Dear Friends and Supporters of the Yakima Symphony Orchestra:

On Saturday April 7th, we will make the next stop on the Rosemary A. C. Gottlieb 2017-18 Season, “A Musical Voyage Around the World,” with When in Rome. This program features two masterworks by Italian composer Ottorino Respighi: Fountains of Rome and Pines of Rome.

Written in 1916, Fountains of Rome is a fascinating piece. The composer has endeavored to musically depict four fountains throughout the city of Rome at four specific times of day. Specifically, we have the Valle Giulia Fountain at sunrise, the Triton Fountain in the morning, the Trevi Fountain at noon and the Villa Medici Fountain at sunset. In some cases, such as the Triton and Trevi Fountains, it is the scene portrayed in the fountain itself that is depicted musically. On the other hand, in the outer two movements, it is more the time of day—sunrise and sunset—that one hears in the music. Following the great success of Fountains of Rome, Respighi wrote a sequel to it and achieved even greater international acclaim for his Pines of Rome. On the surface, the piece is a musical depiction of pine trees in four different locations throughout Rome. However, what is really depicted are scenes taking place in those locations rather than the pine trees themselves. For example, the first movement, “Pine trees of the Villa Borghese,” depicts children at play in the Villa Borghese park. The last movement, “Pine trees of the Appian Way,” depicts the ancient Roman army marching along the Appian Way (a long road connecting southern Italy to Rome) and eventually arriving with splendor into the great capital city.

The program also includes two pieces written by non-Italians while they were on holiday in Italy: Tchaikovsky’s Capriccio italien and Mendelssohn’s Piano Concerto No. 1 featuring the Italian pianist Roberto Plano, Gold Medal Winner of the Cleveland International Piano Competition.

Classical Night Fever

Are you ready to get down tonight? Because there ain’t no stoppin’ us now! For the final performance of the Gilbert Orchards Pops Series, the Yakima Symphony Orchestra will be joined by Motor Booty Affair, the ultimate disco tribute band. If you plan on stayin’ alive, you should be dancin’ as we “burn, baby burn” in this disco inferno! We’re right down the street from the YMCA so be a macho man and break out those platform shoes and bell-bottoms. Oh what a night it will be! Feel free to dress in any ’70s and/or disco attire—you know we will!

We look forward to seeing you on April 7th and April 28th at the Capitol Theatre for When in Rome and Classical Night Fever!

Sincerely,

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

Stay in touch for concert and other information. ysomusic.org
From the Executive Director

Our March concert featured the unveiling of the Rosemary A. C. Gottlieb 2018-19 Season, Heroes! Accordingly, it is time for my annual exhortation for current subscribers to renew your subscriptions early. We can only guarantee your current seats if we receive your order form by May 30th, and subscribing by May 15th yields additional Early Bird benefits. For Pops Series subscribers, a renewal at our final series concert on April 28th (Classical Night Fever) enters you in a drawing for a Fabulous Prize; and those who subscribe before that date will be entered in a separate drawing. We look forward to a season of inspired and heroic performances!

Our season brochure also broke another bit of news: the return of our outdoor summer concerts at the stunning Cave B Summer Music Theatre. Due in part to a late scheduling complication, we will present only two concerts this summer; but they will both be spectacular, musically and otherwise! On Sunday, June 24th, two musical heroes from different centuries will face off, with Beethoven’s Third Symphony (“Eroica”) and music by iconic living film composer John Williams. Eight weeks later, on Sunday, August 19th, the Yakima Symphony Chorus will join us for a program of three works about battling Napoleon: Tchaikovsky’s 1812 Overture, Beethoven’s Wellington’s Victory and Haydn’s Lord Nelson Mass. This summer’s concerts will begin at 8:00pm – additional details and tickets are available starting March 29th at www.ysomusic.org or by phone at (509) 248-1414.

Finally, if you’ve attended our concerts over the past two months you might have noticed something different on stage. For the past forty years, YSO musicians have performed from the same set of blue chairs purchased when the Capitol Theatre was restored and became the symphony’s primary venue. These chairs were not designed for musicians, and over the decades they have become increasingly uncomfortable given the amount of time our musicians spend sitting in them each concert weekend. Beginning with our February 3rd concert, we have been using black chairs designed specifically for the varied playing postures of symphony musicians, purchased late last year through a generous gift of Dick and Carolyn Schactler. In keeping with their long-standing advocacy for the welfare of Yakima Valley musicians and on behalf of our musical community, the Schactlers have chosen a gift that will improve the working conditions of YSO musicians for decades to come. At the beginning of our April 7th concert, we will recognize the Schactlers on stage; please join YSO as we express appreciation for this remarkable and thoughtful investment in the long-term health of our musicians.

See you at the Symphony!

David Rogers, Executive Director
Yakima Symphony Orchestra
Affiliate & Partnership Updates

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

Please join the youth symphony ensembles in our 52nd season!

- April 29, Sunday at 3:00pm at the Capitol Theatre:
  Spring Concert – FREE!

Auditions for the 2018-19 youth symphony orchestra season will occur at the end of April and early May. For information and/or to request an audition, send an email to us at yysoc@gmail.com or call (509) 248-1414. Tell us: the name of the student musician, the instrument s/he plays, the musician’s grade in school NEXT year, how long the musician has played the instrument and where the musician will attend school NEXT school year.

Yakima Symphony Chorus (YSC)
Justin Raffa, Chorusmaster

The Yakima Symphony Chorus shared a great program with the Canticus Vocal Ensemble at the Seasons Performance Hall last month, and we are now working toward our final May performance of Prokofiev's Alexander Nevsky with the symphony. We are also welcoming new singers to join the chorus for our programs in the 2018-19 season, including Haydn's Lord Nelson Mass late this summer. Guests are welcome to attend and participate in rehearsals, which take place Monday evenings from 7:00-9:15 at St. Paul Cathedral; contact Chorusmaster Justin Raffa for more details: chorusmaster@ysomusic.org. We'd love for you to join us!

Yakima Music en Acción (YAMA)
Jennifer Moulkine, Philharmonia Site Director and YSO Teaching Artist

YAMA's Preludio and Chamber orchestras took Central Washington University by storm on Wednesday, March 7. These 3rd-7th grade students spent the day touring campus, including a visit to the new observatory. They ended the day in performance with the CWU Percussion Ensemble, premiering a piece written by the group's director, Mark Goodenberger. After the concert, a group of the youngest students gave an impromptu performance of Ode to Joy in the lobby of the music building. As YAMA Teaching Artist Jenny Humphrey put it, “They played with strength and pride, sharing their music with complete strangers who gathered to cheer them on. As a teacher, witnessing this act of courage and coming together through music, my heart was filled with joy!”

The next day they were back to practice preparing for their UpBeats show at Englewood Christian Church on Sunday, March 25 at 6pm, a free show open to the community.

YSO – Bead & Body

Join the YSO and Bead & Body in our annual creative collaboration! Create a piece of jewelry or other body adornment that reflects either the season theme/colors of A Musical Voyage Around the World or the 2018 Raise the Baton theme/colors of a magic carpet, garnet and gold.

Submissions will be displayed on the Bead Board at Bead & Body [Chalet Place, 5623 Summitview Ave # A, Yakima]. Deliver your piece(s) directly to Bead & Body. Deadline: April 6, 2018. One piece will be selected to be included in the Raise the Baton auctions. The winner will receive tickets to the Classical Night Fever and Back in the U.S.S.R. concerts.

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!

April 4: Musician TBD
May 2: Vanessa Moss, violin
June 6: Christy Baisingue, cello

Beethoven Bear and Berlioz Bear preparing to journey to “Meet the Orchestra.”

Gala Fundraiser

Friday, April 13, 2018 • 5:30pm
The 4th Street Theatre

Tickets $75
Call (509) 248-1414 to purchase

Music Performances — Auctions with Laura Michalek, Fundraising Auctioneer

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.
Roberto Plano

Italian native Roberto Plano performs regularly all over the world, appearing with prestigious orchestras and festivals. Mr. Plano was the First Prize Winner at the 2001 Cleveland International Piano Competition, a prize winner at the Honens, Dublin, Sendai, Geza Anda and Valencia competitions, and a Finalist at the 2005 Van Cliburn, in addition to having won first prizes in several national competitions in Italy.

Mr. Plano’s engaging personality has made him a favorite guest on radio programs such as NPR’s Performance Today, and on TV shows for PBS and Japan’s NHK. He has recorded CDs for Brilliant, Azica, Arktos, Sipario, and he recently released two world premier CDs on the Concerto label with music by re-discovered 18th century Italian composer Andrea Luchesi that were reviewed with five stars out of five in the music magazine Musica. In May 2016, Amadeus magazine awarded the maximum five-star rating of his new Decca CD recording of Liszt’s “Harmonies Poétiques et Religieuses.”

Mr. Plano studied at the Verdi Conservatory in Milan, the Ecole Normale “Cortot” in Paris and the Lake Como Academy. He was founder and director of the Music Association “Alfred Cortot” which he co-chaired with his wife, pianist Paola Del Negro. His master classes, taught at his own music academy and worldwide, are in high demand. Mr. Plano joined the faculty at Boston University commencing September 2016. His hometown in Varese, Italy awarded him several prizes, including the Lumen Claro, given in the past to influential people like soprano Barbara Frittoli, stylist Ottavio Missoni and economist Mario Monti. In 2016 he was elected Honorary Member by the Lions Club Varese.

Mr. Plano and his wife have three daughters; Elisa, Anna, and Sofia.

www.robertoplano.com

PROGRAM NOTES

When in Rome features two masterworks by Italian composer Ottorino Respighi, The Pines of Rome and The Fountains of Rome, and two pieces written by non-Italians while on holiday in Italy—Tchaikovsky’s Capriccio italien and Mendelssohn’s Piano Concerto No. 1 featuring Italian pianist Roberto Plano, Gold Medal Winner of the Cleveland International Piano Competition.

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
(April 25, 1840-October 25, 1893)

Capriccio italien, op. 45
(1880)

Composed between January and May 1880, Capriccio italien was inspired by a trip Tchaikovsky took to Rome with his brother Modest. This was during a difficult time for Tchaikovsky—the end of a disastrous marriage, the recent death of his father and other personal difficulties. The time in Rome was apparently a nice respite—it was Carnivale season, so there were many festivals and other celebrations going on to lift his spirits. While there, he wrote:

I have already completed the sketches for an Italian fantasia on folk tunes for which I believe a good fortune may be predicted. It will be effective, thanks to the delightful tunes which I have succeeded in assembling partly from anthologies, partly from my own ears in the streets.

Initially, he called the piece Italian Fantasia and dedicated it to the cellist Karl Davydov. It was premiered in Moscow in December 1880, with Nikolai Rubinstein conducting the Imperial Russian Musical Society.

After a brief fanfare, inspired by calls Tchaikovsky apparently heard daily from his hotel, the piece unfolds in a somber mood in the strings. Eventually, this gives way to an Italian street band, beginning in the winds and ending with the whole orchestra. Next, the somber melody returns, followed by a lively Cicuzza (tarantella). Finally, a jubilant ending brings this piece to an exciting close. This piece is a crowd favorite and a great concert opener.

Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy
(February 3, 1809 – November 4, 1847)

Piano Concerto No. 1 in G minor, op. 25
(1831)

Mendelssohn’s Piano Concerto No. 1 in G minor was composed during a trip to Italy, around the same time as his fourth symphony, and premiered in Munich in October 1831. The three movements are performed continuously and include several relatively new formal techniques. The piano enters after only a few bars of orchestral introduction. Previously, the custom was for the orchestra to provide a full introduction of themes that the piano subsequently expanded upon. In this case, however, the elaboration begins almost immediately. After a virtuosic opening theme, the contrasting theme is more lyrical, and the soloist and orchestra take turns with the melodic ideas. The pyrotechnics expected of the soloist are quite impressive and demanding. As the movement closes, a brass fanfare signals the second movement, and the soloist completes the transition without pause.

The second movement opens with a calm, lovely melody in the strings, echoed by the piano. Each time the orchestra tries to take the melody, the piano begins by accompanying and decorating, but inevitably takes the lead again soon after. After a brief contrasting middle section, the original melody returns in an elaborated version to close the movement calmly and peacefully. The third movement proceeds directly, announced by another trumpet fanfare. When the piano enters, the fireworks really begin, with virtuosic passages that cover the entire keyboard. Themes from the first movement are revisited briefly towards the end, as if to take one final look at one’s handiwork.
In many ways, this piece of music is emblematic of the Romantic period, with overt expression, flashy technique and expanded traditional forms. Mendelssohn was at the top of his game for this one, and the piece has been popular since its premiere.

**Ottorino Respighi**
(July 9, 1879–April 18, 1936)

Respighi, an Italian violinist, composer and musicologist, was born in Bologna into a musical family. He learned the piano and violin from his father. His musical interest in 16th-, 17th- and 18th-century music led him to compose pieces based on the music of these periods. He also wrote several operas, the most famous being *La fiamma*. He is best known for his “Roman Trilogy,” three orchestral tone poems, *Fountains of Rome* (1916), *Pines of Rome* (1924), and *Roman Festivals* (1928). His works show strong connections to French Impressionism.

In 1900, Respighi accepted a position in the orchestra of the Russian Imperial Theatre in Saint Petersburg, Russia. During his time there, he studied composition with Russian composer Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov. Respighi returned to Bologna to continue his studies and then eventually moved to Rome. His compositions began to draw attention and, in 1913, he was appointed as professor of composition at the Conservatorio di Santa Cecilia in Rome, a post he held for the rest of his life.

**Fountains of Rome (Fontane di Roma)**
(1917)

_Fountains of Rome_ is the first work in Respighi’s orchestral “Roman Trilogy.” Each of the four movements depicts one of Rome’s fountains at a different time of the day. The first section, The Fountain of Valle Giulia at Dawn (*La fontana di Valle Giulia all’Alba*), depicts this fountain at daybreak in a pastoral landscape. The second section, The Triton Fountain, in the Morning (*La fontana del Tritone al mattino*), depicts Naiads and Tritons dancing. Gods and goddesses using conch shells are portrayed by the horn. The third section, The Trevi Fountain at Noon (*La fontana di Trevi al meriggio*), represents a recent victory by the god Neptune. The final section, The Villa Medici Fountain at Sunset (*La fontana di Villa Medici al tramonto*), creates a melancholy atmosphere as the sun fades.

The piece was premiered on March 11, 1917, at the Teatro Augusteo in Rome conducted by Antonio Guarnieri. Although the premiere was unsuccessful, the work has since become one of the most popular examples of the symphonic poem.

**Pines of Rome (Pini di Roma)**
(1924)

_Pines of Rome_ was premiered on December 14, 1924, by the Augusteo Theatre Orchestra in Rome with Bernardino Molinari conducting. The work consists of four movements, each depicting different locations in the city of Rome, all of which have pine trees.

The Pines of the Villa Borghese (*I pini di Villa Borghese*): The Villa Borghese is a monument to the Borghese family, who dominated the city in the early seventeenth century. It is a sunny morning, and children sing nursery rhymes and play soldiers.
THE ROSEMARY A. C. GOTTLIEB 2017-18 SEASON
A Musical Voyage Around the World

THE YAKIMA VALLEY
CLASSICAL SERIES

When in Rome
April 7, 2018 • 7:30pm
Roberto Plano, piano, Gold Medal Laureate
of the Cleveland International
Piano Competition

Back in the U.S.S.R.
May 12, 2018 • 7:30pm
Yakima Symphony Chorus;
Justin Raffa, chorusmaster
Kindra Scharich, mezzo-soprano

THE GILBERT ORCHARDS
POPS SERIES

Classical Night Fever
April 28, 2018 • 7:30pm
Motor Booty Affair, the “ultimate disco
tribute band!”

The 2017-18 season includes six Classical Series concerts
and five Pops Series concerts, all conducted by YSO Music
Director Lawrence Golan at the Capitol Theatre.

RAISE the BATON

Gala Fundraiser
Friday, April 13, 2018 • 5:30pm
The 4th Street Theatre

Heroes!
Subscribe at the
When in Rome
concert on April 7 and
Classical Night Fever
concert on April 28.
You’ll be entered into
our subscription raffles.
FABULOUS prizes await!

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Fundraising Auctioneer

TICKETS $75
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Download the 2017-18 A Musical Voyage Around the World brochure at www.ysomusic.org