

The Michigan Pops Orchestra Presents:

APOPSCALYPSE

Sunday, November 22, 2009

7 pm MICHIGAN THEATER

Music Director: Yaniv Segal

Executive Director: Eliezah Dale




michiganpops.com

Welcome to **APOPS**SCALYPSE



The stars have all aligned, the evil plans are in place, and the bells are tolling. That's right—it's the **aPOPS**Scalypse!

Welcome to another marvelous Michigan Pops Orchestra concert! In our last fourteen years, the University's only student-run, student-directed orchestra on campus has been to the moon and back to Broadway, sailed the high seas, frolicked in the jungle, and had countless hours of fun in the process!

Tonight we bring you a story of impending doom, of the world's perilous fate. The orchestra will battle scoundrels as we approach the *Last Midnight*. We will go to *World's End* to fight to save the earth, all while trying not to get tripped up with *Vertigo*. It will be difficult to outsmart all the pirates, giant apes, dinosaurs, and aliens that cross our paths! Though it might be *The End of the World as We Know It*, we will happily boogie to the beat of the *Final Countdown*.

There are countless people Pops has to thank for their hard work and dedication to making our concert the best it could be. Mary Kisor of UAC, Steve Weaver of First Impression Printing, Amanda Bynum and Scott Clarke of the Michigan Theater, Julie Morgan of the Major Events Office, Maggie St. Clair and the Michigan Marching Band, our very own Pops violinist Sarah Verner for her fabulous artistic design, Michelle DiMuzio for her photography, Benjamin J. Friedman for his videography, and Rob Boardman, Karen Zobel, Peter Dileo, Joe Gramley, and Kim Osborne for their musical contributions. These people are all crucial to the success of our programming. We are so grateful to you for making our shows possible each semester!

Pops would also like to thank YOU for being part of an incredible audience tonight! Your continued support for our group and to the arts means so much to us. We hope you enjoy the show and will join us again on Saturday, April 17, 2010 for our spring show! Now, sit back, relax, and feast your eyes and ears as Pops takes on mischief-makers of all shapes and sizes!

Eliezah Dale
Executive Director, Michigan Pops Orchestra

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APOPSCALYPSE

Sunday, November 22, 2009

7 pm - Michigan Theater

Symphony No. 5

I: Allegro con brio

Ludwig Van Beethoven (1770-1824)

Theme from *The Lost World*

John Williams (1932 -)

arr. John Moss

Strange Invaders

John Addison (1920-1998)

Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End

Hans Zimmer (1957-)

arr. Paul Lavender and Robert Longfield

Vertigo Suite

Bernard Herrmann (1911-1975)

I: Prelude

II: The Nightmare

Last Midnight from "Into the Woods"

Stephen Sondheim (1930-)

Vocalist: Rachel McNeill Watson Bahler

Final Countdown

Europe

arr. Brian Einstein Lassiter

INTERMISSION

Ride of the Valkyries from "Die Walküre"

Richard Wagner (1813-1883)

King Kong: Soundtrack Highlights

James Newton Howard (1951-)

arr. Ted Ricketts

Building an Empire from "Lord of the Rings:
Battle for Middle Earth" *

Jamie Christopherson (1975-)

End of the World as We Know It

R.E.M.

Vocalist: Rachel McNeill Watson Bahler

arr. Brian Einstein Lassiter

Symphony No. 7

V: Rondo · Finale

Gustav Mahler (1860-1911)

arr. Yaniv Segal

* world premiere performance

Orchestra Members

Yaniv Segal, Conductor



VIOLIN

Renaudo Robinson
Concertmaster

Taha Ali

Nensi Bakiu

Carly Boddy

Michael Chang Chair

Melody Campbell*

Alex Carney

Jennifer Chang

Caraline Craig

Jenn Dalton

Maddie DeBot

Jackie Ferman

Alistair Hayden

Nicole Higley

Eric Hung

Steve Hwang

Ha Nul Jun

Erin Kelly

Reina Kikuchi

Leslie Korson

Jessica Lai

Rose Leach

Jeanne Lee

Andy Lin

Charles Lu

Linda Ma

Melissa Meyer

Amanda Opaskar

Emily Potter

Shari Rosen⁺

Katelyn Sedelmyer

Connie Shi

Sarah Verner

Mary Walle

Jennifer Wang

David Yang

VIOLA

Anna Brieland-Shoultz

Chris Davis

Pamela Haupt

Renee Hudson

Christina Nieh*

Annie Wang

Annie Weldon

Randy Yao

CELLO

Chris Askew-Merwin

Seth Buchsbaum

Ga Ram Jun*

Gaby Kuschmann

Alison Tseng

Jesse Tzeng

Alex Warbasse

Brendon Wilson

Tim Wiryaman

Tina Wu

Connie Zhou

BASS

Philip Alejo[#]

Will Hack*

GUITAR

Asaf Peres[#]

FLUTE

Natalie Bisaro

Sarah Fike*⁺

Lindsay Hall

Emily Schapka

Benjamin Smolen[#]

PICCOLO

Sarah Fike

OBOE

Jessica Bickel⁺

Susie Chung

Katie Parsons*

Becky Thiel

ENGLISH HORN

Jessica Bickel⁺

CLARINET

Emily Coppess

Eliezah Dale

Abby DeBofsky*

Elizabeth Dougherty

Abra Guo

Kelly McClure

BASS CLARINET

Brian Einstein Lassiter

Sean McDonald*

SAXOPHONE

Brian Einstein Lassiter

BASSOON

Timothy Abbott[#]

Victoria Fingerle*

Christian Green

* indicates Principal

+ indicates last concert
with Pops

indicates guest musician

Orchestra Members



HORN

Marcela Barba
David Byron Chapel
Clark Frye*
Corwin Huang
Ben Marchionna
Kevin McDonough
Aaron Talsma
Marie Ternes
Maria Vitale

TRUMPET

Neal Anderson
Laura Chanoux
A. Jay Holmgren
Melanie Hunt
Rich Main*
Kevin Smith

TROMBONE

Jack Hall
Luke Li
Henry Stanley*
K. Scott Tripp

TUBA

Jenny Chung

PIANO

Jenny Miu

PERCUSSION

Kyra Carpenter
Saul Hankin
Scott Hulbert
Kris McDonough
Sang-Yoon Moon
Matt VanOverloop



The 2009-2010 Michigan Pops Executive Board

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Music Director



Yaniv Segal, a native New Yorker, was described in Esquire Magazine as a rising star who is “redefining classical music.” A master’s student in orchestral conducting at the University of Michigan, he is a regular conductor of the Chelsea Symphony in New York in addition to serving as Music Director of the Michigan Pops Orchestra. He has performed worldwide as a singer, violinist, actor, and conductor. Yaniv was the first music director of the Mahagonny Ensemble at Vassar College, and has worked as a conductor with the Vassar College Orchestra, New York Youth Symphony, Princeton Symphony, and at the Manhattan School of Music. Yaniv has also conducted the University Symphony, Campus Symphony, Greenwich Village, and New Symphony (Bulgaria) Orchestras, the Wroclaw (Poland) and Thuringen (Germany) Philharmonics, and the Ukrainian State and Stamford Young People’s Symphonies. Yaniv is a recipient of the Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowship for New Americans.



Photographs courtesy of Michelle Dimuzio and Christopher Smith

Program Notes

Symphony No. 5

Beethoven's *Fifth Symphony* is one of the most well-recognized compositions in all of classical music. Drafts of the piece date from 1804, but the symphony did not premiere until 1808. Composition of the piece was delayed while Beethoven worked on other compositions, such as the *Appassionata* piano sonata and the *Fourth Symphony*. During the *Fifth Symphony*'s premiere, the piece received little response; the orchestra had rehearsed only once before the concert and at one point, Beethoven had to stop the music and start again. However, within a year and a half, the symphony was received much more enthusiastically. This work has influenced and inspired the work of composers such as Brahms, Tchaikovsky, and Mahler.

Theme from "The Lost World"

Written in 1995 by Michael Crichton, *The Lost World* is a thriller novel that is a sequel to *Jurassic Park*. The film adaptation was directed in 1997 by Steven Spielberg. This film picks up four years after the events of *Jurassic Park* when a research team is sent to a deserted island to study dinosaurs. However, they discover that another team aims to capture the dinosaurs and bring them to the mainland. Fun fact: This movie called for fifty stunt performers while only thirteen worked on *Jurassic Park*.

Strange Invaders

Strange Invaders is a spoof science fiction film made in 1983 as a tribute to films from the 1950s, most notably *Invasion of the Body Snatchers*. In addition, the film is remembered for the soundtrack that captured the authenticity of 1950s science fiction. The storyline follows aliens which land on earth to conduct research. The aliens have the power to fire lasers from their eyes and hands, thus "crystallizing" humans into glowing blue orbs.



Photographs courtesy of Michelle Dimuzio

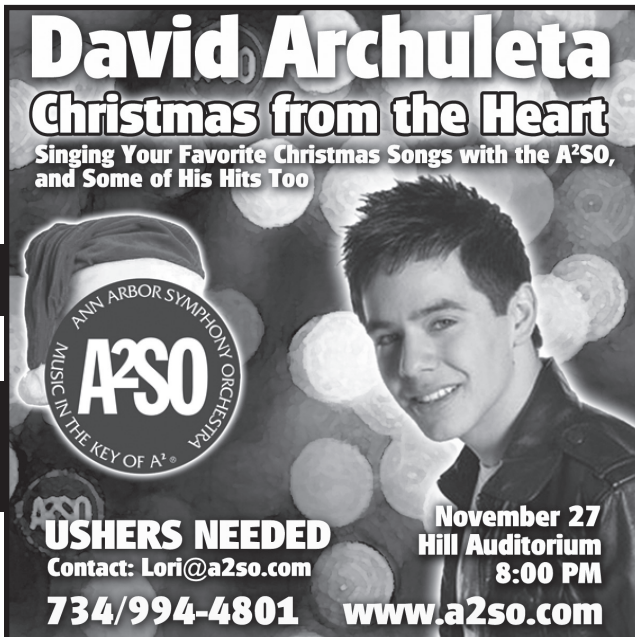
Program Notes

Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End

Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End is the third installment of the *Pirates of the Caribbean* series. The film follows Elizabeth Swann, Will Turner, and the crew of the Black Pearl on their trip to rescue Jack Sparrow, portrayed by Johnny Depp. This film is the most expensive movie ever made with a budget \$300 million. However, the film was a box-office hit; it was the most popular film of 2007 and grossed approximately \$960 million worldwide. Although the film received mixed reviews by critics, it was voted "Best Movie" and "Best Threquel" at the People's Choice Awards.

Vertigo

Vertigo is a classic American psychological thriller directed by Alfred Hitchcock in 1958. The film is based upon the novel "D'Entre les Morts," written by Pierre Boileau and Thomas Narcejac specifically for Hitchcock. Once poorly received by critics, it is now hailed as Hitchcock's masterpiece. In addition, *Vertigo* was voted the 19th greatest film of all time by "Entertainment Weekly." The film tells the story of a retired police detector who has acrophobia, a fear of heights. The detective is hired as a private investigator to follow the wife of an acquaintance but he becomes dangerously obsessed with her as the story progresses.



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Program Notes

Last Midnight

It's the last midnight,

So, goodbye all.

Coming at you fast, midnight-

Soon you'll see the sky fall.

Last Midnight is a song from Stephen Sondheim's musical, *Into the Woods*. The musical was inspired by Bruno Bettelheim's book, *The Use of Enchantment*. It intertwines several plots from the Brothers Grimm fairy tales such as "Little Red Riding Hood," "Jack and the Beanstalk," and "Cinderella." These stories are tied together by an original story involving the desires of a baker and his wife to start a family.

The Final Countdown

The Final Countdown is a rock song written by Joey Tempest for the Swedish rock band Europe. This piece is notably the band's most recognizable and popular song. It has reached number one in twenty-five countries. Furthermore, it has been used in many sports arenas and stadiums, and is also frequently used in the television show, *Arrested Development*. Ironically, *The Final Countdown* was written to be an opening song for concerts and the group never expected it to be a hit. Tonight's orchestral arrangement was done by Pops' very own Brian Lassiter.



Program Notes

Ride of the Valkyries

The Ride of the Valkyries, composed in 1854, is one of Richard Wagner's most well-known pieces. It is the main theme to an act in the opera *Die Walküre*, which is one of four operas in *Der Ring des Nibelungen*. Furthermore, it has been a popular piece of music used in both television and film, appearing in *Apocalypse Now*, *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*, *Watchmen*, and many more. In addition, in the novel, "The Forgotten Soldier," a story of a German soldier's experience during WWII, one scene describes an account in which the German tanks are said to have played Ride of the Valkyries on their shortwave radios before launching an assault during WWII.



King Kong

King Kong, a gigantic ape, is a world famous movie icon and character. Since 1933, King Kong has made appearances in films, books, theme park rides, and many more. In the original film, the character's name, Kong, was given to him by the inhabitants of Skull Island in the Indian Ocean. On this island, Kong lived alongside other giant animals such as dinosaurs. "King" was an appellation added by an American film led by Carl Denham. In the story, Denham captures King Kong and takes him to New York to be exhibited as the "Eighth Wonder of the World." However, the giant ape escapes and rampages through the city. In the end, he climbs up the Empire State Building in an attempt to save Ann Darrow, an actress originally offered to the him as a sacrifice. Tragically, King Kong is shot and killed by aircraft.



Program Notes

Lord of the Rings

The music played today is featured in *The Lord of the Rings: Battle for Middle Earth* video game. This piece was specifically arranged for the Michigan Pops Orchestra; tonight is its world premiere. *The Lord of the Rings* is a classic fantasy novel written by J.R.R. Tolkien. Tolkien was both a philologist and a professor at Oxford University. LOTR began as a sequel to his earlier work, *The Hobbit*, and developed into a much larger work. The novel was written in stages between 1937 and 1949, much of it during WWII, and wasn't published until 1955. Tolkien used the LOTR as a personal exploration of his interests in philology, religion, fairy tales, Germanic mythology, and many more.

End of the World as We Know It

It's the End of the World as We Know It (And I Feel Fine) is a song by R.E.M., a rock band. The song is notable for its quick-paced, "stream of consciousness" lyrics which include a variety of references. For example, the lyrics include a number of individuals with the initials "L.B." Michael Stipe, lead vocalist of R.E.M., claims that the "L.B." references are from a dream he had in which he found himself at a party surrounded by famous people with these initials. Among the referenced individuals are Leonard Bernstein, a conductor, Lenny Bruce, a stand-up comedian, and Lester Bangs, a music journalist. This piece was also arranged by Brian Lassiter.

Mahler 7

Gustav Mahler's *Seventh Symphony* was composed in 1905 and premiered in Prague on September 19, 1908. During the three years between the symphony's completion and its premiere, Mahler experienced dramatic changes in his life and career; the composer's first daughter tragically died of scarlet fever and he learned that he was suffering from an incurable heart condition. Musicologists speculate that this is the reason why the optimism and cheerfulness of the piece was muted by a couple small but significant revisions. Furthermore, in this symphony one can hear Mahler's interest in unconventional instruments; listen for the usage of the cow bell!



On behalf of the entire Michigan Pops Orchestra, I would like to extend our thanks to our donors, our alumni, and to you, our audience! Pops would not be here without your continued support. Thank you so much for coming and allowing us to share our music with you. Please join us next semester when Pops will fall in love!

Tina Wu

Program Design Director, Michigan Pops Orchestra

Small Ensembles Concert

December 4, 2009

8 pm, Michigan League
Underground

String Orchestra Concert

February 2010: TBA

MPO Spring Concert

April 17, 2010

7 pm, Michigan Theater