loop systems for the hearing impaired. Please ask one of our ushers if you need assistance connecting to the system. Support for recent upgrades to these systems provided by Michigan Arts and Culture Council; the NEA; Rotary Charities of Traverse City; the Les and Anne Biederman Foundation, Inc.; the Oleson Foundation; and Robert W. Anderson.

In consideration of the performing artists and other patrons, the use of flash photography is not permitted. Federal copyright and licensing rules prohibit the use of video cameras and other recording equipment.

In order to provide a safe and healthy environment, Interlochen maintains a smoke-free and alcohol-free campus. Michigan law prohibits any weapons, including concealed weapons, on Interlochen property because we are an educational campus.

Thank you for your cooperation.

www.interlochen.org