

FEBRUARY 1, 2025



JULIA TAI, MUSIC DIRECTOR



Present

SHERLOCK HOLMES

AND THE MISSING MAESTRA

JULIA TAI, Music Director GALEN FOTT, Actor 2025 FAMILY CONCERT 70th Season, 2024-2025

Mikhail Glinka	Overture to Russian and Ludmilla
Douglas A. Richard	Sherlock's Entrance
John Williams	Superman March
Douglas A. Richard	Scherzo from A Midsummer Night's Dream
Henry Mancini	Theme from <i>The Pink Panther</i>
Piotr Llyich Tchaikovsky	II. Waltz from Serenade for Springs, Op. 48
Rafael Hernández	El Cumbanchero
Amilcare Ponchielli	
Johann Strauss, Jr	Thunder and Lightning Polka
Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky	Symphony No. 4 in F minor, Op. 36
IV Finals, Allegre con fuece (F major)	

IV. Finale: Allegro con fuoco (F major)

Galen Fott is a Nashville-based actor, singer, director, animator, and puppeteer. He appeared last season with the Nashville Symphony, where he sang the role of Monsieur Dauphin in the world premiere of Hannibal Lokumbe's *The Jonah People*. Other recent Nashville roles include Mr. Mister in *The Cradle Will Rock* with Nashville Opera, Leontes in *The Winter's Tale*, Torvald in *A Doll's House, Part 2*, Father in *Ragtime*, Oliver Warbucks in *Annie*, and King Triton in *The Little Mermaid*. Elsewhere, he has played the title roles in *Cyrano, Phantom*,



and Jesus Christ Superstar; King Arthur in Camelot; Archibald Craven in The Secret Garden; and Matt Friedman in Talley's Folly. In 1991, Fott originated the role of Gaston in the still-running Beauty and the Beast stage show at Walt Disney World.

In his related career as a director and animator, Fott has adapted over two dozen children's books into award-winning films for Scholastic/Weston Woods. For these films, he directed the vocal talents of Sean Hayes, Anika Noni Rose, Paul Giamatti, Stanley Tucci, Steve Buscemi, and Joanne Woodward. Fott's work has screened at the Guggenheim, Sydney Opera House, National Gallery of Art, Brooklyn Academy of Music, and the Philharmonie de Paris.

Born in Clarksville, Tennessee, Fott graduated from the University of Memphis with a BFA in Theatre Performance. After spending years in New York, Houston, Vancouver, and Orlando, he now lives in Nashville with his wife Laura and son Burton. www.galenfott.com

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Hello, families!

Today you will **see** orchestra musicians and their instruments, as well as an actor, props and costume. You will **hear** music, the voice of our conductor and Music Director, Julia Tai, and a story told by the actor. You will **experience** a really fun, interactive show, designed just for you!

At our Family Concert this year, the orchestra will play 10 wonderful pieces by 9 different composers. These pieces help the actor tell a Sherlock Holmes story—a great, musical mystery. Some of these musical pieces are big and exciting, while some are quiet or silly. Some are fast, and some are slow. Through all of these, you learn will about the instruments, the orchestra, and how music works.

We are very excited that you are here, and we look forward to sharing beautiful music with you!

The Composers

A composer is someone who writes (composes) music. Some composers work by writing music down on paper; this is called 'written notation'. Classical music writers work this way. Writers for TV and movie music also usually write this way, so that an orchestra or other players can read the music and play it.



Overture to Russian and Ludmilla

Mikhail Glinka is considered to be the father of modern Russian music. His nationalistic style was like a seed that influenced all the Russian composers who followed, from Rimsky-Korsakov to Tchaikovsky to Stravinsky.

Born in 1804, Glinka enjoyed music and studied piano from a young age. As an adult, he first worked in a government position. During this time, he became

friends with the poet Alexander Pushkin. Later, he travelled to Italy and Germany to study music composition. With the knowledge of Europe's leading composers and teachers as a foundation, he returned home to create music that would sound and feel distinctly Russian.

Russlan and Ludmilla was Glinka's second opera, first performed in 1842. The story of the opera is based on a satirical fairy tale by Glinka's friend, Pushkin. An opera overture is played by an orchestra, without singers, and it introduces the musical themes and ideas of the opera. This overture starts with a rhythmic and very fast theme. The second theme, played by the cellos and violins, is slow and lyrical, like a dance. After this, you will hear a boisterous and heroic ending.



Symphony No. 4, IV. Finale

Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky was born in Votkinsk, a town in Russia's Ural Mountains in 1840. When he was 8 years old, his family moved to the capital city of St. Petersburg. Even though Tchaikovsky showed musical talent from a young age, being musician wasn't considered an "acceptable" profession.

While he attended law school, Tchaikovsky continued to study music. Eventually, he gave up his legal job and studied music at the St. Petersburg Conservatory. After

he graduated, he moved to Moscow to teach at the new conservatory there. During this time, he developed his uniquely Russian style of composition.

For years, Tchaikovsky had a patroness named Nadezhda von Meck — a wealthy widow who was a big fan of Tchaikovsky's music. She regularly sent him money so that he could concentrate on composing without having to worry about making a living. Tchaikovsky traveled all over Europe for performances of his music. In 1891, he even came to America for the opening of Carnegie Hall, where he was invited to conduct his music.

Today, you will hear the last movement of Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4, a work he dedicated to his patroness. The first theme is big and lively. Listen for the crashing cymbals and very fast notes in the string sections. The second theme includes a famous Russian folk song. The piece ends with an exciting and triumphant coda. Every single musician will be playing as loudly as they can!

Superman March

John Williams is the most well-known living composer of film music, and he has received more Oscar nominations than any other man now alive. His music has a distinct sound that mixes romanticism, impressionism, and atonal music with complex orchestration.



Williams was born in Queens, New York in 1932. He moved to Los Angeles when he was 16 years old. After serving in the Air Force, Williams returned to New York to study piano at the famed Juilliard School. While there, he worked as a jazz pianist, both in nightclubs and on recordings. After college, he went back to Los Angeles to begin his career in the film industry. Since that time, he has composed music for over 100 movies and over 200 television episodes. A few famous movies that feature music by Williams are Star Wars, Home Alone, and Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone.

Superman March is part of the score that Williams wrote for the movie Superman (1978), which was directed by Richard Donner. The march starts with a fanfare played by the French horns, trumpets, and trombones, introducing a three-note motif that has since become very famous. When Donner first heard the studio orchestra playing this motif, he interrupted the musicians to exclaim, "The music actually says 'Superman'!" Listen closely to the brass instruments and see if you can hear "SU-per-MAN", too!

A Symphony Orchestra is a group of musicians playing many different instruments. They all work together with the conductor to create beautiful music. When you watch the concert, look for these instruments on stage.

String

The String Instruments are instruments with strings on them! They are played by either pulling a bow across the strings or using fingers to pluck them. This makes the strings vibrate, and the wooden box of the instrument amplifies the sound. At our concert, look for violins, violas, cellos, and double basses.



Percussion

Percussion instruments are played by either striking (with hands, sticks or mallets), shaking, or scraping. Some percussion instruments, like the triangle, are non-pitched and are used for rhythms. Some percussion instruments, like the xylophone, are pitched and are used for melodies. The timpani is a pitched drum that uses a pedal to change pitches.

Brass



The Brass instruments

at our concert will be trumpets, French horns, trombones and tubas. They are played by buzzing the lips into a cup-shaped mouthpiece attached to long pipes. To change pitches, the player uses their fingers to press valves that look like buttons—except for the trombone! This instrument uses a long slide to change pitches.



The Woodwind instruments include flutes, oboes, clarinets, bassoons, and saxophones. Woodwind players blow into or across their instrument's mouthpiece while opening or closing the its holes with their fingers. Some woodwinds use a wooden reed on the mouthpiece.

PRO TIP: Listen for the special note "A" that the oboe plays before the concert begins and you will see all the players tune their instruments.

EDUCATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

For more than 40 years, education and community engagement have been at the heart of the Missoula Symphony Association's mission. That commitment has grown steadily under the stewardship of Musical Director Julia Tai. This season the Missoula Symphony Association is proud to present the following programs throughout the region:

SYMPHONY KIDS @ MISSOULA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Julia Tai presents a series of four mini concerts in the Library's Imaginarium focusing on the instruments of the orchestra and quest artists from our 2024-2025 season.

4:30-5:30 PM AT THE MISSOULA PUBLIC LIBRARY IMAGINARIUM

Wednesday, February 26, 2025: Woodwind Quintet Wednesday, April 9, 2025: Percussion Duo

BRANCH LIBRARY CONCERTS

Small ensembles of Symphony members perform mini-concerts in Missoula County's rural communities during the summer months.

STUDENT NIGHT @DRESS REHEARSAL

Students and families are invited to join the Symphony for the dress rehearsal preceding each Masterworks Concert, enhanced by educational materials and a short talk by Music Director Julia Tai.

7:00 PM AT THE DENNISON THEATRE

Friday, February 28, 2025: Dance! Friday, April 11, 2025: Verdi's Requiem

SYMPHONY IN THE SCHOOLS

Symphony musicians visit Missoula-area middle schools and high schools to perform and coach music students.

MISSOULA YOUTH SYMPHONY SIDE-BY-SIDE

Music Director Julia Tai works with the Missoula Youth Symphony during their rehearsals, and members of MYS perform alongside the Missoula Symphony in a Masterworks concert

UM/MSA STRING CAMP

This collaboration between the MSA and the UM School of Music welcomes students entering 1st grade through recent high school graduates. The camp offers beginning through advanced instruction on bass, cello, viola and violin. A residential option is available for students entering 8th grade and up. All this takes place in a safe, fun musical environment that encourages all campers to achieve their very best.

Mark your calendars for June 22-27, 2025 and visit our website for more details.

For more information, visit missoulasymphony.org/education





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JULIA TAL MUSIC DIRECTOR

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