The Journey Begins...

Dear Friends and Supporters of the YSO:

A Baroque Beginning

On October 8th, together, we will embark on a year-long Musical Journey Through Time, as the Yakima Valley Classical Series premieres with a Baroque Beginning. The orchestra as a musical ensemble, and the music written for it, came into being during the Baroque period—approximately 1600 to 1750. At this concert, we will feature the greatest and most influential composers of that time period, namely Johann Sebastian Bach, George Frideric Handel, and Antonio Vivaldi. From Bach we will perform the Orchestral Suite No. 3 that includes the famous “Air on the G String,” one of the single most beautiful pieces of music ever written. From Handel, we will play the joyous “Arrival of the Queen of Sheba” from the opera Solomon. And, from Vivaldi, we will offer one of the most enduringly popular pieces of all time, The Four Seasons.

This piece is actually a compilation of four short violin concertos, each one depicting a different season: Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter. Along with the music, we will present a slide show of photographs of the four seasons in Yakima that we have collected and assembled from local artists. Our guest soloist for The Four Seasons will be an incredible violinist named Martin Chalifour, who holds the distinguished position of Concertmaster of the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra. Finally, the concert will also include music of Christoph Willibald Gluck, a transitional composer who bridged the gap between the Baroque and Classical periods—a nice segue into our next concert, Classical Classics.

On October 29th, we will resurrect an old Yakima Symphony Orchestra tradition—the annual Halloween Spooktacular. This will be an afternoon family concert at which everyone—the orchestra, the chorus and the audience, both children and adults—is required (OK, not required, but highly encouraged) to come in costume. We will have costume contests, prizes, and opportunities to show off your costumes on stage. The music for this concert will be quite varied, from classical music used in horror films to cult classics such as The Rocky Horror Picture Show and The Monster Mash! I’m bringing my entire family to this concert, and I encourage you to bring yours!

We look forward to seeing you at the Capitol Theatre on October 8th for A Baroque Beginning and on October 29th for the Halloween Spooktacular!

Sincerely,

Lawrence Golan
The Helen N. Jewett Music Director
Yakima Symphony Orchestra

Stay in touch for music, podcasts and concert information. ysomusic.org

THE YAKIMA VALLEY CLASSICAL SERIES

Saturday, October 8, 2016 • 7:30pm
The Capitol Theatre
Lawrence Golan, conductor

Martin Chalifour, violin –
Concertmaster of the Los Angeles Philharmonic

A Baroque Beginning
Vivaldi’s Four Seasons,
with music of Bach, Handel and Gluck

Photo: Eric Chalifour

Guest Artist Sponsor: Neal F. Lessenger

THE GILBERT ORCHARDS POPS SERIES

Saturday, October 29, 2016
4:00pm – The Capitol Theatre

Halloween Spooktacular
Lawrence Golan, conductor
Yakima Symphony Chorus;
Justin Raffa, chorusmaster
Family matinee; costume contest!

Concert Sponsor: Tree Top

TICKETS: (509) 853-ARTS (2787)
For online purchases, link via www.ysomusic.org

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(509) 248-1414
From the Executive Director

This month we shift gears from the Beatles to Bach on stage, and we introduce our first community collaboration of the season off the stage: the Four Seasons Photo Exhibit at Essencia Bakery, which will run through October. Curated by David Lynx, Director of the Larson Gallery, and inspired by Vivaldi’s *Four Seasons* – both the music and the words – the exhibit showcases striking images of Yakima’s four seasons by local photographers, some of which (as Maestro Golan has mentioned) will be incorporated into our performance on October 8th. Many thanks to David Lynx, the Larson Gallery, Essencia, and the photographers for sharing this work with us!

As you may have noticed at our sold-out (!) Classical Mystery Tour show last month, the Capitol Theatre has introduced a new ticketing system which allows for scanning of bar codes rather than collection of physical ticket stubs. While in time this will make it much easier and quicker to enter the theater for concerts and other events, it might be prudent this month to arrive a little bit earlier than usual to concerts until the kinks have been worked out of the system. And please be kind to the theater’s ushers and box office staff; especially in the box office, many are new to the theater this season, and everyone is learning their way around new procedures, software and equipment. Note also that you may be asked for identification when picking up tickets at will-call; if you leave your tickets there for someone else, please give the box office the name of one of the individuals who will actually pick them up. We are excited about the new ticketing system (and the new carpet!), and grateful for the long hours everyone at the Capitol is investing to enhance our experience at the theater.

Finally, I hope you have had a chance to browse through our program book for this season, with photos from Yakima’s own ‘Journey Through Time’ thanks to Ginger Hislop, John Baule and the Yakima Valley Museum – and look for a supplemental publication at mid-season with even more photos and tales from Yakima’s fascinating past. Orchestral music has been an important part of Yakima’s heritage and identity for over 130 years, and we at the YSO are indeed privileged to help carry that legacy forward. I look forward to seeing you at our concerts this month!

David Rogers, Executive Director
Yakima Symphony Orchestra

Lunch With Lawrence
Friday, October 7 • 11:30am – 1:00pm
Zesta Cucina Restaurant, $25
Join Maestro Lawrence Golan for a lovely light lunch and convivial conversation about the pieces and composers featured on the YSO’s *A Baroque Beginning* concert on October 8. Please contact the YSO office (509-248-1414) or info@ysomusic.org to place your ticket order.

Open Rehearsal
Saturday, October 8
A Baroque Beginning
10:30am – 1:00pm • The Capitol Theatre
See the final touches being put on the evening’s program! Our dress rehearsals for *The Yakima Valley Classical Series* concerts at the Capitol Theatre are open to the public, and FREE to those who bring a canned food donation to benefit Northwest Harvest. Cash donations to the YSO are also welcome. Ideal for families and for other patrons unable to attend evening concerts.

ConcerTalk
Saturday, October 8
A Baroque Beginning
6:25pm in The Capitol Theatre
Main Performance Hall
Join YSO Principal Horn Jeff Snedeker before the concert for an inside look into the evening’s program. Dr. Snedeker’s informative and entertaining presentations have become so popular we’ve had to move them into a larger space!

RBC Wealth Management is a proud sponsor of the Yakima Symphony Orchestra

Celebrating 22 years of volunteer and financial support to Yakima Valley organizations who share our commitment to making the Yakima Valley a better place to live and work.

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Affiliate & Partnership Updates

Yakima Symphony Chorus (YSC)
Justin Raffa, Chorusmaster

The Yakima Symphony Chorus would like to thank Tanya Knickerbocker for her three years of service as chair. The Governing Committee made a lot of progress under her leadership and wishes to express their gratitude for all her hard work. Leadership in a volunteer position is generally a thankless job so we want to tell the world we appreciate her immensely!

We are also proud and excited to welcome new members to our roster for the Halloween Spooktacular and for the rest of the 2016-2017 season. If you would like to join, please contact Justin Raffa (chorusmaster@ysomusic.org) or Steven Slusher for more information. Please visit our web page at www.ysomusic.org and find us under the “About” tab for more information. As always, we welcome new members to join us Monday nights from 7:00-9:15pm at St. Paul’s Cathedral. We’ll have music waiting for you!

Yakima Youth Symphony Orchestra (YYSO) & Yakima Ensemble for Strings (YES!) YYSO.ORG
Bruce Walker, YYSO Conductor / Christy Baisinger, YES! Conductor

The youth symphony ensembles welcome the 2016-17 season with 51 YYSO members and 16 YES members. While the bulk of youth symphony auditions occur in the spring, followed by a short round in the fall, rolling auditions/enrollment are possible at other times during the season. For information, please contact the YYSO Governing Committee via the Contact Us form on the website. Our goal is to grow the YYSO to 80 members and YES to 30 members in order to share the live orchestral performance experience with as many youth in our Valley community as possible.

- October 9, Sunday, 1:00pm at the Yakima Adventist Christian School’s Harvest Festival - FREE!
- December 3, Saturday, 11:00am at the Yakima Valley Museum: Holiday Performance @ the Yakima Valley Museum Holiday Open House – FREE!
- December 11, Sunday, 3:00pm at the Capitol Theatre: Winter Concert – FREE!
- February 26, Sunday at 3:00pm at the Capitol Theatre: KinderKonzert – FREE!
- March 17, Friday at 7:00pm at the Harman Center: Waltzing With the Youth Symphony Fundraiser - $15 per ticket
- April 23, Sunday at 3:00pm at the Capitol Theatre: Spring Concert – FREE!

Yakima Music en Acción (YAMA)
Stephanie Hsu, Director

Recruitment and enrollment at Yakima Music en Acción (YAMA) are well under way, as the program gears up to start new students at Garfield at the start of October and to begin YAMA Philharmonia at Davis High School in the middle of October. YAMA’s first event for the year, a Seattle Symphony Take-over and Open House, will take place on Thursday, October 27th at Garfield Elementary School. The YAMA Chamber Orchestra will be performing on Friday, November 18th at the Annual Conference of the Washington State School Directors’ Association (WSSDA) in Spokane. Further details on all events will be posted on www.yamamusicrock.org/events.

Meet The Orchestra!

Children learn what they live…
The YSO joins the Yakima Valley Museum on the first Wednesday of each month at 10:00am at their children’s story hour. FREE!

Wednesday, October 5th
Wednesday, November 2nd

Meet The Orchestra.

Four Seasons Art Exhibit
Celebrating the four seasons through the magical lens of the Yakima Valley

September 30–October 31, 2016
Essencia Artisan Bakery
4 North 3rd Street, Yakima, WA

YSO! Share the experience of live symphonic music with others in our community—bring friends and acquaintances to our concerts, give your tickets to others when you can’t attend and help us tell all of the Yakima Valley what a remarkable treasure we have in our symphony.
**Martin Chalifour**

Martin Chalifour began his tenure as principal concertmaster of the Los Angeles Philharmonic in 1995. The recipient of various grants and awards in his native Canada, he graduated with honors from the Montreal Conservatory at the age of eighteen and then moved to Philadelphia to pursue studies at the Curtis Institute of Music.

Chalifour received a Certificate of Honor at the Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, and he is also a laureate of the Montreal International Competition. Apart from his Philharmonic duties he maintains an active solo career, playing a diverse repertoire of more than fifty concertos. Chalifour has appeared as soloist with conductors Pierre Boulez, Gustavo Dudamel, Charles Dutoit, Christoph Eschenbach, Sir Neville Marriner and Esa-Pekka Salonen. Outside the United States, he played solo with the Auckland Philharmonia, the Montreal Symphony, the Hong Kong Philharmonic, the National Orchestra of Taiwan and the Malaysian Philharmonic, among others.

Chalifour began his orchestral career with the late Robert Shaw and the Atlanta Symphony, playing as associate concertmaster for six years. Subsequently he occupied the same position for five years in the Cleveland Orchestra, where he also served as acting concertmaster under Christoph von Dohnányi. While in Cleveland, Chalifour taught at the Cleveland Institute of Music and was a founding member of the Cleveland Orchestra Piano Trio.

Chalifour is a frequent guest at several summer music festivals, including the Sarasota Festival and the Mainly Mozart Festival. Maintaining close ties with his native country, he has returned there often to teach and perform as soloist with various Canadian orchestras. He is scheduled to inaugurate the 2017-18 season in Hamilton, Canada with the Tchaikovsky concerto.

Martin Chalifour has recorded solo and chamber music for the Telarc, Northstar and Yarlung labels. His latest album on Yarlung features solo music composed by Esa-Pekka Salonen and Steven Stucky, as well as Mozart and Lutoslawski concertos with the Los Angeles Philharmonic recorded live at Walt Disney Concert Hall.

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**Program Notes**

*A Baroque Beginning*—Suites, concertos and opera overtures were the predecessors to the modern symphony. We begin our Musical Journey Through Time with a program of important contributions to the symphony’s development from some of the greatest Baroque composers.

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**George Frideric Handel**

*(February 23/March 5, 1685–April 14, 1759)*

*Entrance of the Queen of Sheba*  
*from Solomon, HWV 67*  
*(1748)*

Born in Germany, Handel received training and achieved early success in Halle, Hamburg and Italy as a composer of vocal music. He was also a fine organist. He was invited to England for a series of performances of his music in 1710, and the resulting attention and success led him to settle permanently in London in 1712. His combination of Italian lyricism and German counterpoint gave his compositions an appeal that was shared by critics and the general public, making him almost as famous as his contemporary, J. S. Bach, in Europe at the time. His shift from Italian-styled opera to oratorio was key to his success in England, where he became a naturalized citizen in 1727. By the end of his life, he was seen as one of the great composers of the preceding era.

*Solomon* is an oratorio in English based on the biblical stories of King Solomon. The music was composed between May 5 and June 13, 1748, and the first performance took place on March 17, 1749, at the Covent Garden Theatre in London. The “Entrance of the Queen of Sheba” is a short and celebratory piece for two oboes and strings in Act Three, where the Queen of the ancient kingdom of Sheba arrives at Solomon’s court for a state visit. The piece has become famous on its own, featured in many different settings, including the London Olympics in 2012.

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**Christoph Willibald Gluck**

*(July 2, 1714-November 15, 1787)*

*“Dance of the Furies” and “Dance of the Blessed Spirits,” from Orfeo ed Euridice*  
*(1762)*

Born in Germany and raised in Bohemia, Gluck is viewed as a transitional opera composer between the Baroque and Classical periods. In the 1760s, he changed the course of opera by taking the best of French, German and Italian styles and combining them with “Beautiful Simplicity.” One of the obvious “simplifications” is the lack of virtuosic display which not only helped the music to integrate better with the plot, but also presented fewer distractions for the audience.

*Orfeo ed Euridice* (Orpheus and Eurydice) tells the story of Orpheus of Greek mythology, the famous poet and singer who could charm wild animals with his music. When his wife Eurydice dies he follows her to Hades and wins her back by his art with the condition that he should not look at her until he reaches the world again. In some versions, he does turn around and lose her, but other plot twists occasionally find ways to reunite the lovers. It was first performed in Vienna in October of 1762, and it is the most popular of Gluck’s works.

In Act Two, Orpheus descends into the Underworld, arriving at the gates of Hell. The music depicting the gates themselves, the Dance of the Furies, vividly depicts the leaping flames and billowing smoke with agitated rhythms, flashing melodic figures, and dramatic dynamic contrasts. Once through the gates, he
arrives at the Elysian Fields, a beautiful, almost heaven-like place, where he sees Eurydice, and we hear the Dance of the Blessed Spirits. This is one of Gluck's best known and best loved pieces of music. Composed for solo flute and string orchestra, the first theme is pastoral and serene in mood, and magical in its beauty. The middle section is more intense, the perfect foil for the utter beauty of the opening section. The return of the opening seems even more beautiful because of where we have been. Beautiful simplicity, indeed.

The simplicity and clarity of the Dance of the Blessed Spirits have drawn audiences to the work since its premiere, and its popularity as a stand-alone piece was almost inevitable. But as with all great operatic music, its true dramatic power is felt when heard within the opera itself, or at least paired with the Dance of the Furies.

Johann Sebastian Bach
(March 21/31, 1685-July 28, 1750)
Orchestral Suite No. 3 in D major, BWV 1068
(ca. 1730)

Orchestral suites were very popular in the mid-eighteenth century and are important predecessors to the symphony. They generally consisted of stylized dances, with additional instrumental numbers, like overtures and airs, and using larger orchestral forces for outdoor or large-scale events. Of Bach's four orchestral suites, the third appears to have been composed around 1730, and the conjecture is that he wrote it for the Leipzig Collegium Musicum, a community musical group that performed throughout the city at various concert and ceremonial functions. The third is also the best known, largely due to the fame of the second movement, the famous "Air on the G string." Three out of the five movements are based on dance forms—two bold Gavottes combined into one, a spritely Bourrée, and an energetic Gigue. The famous Air is structured in two sections but composed much like a vocal aria. The suite begins, however, with a French overture—slow, majestic beginning, a fast imitative section, and a brief return to the opening material. All movements except for the Air are scored for three trumpets, timpani, two oboes, strings and continuo. The oboes rarely play independently of the violins in this work. Typical of the time, the trumpets and drums are used for color and emphasis.

Antonio Vivaldi
(March 4, 1678-July 28, 1741)
The Four Seasons, from Il Cimento dell’ armonia e dell’ inventione, op. 8
(1725)

This popular set of four concertos is part of a larger collection of twelve, entitled “The Contest between Harmony and Invention.” Harmony, in this case, is the rational side of music, and Invention is the imagination, and this “battle” was a key aesthetic issue for many composers in the transition from Baroque to Classical music in the eighteenth century. Viewed as one of the earliest examples of true “program” music, there is an added twist to this collection of “seasonal” concertos which is highlighted in this performance. Vivaldi wrote sonnets to go with each of these pieces: the Spring poem speaks of birds, streams, flowers, grass, and eventually shepherds (with faithful dog barking from the viola section in the second movement) and shepherdesses dancing to the sound of bagpipes. Summer's hot sun is the next focus, quickly giving way to late summer winds and storms. Autumn is filled with sounds of harvest and hunting, while Winter is dark and cold, with slippery ice and chilling winds.
Justin Raffa

Currently chorusmaster for the Yakima Symphony Orchestra and artistic director of the Mid-Columbia Mastersingers, Justin Raffa relocated to the Tri-Cities in August 2008 from Tucson, where he received a Master of Music degree in choral conducting from the University of Arizona. Since his arrival in central Washington, Justin has endeavored to build increased collaboration within the local performing arts community. In addition to his current choral leadership roles, Justin served for five years as orchestra manager of the Mid-Columbia Symphony and chorusmaster of the Oregon East Symphony in Pendleton. Justin has also served as an actor, music director and board member with Mid-Columbia Musical Theatre, music director with Columbia Basin College Summer Showcase productions, and music director at All Saints Episcopal Church in Richland. Additionally, Justin has served as an adjudicator for local festivals and competitions for local music and theatre education associations. Justin currently serves the local board of the American Choral Directors Association as Repertoire & Standards Chair for Community Choirs in Washington State. Justin is a passionate advocate for the arts in the community, and the City of Richland Arts Commission honored him with its 2011 award for Outstanding Individual Contribution to the Arts.

Originally from South Jersey, Justin is a graduate of Westminster Choir College of Rider University in Princeton, where he received a BM in music education with a vocal concentration, having studied conducting and group vocal technique with James Jordan. Justin has sung as part of the Berkshire Choral Festival, Spoleto Festival USA, Voces Novae et Antiquae, the Tucson Symphony Orchestra Chorus, the Berwick Chorus of the Oregon Bach Festival, and he continues to perform as a founding member of the Tucson Chamber Artists. Currently, Justin sings with Male Ensemble Northwest and Chor Anno, two regional ensembles made up of professional choral musicians in the Pacific Northwest. Most recently, Justin was appointed by Governor Jay Inslee to serve on the Washington State Arts Commission. Justin lives with his partner Molly Holleran, singer and voice teacher extraordinaire, and their long-haired dachshund Coda.

Yakima Symphony Chorus

The Yakima Symphony Chorus was formed in the spring of 1971 by the Yakima Symphony Orchestra’s founding music director, Brooke Creswell, as the official choral ensemble of the symphony. Dr. Scott Peterson led the chorus for 38 years from 1977-2015, during which time the chorus toured Europe and Asia and performed at Carnegie Hall. Justin Raffa has served as chorusmaster since 2015, and the current season marks Steven Slusher’s debut as assistant chorusmaster. The chorus rehearses on Monday evenings from September to May and is open to all singers in the community. For audition information, contact Mr. Raffa at chorusmaster@ysomusic.org.

THE ROGER AND BEVERLY VANDIVER 2016-17 SEASON

A Musical Journey Through Time

THE YAKIMA VALLEY CLASSICAL SERIES

A Baroque Beginning
October 8, 2016, 7:30pm
Lawrence Golan, conductor
Martin Chalifour, violin –
Concertmaster of the Los Angeles Philharmonic

Classical Classics–Gold Medal Concert
November 12, 2016, 7:30pm
Lawrence Golan, conductor
Alexander Kobrin, piano –
Van Cliburn Gold Medalist

The Romantics
February 4, 2017, 7:30pm
Lawrence Golan, conductor and violin
John Marshall, cello

A Brave New World
March 18, 2017, 7:30pm
Lawrence Golan, conductor
Denise Dillenbeck, violin
Tears of Joy Theatre

David Halsey Choral Series

The Yakima Symphony Chorus presents:

Opera Night – Die Fledermaus
April 29, 2017, 7:30pm
Lawrence Golan, conductor
Lamont Opera Theater

The Pinnacle: Beethoven’s 9th
May 13, 2017, 7:30pm
Lawrence Golan, conductor
Gayla Blaisdell, soprano
Melissa Schiel, mezzo-soprano
Ross Hauck, tenor
Charles Robert Stephens, baritone
Yakima Symphony Chorus;
Justin Raffa, chorusmaster

THE GILBERT ORCHARDS PO PS SERIES

Halloween Spooktacular
October 29, 2016, 4:00pm
Lawrence Golan, conductor
Yakima Symphony Chorus;
Justin Raffa, chorusmaster
Family matinee; costume contest!

All concerts at the Capitol Theatre.

THE GILBERT ORCHARDS PO PS SERIES

Halloween Spooktacular
October 29, 2016, 4:00pm
Lawrence Golan, conductor
Yakima Symphony Chorus;
Justin Raffa, chorusmaster
Family matinee; costume contest!

All concerts at the Capitol Theatre.

Christmas Pops Spectacular
December 3 and December 4, 2016, 4:00pm
Lawrence Golan, conductor
Yakima Symphony Chorus;
Justin Raffa, chorusmaster
Yakima Jazz Sextet
An annual holiday tradition!

John Williams – 85th Birthday Celebration
February 25, 2017, 7:30pm
Lawrence Golan, conductor
Favorite scores from one of the most iconic
film composers of all time.

Sports Orchestrated
April 8, 2017, 7:30pm
Lawrence Golan, conductor
Sports music from film to the Olympics

Raise the Baton Gala Fundraiser
Friday, May 5, 2017, 5:30pm
The 4th Street Theatre

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