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Above: A scene from the Opera Atelier production of The Magic Flute

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By **Bill Mayr**

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From intimate chamber recitals to large symphonic concerts,

from compositions half a millennium old to the next new thing, the classical-music season promises to be busy and varied.

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HIGHLIGHTS

• The **Columbus Symphony** will open its season with the **Columbus Symphony Chorus** and soloists in Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9*, with its famous "Ode to Joy" (Oct. 5, Ohio Theatre); other concerts will include pianist **Nareh Arghamanyan** performing Tchaikovsky's *Piano Concerto No. 1* (Oct. 12-13, Ohio Theatre); violinist **Elina Vahala** featured in Sibelius' *Violin Concerto* (Nov. 2-3, Ohio Theatre); "Vienna Dances" with pianist **Marc-Andre Hamelin** and selections from Brahms, Mozart and Strauss (Jan. 4-5, Ohio Theatre); a "Baroque Festival" with violinist **Monica Huggett** performing Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* (Jan. 11-13, Southern Theatre); **BalletMet Columbus** dancing to Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring* (March 22-24, Ohio Theatre); Brahms' *A German Requiem* and the premiere of a composition by **Stephen Paulus** honoring Ronald Jenkins, director of the Columbus Symphony Chorus (April 19-20, Ohio Theatre).

The symphony's pops season, in the Ohio Theatre, will include **Air Supply** (Oct. 6); the **Fab Four** (Nov. 10); Holiday Pops (Nov. 30 to Dec. 2); **Cirque de la Symphonie** (Jan. 19); **Al Jarreau** (March 9) and **Chris Botti** (April 12).



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• **ProMusica Chamber Orchestra** will start its season by premiering **Clarice Assad's** *Album de Familia*, which will be performed by the composer's father and uncle, guitarists **Sergio** and **Odair Assad** (Oct. 14, Southern Theatre); **David Danzmayr**, music director-designate, will lead the orchestra in Schubert's *Symphony No. 8* ("Unfinished") (Jan. 26-27, Southern Theatre); "Recorder Virtuosa" will feature Danish recorder player **Michala Petri** (Feb. 23, Pontifical College Josephinum; Feb. 24, Southern Theatre); **Joshua Roman** will be the soloist in the premiere of **Aaron Jay Kernis' Concerto for Cello and Chamber Orchestra** in the farewell concert of Music Director **Timothy Russell** (April 20-21, Southern Theatre).

• **Opera Columbus** at the Southern Theatre will present Mozart's *The Magic Flute* performed by Toronto's **Opera Atelier** (April 27-28) and *H.M.S. Pinafore* performed by the **New York Gilbert & Sullivan Players** (June 8-9), with both productions featuring the **Opera Columbus Chorus** and the **Columbus Symphony**. Opera Columbus and **Shadowbox Live** will present an abridged version of *La Boheme* (Sundays, Oct. 14 to Nov. 18, Shadowbox Live Backstage Bistro).

• **Opera Project Columbus** will present "An Evening With the Inis," featuring selections from Bellini, Puccini and Rossini (Oct. 19, First Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbus).

• For the 65th season, **Chamber Music Columbus** concerts will include the **St. Lawrence String Quartet** (Sept. 15); pianist **Spencer Myer** (Oct. 6); the **Kronos Quartet**

(Jan. 19); and **A Far Cry Chamber Ensemble** (March 9), all at the Southern Theatre.

• **Early Music in Columbus** will present **Armonia Celeste** in "Udite Amanti — Lovers Beware!" with 17th-century music (Sept. 28, Mees Hall, Capital University); the **Farallon Recorder Quartet** (Oct. 26, Mees Hall); **Patrick Ball & the Medieval Beasts** (Feb. 1, Mees Hall); and the **Newberry Consort** (March 22, St. Joseph Cathedral).

• The **CityMusic Columbus** season includes **PROJECT Trio** (Oct. 28, Via Vecchia Winery); flutist and songwriter **Bill Miller** (Nov. 4, Via Vecchia Winery); Israeli singer-songwriter **David Broza** (Nov. 14, Lincoln Theatre); and **Hans and Utpola Utter** in "Silk Road Journey: An Evening of Indo-Persian Music" (Nov. 30, Lincoln Theatre).

• The **Carpe Diem String Quartet** will start its "Seize the Music" series at the Harrison West Community Center with "Welcome to the Jungle" (Sept. 15-16), followed by "Room of Wonders" with guest banjoist **Jayne Stone** (Oct. 20-21).

• The **Columbus Gay Men's Chorus** season will include "Joy! To the World" (Dec. 7-8, King Avenue United Methodist Church; Dec. 9, Lord of Life Lutheran Church); the **Vox** ensemble's "What I Did for Love" (Feb. 15-16, Columbus Performing Arts Center); and the **Illuminati** ensemble's "Songs of the Spirit" (May 19, Worthington United Methodist Church).

• **Women in Music Columbus** will spotlight female composers, including **Rain Worthington** and **Molly Joyce** (Oct. 7); **Jerry Casey** (Nov. 4); and **Elizabeth Lauer** and **Gisela Hernandez** (Feb. 17), all at Huntington Recital Hall, Capital University.

• Russian guitarist **Vladimir Gorbach** will open the **Columbus Guitar Society** season at Capital University's Huntington Recital Hall (Oct. 27); **Karl Wohlwend** of Columbus will perform baroque music (Feb. 23).

• **Congregational Concerts** at First Congregational Church will open with "Choral Evensong" with the First Church Choir (Oct. 21); organist **Christopher Marks** will give a recital

(Nov. 18).

• The **Triune Concert Series** at St. John's Evangelical Protestant Church will include the **Raise Gospel Choir** (Jan. 18); "Mostly Mozart" with pianist **Per Enflo** and violinist **Hristo Popov** (Feb. 8); and the **Brass Band of Columbus** and the **Central Ohio Brass Band** (Feb. 22).

• The **Trinity Lutheran Seminary Choir** with soloists and a chamber orchestra will perform Mozart's *Requiem* (Nov. 2, Gloria Dei Worship Center, Trinity Lutheran Seminary).

• **Cathedral Concerts** at St. Joseph Cathedral will include "Parish Musicians," featuring five Diocese of

Columbus music directors (Sept. 23); Seattle organist **Mel Butler** (Oct. 28); “Complete Choral Works of Maurice Durufle” with the cathedral choir and organist **Robert Wisniewski** (Nov. 11); and Handel’s *Messiah* with the cathedral choir and chamber orchestra (Dec. 14, St. Paul Church, Westerville; Dec. 16, St. Joseph Cathedral).

- **Sunday at Central** concerts, at the Columbus Museum of Art, will include composer Olivier Messiaen’s *Quartet for the End of Time* (Oct. 28); **Canaletto Ensemble** (March 17); and “Beethoven!” with pianist **Peter Takacs** and cellist **Robert de Maine** (April 7).

- The **Second Sunday** series will open with cellist **Kurt Harrison** and flutist **Erin Helgeson-Torres** performing compositions by Bach, Piazzola and Villa-Lobos (Sept. 9, Highlands Presbyterian Church).

- The **Ohio State University Contemporary Music Festival** will feature concerts held in conjunction with the Society of Composers national conference (Feb. 13-16, Weigel Hall).

- **Capriccio! Vocal Ensemble** concerts will include highlights of its 2011 season, including works by Mozart, Gershwin and Rutter (Oct. 7) and a musical celebration of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. (Jan. 21, both at Worthington United Methodist Church).

- The **Jefferson Academy of Music Signature Series** and the Melton Center for Jewish Studies at Ohio State University will present “Mystical Melodies and Raucous Celebrations” with the **Con Fuoco Duo** of pianist **Steven Glaser** and clarinetist **Robert Walzel**, with cellist **Mark Rudoff** (Oct. 14, Columbus Museum of Art).

- The **Thursday Night Concert Series** will present the **Apollo Winds** woodwind quintet (Nov. 15, McConnell Arts Center, Worthington).

- The **Central Ohio Symphony** season will include the premiere of Sonia I. Morales-Matos’ *Divertimento Caribeno No. 4* with cellist **Jesus Morales-Matos** (Oct. 13); pianist **Michael Chertock** performing Gershwin’s *Rhapsody in Blue* (April 27); and a “Becoming America” program

(May 25), all at Gray Chapel, Ohio Wesleyan University.

- The **Greater Columbus Community Orchestra** will present “Tales, Tunes and Trombones” at the Old Hilliardfest (Sept. 8, downtown Hilliard); “Bookends of the Romantic Era” will feature Beethoven’s *Symphony No. 1* and Brahms’ *Violin Concerto* with soloist **Arianne Sletner** (Nov. 11, Covenant Presbyterian Church, Upper Arlington); “A Hungarian March” will feature pianist **Judit Bach** (March 10, Hilliard Presbyterian Church).

- The **Lancaster Chorale** season will offer “. . . of Exceptional Beauty” with violinist **Tara Vinson** and the **Lancaster Fairfield Youth Choir** (Oct. 14, St. Mary of the Assumption Church, Lancaster); “Lancaster Chorale Sings & Swings!” including the **Mark Flugge Trio** (March 2, the Lodge, Lancaster); and a program with the youth choir and the Lancaster Community Band (May 5, Faith Memorial Church, Lancaster).

- The **Lancaster Music Club** will present its 25th annual “Mostly American” concert (Feb. 3, First Presbyterian Church, Lancaster).

- In its fifth season, the **New Albany Symphony Orchestra** will be joined by Grammy Award-winning violinist **Hilary Hahn** in Erich Wolfgang Korngold’s *Violin Concerto* (Oct. 28); “Shall We Dance?” will feature Latin American music and dance (Feb. 10); Grammy Award-winning cellist **David Finckel** will join the orchestra’s music director, **Luis Biava**, in Vivaldi’s *Two Cello Concerto* (April 6, McCoy Community Center for the Arts).

- The **Newark-Granville Symphony Orchestra** will kick off its eighth season with “Passion and Prodigy,” featuring 9-year-old pianist **Gavin George** in Beethoven’s *Piano Concerto No. 3* (Oct. 21); “Dvorak in Detail” will include cellist **Luis Biava** performing Dvorak’s *Cello Concerto in B Minor* (March 3), both at the Midland Theatre, Newark.

- Philadelphia tubaist **Carol Jantsch** will open the **Springfield Symphony Orchestra** season with Vaughan Williams’ *Tuba Concerto* (Sept. 29); the **Cirque de la Symphonie** will visit (Dec. 1); and **Alexander Schimpf**, Cleveland International Piano Competition winner, will perform Mozart’s *Piano Concerto No. 22* (March 16), all at the Clark State Performing Arts Center, Springfield.

- The **Westerville Symphony at Otterbein University** will open its 30th season with violinist **Daniel Bernard Roumain** performing his *Voodoo Violin Concerto No. 1* (Oct. 14); pianist **Nicholas Ross** will perform Chopin’s *Piano Concerto No. 1* (April 7), both at Cowan Hall, Otterbein University.
- The **Westerville Concert Band** will perform its Fall Concert (Nov. 18, Westerville Central High School).
- The **Columbus Women’s Chorus** will present “Friends and Family” (Nov. 18, St. Patrick’s Episcopal Church, Dublin).
- The **Dublin Wind Symphony** will open its season with a Halloween-themed concert (Oct. 14, Dublin Scioto High School).
- Bethany Presbyterian Church will present violinist **Felix Farrar** with pianist **Philip Skerrett** (Oct. 11, King Arts Complex).
- The Columbus Mennonite Church will present pianist **Mark Swartzentruber** (Oct. 28).
- The **Afiara String Quartet** will kick off the season for **Chamber Music Yellow Springs** (Sept. 30); other concerts will include the **Calefax Reed Quintet** (Nov. 18) and the **Vienna Piano Trio** (Feb. 24), all in First Presbyterian Church, Yellow Springs.

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