

# Cornell University Jazz Ensemble I Paul Merrill, director Cornell Symphony Orchestra Chris Younghoon Kim, conductor

## Jazz Ensemble I

Diminuendo in Blue and Crescendo in Blue

Diminuendo in Blue Wailing Interval Crescendo in Blue Duke Ellington (1899–1974)

The Nutcracker Suite

Overture

Toot Toot Tootsie Toot ("Dance of The Reed-Pipes")

Peanut Brittle Brigade ("March")

Sugar Rum Cherry ("Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy")

Entr'acte

The Volga Vouty ("Russian Dance")

Chinoiserie

Dance of the Floreadores ("Waltz of the Flowers")

Arabesque Cookie ("Arabian Dance")

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840–1893)

arr. Ellington, Billy Strayhorn

Intermission

# **Symphony Orchestra**

Throwback
Premiere
Ryan Gallagher
(b. 1984)

Concerto for Orchestra

I. Moderately fast, with drive and vigor

Morton Gould
(1913–1996)

II. Slowly with stately lyricism

III. Fast with gusto

The Year 1812, Festival Overture in E-flat Major, op. 49

Tchaikovsky

BAILEY HALL CORNELL UNIVERSITY Saturday, December 4, 2010 – 8:00 PM

## **Program Notes**

## Gallagher: Throwback

After having written a series of harsh and dissonant orchestral works, I felt the need to compose a piece that was both more genial in nature and that adhered to a more classical architecture. When Cornell Symphony Orchestra conductor Chris Kim kindly suggested that I could write a new piece for this concert, it provided a perfect opportunity for me to bring my long-germinating desire to write a traditional overture into existence.

I have always had a fondness for orchestral showpieces, and so, with this work, it was my intention to compose a brief and flashy piece inspired by the many great concert openers in the standard repertoire. I attempted to write in a style that pays tribute to these older works, both in general melodic and harmonic vocabulary, as well as festive mood. Resultantly, the title is meant to evoke an earlier style of composition both in terms of time period, as well as perhaps my own personal musical language. Astute listeners with a good knowledge of the orchestral literature will hear several references to other pieces hidden in my own score. The work maintains a brisk tempo and a celebratory character throughout.

Scored for full orchestra, *Throwback* was completed in October 2010 and lasts approximately six minutes. It was written specifically for Chris Younghoon Kim and the Cornell University Symphony Orchestra, and is dedicated to my good friend Doreen Lee.

– Ryan Gallagher

## **Gould: Concerto for Orchestra**

"Composing is my life blood," said Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Morton Gould. "That is basically me, and although I have done many things in my life—conducting, playing piano, and so on—what is fundamental is my being a composer."

Capping a life full of achievements in all facets of music are Morton Gould's 1995 Pulitzer Prize for Stringmusic, commissioned by the National Symphony for the final season of music director Mstislav Rostropovich, and his 1994 Kennedy Center Honor in recognition of lifetime contributions to American culture. In 2005, Gould was posthumously awarded a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award. As a conductor, Gould led all the major American orchestras as well as those of Canada, Mexico, Europe, Japan, and Australia. In 1966 he won a Grammy Award for his recording of Ives's First Symphony with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, a recording that led the way for a new appreciation of Ives's work. Gould received the American Symphony Orchestra League's 1983 Gold Baton Award. In addition to his Pulitzer Prize and Kennedy Center Honor, he was Musical America's 1994 Composer-of-the-Year. A long-time member of the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers, Gould was elected president of ASCAP in 1986, a post he held until 1994. In 1986 he was elected to the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters. He also served on the board of the American Symphony Orchestra League and on the National Endowment for the Arts music panel. His music is published by G. Schirmer, Inc. Concerto for Orchestra (1944) was written only a few months after Gould heard the première of Bartók's own Concerto for Orchestra. As in Bartók's work, the impetus for the piece is the opportunity for each of the sections and their principals to shine. And shine they do. All of it has jazzy elements, juxtaposing 'blue' or 'dirty' jazz figures with more conventional and dignified classical passages. Percy Grainger said the work has a 'wild beauty.' The work has been recorded by Albany Symphony Orchestra.

– J. Scott Morrison

## Tchaikovsky: The Year 1812, Festival Overture in E-flat Major, op. 49

Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture is one of his best-known works and made his estate quite wealthy because of the numerous performances it received, but it is interesting to note that the composer wrote to his patron after completing the work that he was "not a concocter of festival pieces" and that the Overture was written "without love and warmth." Nevertheless, the 1812 Overture has now become a much beloved staple at Fourth of July celebrations across the United States of America, even though the narrative of the work has nothing to do with United States history. Instead, the overture is a programmatic piece, or a work that attempts to evoke musically a non-musical idea, portraying Russia's successful resistance against the invasion of the previously undefeated French Allied Army in 1812.

Thematically, the work is largely based on Russian and French anthems to depict both sides of the battle, as well as traditional Russian folk music interspersed within Tchaikovsky's own brilliant melodies. The piece begins slowly with the Slavic Orthodox *Troparion of the Holy Cross* played by divided strings, and from there, the music transforms over the course of the work from a distressed and plaintive atmosphere, to the triumphant and celebratory ending played by the full orchestra, musically illustrating the victorious Russian people having successfully defended their country.

Perhaps the overture's most famous feature is its extensive use of cannon shots (twelve in total) and ringing chimes at the work's climax. The premiere of the piece was originally intended to have been presented in a square in front of a cathedral to sound the bells and accompanied by live cannon fire, though for various reasons, it never ended up being performed in this way. Thus, it has been suggested that Tchaikovsky never heard the work performed with the exact cannon shots as he originally intended, even though he conducted the work with many different orchestras. As an appropriate sign of our current times, this performance will include the use of cannon fire sounds executed with the aid of a laptop computer.

– Ryan Gallagher

## Jazz Ensemble I

## Woodwinds

Edan Soroker, alto, clarinet, bamboo flute Michael Kehoe, alto, clarinet Alex Huth, tenor, clarinet Kyle Rosenberg, tenor Elizabeth Lewis, baritone, bass clarinet John Pertsch, clarinet

## Trumpet

Steve Jessup Bob MacMahon Joe Rettberg Remanu Phillips

## **Trombone**

Dan Abowd **Jeff Gilmour** Gavin Mackellar

## Rhythm

Jeff Cox, piano Diana Rypkema, bass Brian Barnes, drums

## **Orchestra Board**

Alexandra Gribizis (fall), Carol Tsang, Mallory Matsumoto (Spring), Co-presidents Sumona Bhattacharya, Secretary Risa Naka, Librarian Greg Farber, Treasurer Gina Johnson, Newsletter Editor Sang Hoon Song, Alumni Liason Jenny Xia, Tiffany Tsay, Community **Outreach Chairs** Jaime Lee, Publicity Chair Daniel Rothenberg, Webmasters Ryder Stroud, Images

Support the activities of the Cornell Orchestras! Please consider a donation to the John Hsu Orchestra Fund. The Fund serves as a permanent legacy to Professor Hsu's fifty years of teaching and focuses on enriching funds for orchestra activities at Cornell, such as future tours, retreats and guest artists. To sustain the vitality of this lasting legacy to Professor Hsu and orchestral music at Cornell, contributions to the fund are encouraged and greatly appreciated. Checks should be made out to Cornell University, memo John Hsu Orchestral Fund, and sent to Cornell's Department of Music,

101 Lincoln Hall, Ithaca, NY 14853.

# **Cornell Symphony Orchestra**

## Violin I

Will Moseson, Engineering Physics, '12 \* Eileen Liu, Biological Engineering, '14 Jonathan Park, Undecided, '14 + Yoonjee Koh, Architecture, '12 Jason Wang, Engineering, '14 Martha Wydysh, Undecided, '14 Carol Tsang, Economics, '12 # Crystal Han, Biological Sciences, '13 Kyle Chang, Undecided, '14 Amy Li, Undecided, '14 Sang Hoon Song, Biological Engineering, '13 Diana Folla, CRP, '14 Arthur Zhou, Statistical Science/Economics, '13 Maura Ruyechan, Animal Sciences, '14 Elaine Higashi, Biological Engineering, '12 (CCO)

## Violin II

Sumona Bhattacharya, Anthropology, '11 # Erica Masler, Undecided, '13 + Jin Ho "Eric" Chang, Chemical Engineering, '14 Daniel Rothenberg, Atmospheric Science, '11 Erin Bresnahan, Physics, '13 Tia Plautz, Physics, '11 Jason Fenwick, Engineering Physics, '14 Eric Gold, Engineering, '14 Harrison Lu, Microbiology, '11 Joanne Chua, Economics, '11 Meggy Uy, Biological Sciences, '14 Qiangjing "Jenny" Xia, Biology, '13 Tiffany Tsay, Human Biology, Health & Society, '13 Rachael Communale, History, '14 (CCO)

#### Viola

Yoriko Nakamura, Biology and Society, '11 \*
Caleb Woo, Engineering, '14
Andrea Bowring, Materials Science & Engineering, '11 +
Claire Straus, Undecided, '14
Clint Ko, Biology, '14
Ellen Cheong, Chemical Engineering, '12
Wesley Chao, Biology, '12
Eva Golos, Science of Earth Systems, '13

#### Cello

Andie Liao, Government/Economics, '13 \*
Joan Lee, Human Biology, Health & Society, '14 #
Jiyoon Kim, Undecided, '14
Harris Karsch, Chemical Engineering/Physics, '14
Molly Beckhardt, Industrial and labor relations, '14 +
Gaelyn Ong, Natural Resources, '14
Lindsay Theodore, Biological Sciences, '13
Andrea Cameron, Engineering, '14
Kevin Chen, Human Biology, Health in Society, '14

#### Bass

Chris Gerig, Engineering *Physics, '11* \* John O'Shaughnessy, *Economics, '14* Markus Salasoo, *Engineering, '13* Jenifer Chung, *Economics, '14* 

#### Flute/Piccolo

Miriam Nussbaum, *Music/Linguistics*, '11 \* Frances Zhu, *Aerospace Engineering*, '14 Seung Hee Shon, *Biological sciences*, '14 Anne Kwok, *Physics*, '14

## Oboe/English Horn

Kit Stone, *Biology, '11 \**Daniel Polla, *Human Development, '12*Greg Weisbrod, *Music, '11*Derek Lougee, *Math/Economics, '12* 

## Clarinets (Eb, Bb, Bass)

Seyoun Kim, *Biology, '14\** Stephanie Yun-Jin Cho, *Law, Grad* Jeffrey Lau, *China and Asia Pacific Studies, '14* Kevin Giroux, *Economics, '12* 

#### **Bassoon**

Gina Johnson, Chemical Engineering, '14 \* Malvika Raj, Chemical Engineering, '14

## Contra Bassoon

Sarah Furnish, Theatre Arts, '12

#### Alto Saxophone

Eric Troiano, Music, IC

## **Tenor Saxophone**

Garrett Biedermann, Music/English, '12

#### Horn

Kira Gridley, *Biology, '11*William Violette, *Economics and History, '12*Saeward Schillaci, *IARD, '13*Melissa Kunkel, *Materials Science and Engineering, '12*Chantal Stieber, *Inorganic Chemistry, Grad*Sarah Edythe Dimiduk, *Biological Engineering, '11* 

## Trumpet

Robert Locker, Materials Science and Engineering, '13 Jonathan Amazon, Biophysics, Grad Cyril Bodnar, Music, IC Aaron Scoccia, Music, IC

#### Trombone

Chris Mayes, Research Associate \*
Kristin Morgan, Biology, '14
Carl Sieber, Chemical Engineering, '11

#### Tuba

Alec Story, Biology and Computer Science, '12

## Piano/Celesta

Tiffany Tsay, Human Biology, Health & Society, '13

## Harp

Graeme Bailey, Professor, Computer Science

#### Percussion

Harlan Pittell, *PAM*, '14 Thomas Weber, *alumni* Andrew Boynton, *Music*, *IC* Julia Ross, *Music*, *IC* Elayne Harris, *Music*, *IC* 

# Banda(antiphonal brass in Tchaikovsky)

James Young, Mechanical Engineering, '12 Aleksi Lee, Undecided, '12

## **Trumpet**

Katie White, Education, '12 Elizabeth McDonald Julia Parrish, Undecided, '14

#### **Trombone**

Gavin Mackellar, Natural Resources, '11 Michael Hurd, Computer Science, '11

## Tuba

Tom Moore, Religious Studies, '14 Joe Sastic, Music, IC Nikki Kukieza, Music, IC

## **Orchestra TA** (canon fire, carillon bells) Ryan Gallagher, *Music, Grad*

- Principal on Tchaikovsky
- + Principal on Gallagher
- # Principal on Gould