



Anchorage Symphony Orchestra
2018/2019 Season
 Randall Craig Fleischer, Music Director



Vol. 28 No. 1

September 2018

OPENING NIGHT

Saturday, September 22, 2018 – 8pm | Atwood Concert Hall, ACPA

On September 22nd, Maestro Randall Craig Fleischer will give the downbeat to open his 20th season as Music Director of *your* Anchorage Symphony Orchestra. How do you begin a season celebrating such a milestone? Maestro Fleischer knows how, “I love to open with a splashy program and I think this one is plenty splashy! The whole program centers around Hemingway and his passion for travel. It’s a kind of high-energy tour of the world.”

This world tour begins in Cuba in 1932, after what Gershwin describes as “two hysterical weeks...no sleep was had.” He fell in love with the rhythms and instruments of the island nation and wanted to share them with American audiences. In just two months he wrote *Rumba* which was later renamed *Cuban Overture*. It was a smash hit from the beginning, loved by critics and audiences. After the premiere in New York Gershwin wrote, “It was, I really believe, the most exciting night I have ever had...17,845 people paid to get in and about 5,000 were at the closed gates trying to fight their way in – unsuccessfully.”

Michael Daugherty’s *Tales of Hemingway* was inspired by another American who fell in love with Cuba – Ernest Hemingway. Daugherty’s dramatic cello concerto evokes the turbulent life, adventure and literature of the Nobel Prize winning author. Premiered

by Zuill Bailey in April 2015 with the Nashville Symphony, *Tales of Hemingway* and Bailey went on to win three Grammys: Best Classical Compendium, Best Classical Instrumental Solo Performance, and Best Classical Composition.

What better person to perform this piece, than the one it was written for, Zuill Bailey, who also took home the Grammy for Best Solo Performance for his live recording of the multi Grammy-winning piece. Bailey grew up in Northern Virginia with musical parents. He likes to tell the story of how he chose the cello. As an energetic four year old, while running furiously down a back hallway following a concert, Bailey had his first “run-in” with a cello. The instrument was broken following the encounter but not Bailey’s spirit. He announced then that the cello would be his instrument of choice. The rest is history.

Today, Bailey is an international soloist and holds Artistic Director positions at the El Paso Pro Musica, Sitka Summer Music Festival, Northwest Bach Festival, and Mesa Arts Center Series. He is also a Professor of Cello at the University of Texas at El Paso. When asked why he chose Bailey as the featured artist for the Anchorage Symphony’s Opening Night, Fleischer responded, “Are you kidding me? Zuill is a Grammy-winning artist, and cuts a huge presence in Alaska. He is as close to a rock star as anybody can get in classical

CONTINUED INSIDE



Zuill Bailey, cello

Program

- GERSHWIN *Cuban Overture*
- MICHAEL DAUGHERTY *Tales of Hemingway*
- TAN DUN *Passacaglia: Secret of Wind and Birds*
- RESPIGHI *Ancient Airs and Dances (Suite No. 2)*
- RIMSKY-KORSAKOV *Capriccio Espagnol*

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Anchorage Symphony

400 D Street, Suite 230

Anchorage, AK 99501

Phone: 907.274.8668

Fax: 907.272.7916

Email: aso@youraso.org

www.AnchorageSymphony.org

From the Maestro

Welcome back everybody! I can't believe we're starting another wonderful ASO adventure. And it is "adventure" that takes center stage as we kick things off this year.

Ernest Hemingway was one of the great adventurers of all time.

This Nobel and Pulitzer Prize

winning author was a war journalist, African explorer and one of the greatest writers our country has produced. Michael Daugherty's cello concerto, *Tales of Hemingway*, explores four of Hemingway's most famous novels in the four movements of the piece, taking us on the kind of varied journey – from beautiful to wild – that one might imagine Hemingway's life was.

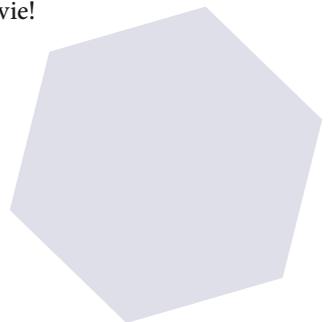
I'm sure you know that our friend, cellist Zuill Bailey, won a Grammy for his recording of this concerto and I've been dying to conduct the piece with Zuill ever since. It was back in 1990 that Zuill and I first met. I was the Assistant Conductor of the National Symphony and Zuill was involved in the NSO's fellowship program. He was just 17, but it was clear even back then that his enormous talents would take him far. I was utterly thrilled when he took over the Sitka Music Festival, and have so tremendously enjoyed seeing him and hearing him play when I'm in Anchorage. He's one of the premier cellists of our time, a much-respected colleague and a great friend. Zuill is a rock star, and I can't wait to conduct this piece with him!

Having chosen the Daugherty and knowing that Hemingway was such an adventurer, I decided to craft a season opener that takes a spin around the world. From New York to China, Italy and Spain (by way of Moscow), this concert is a whiz-bang sprint through some wonderfully international works. The Tan-Dun even involves the cell phone as an instrument in the orchestra! You get to "play along" too. Yes – you will be asked to download a certain music file and then "play" it at the very beginning of the piece. It's no joke!

We're following our season opener with an all John Williams concert, featuring his most famous and most brilliant scores. Very few fields have been so dominated by one artist in the way John Williams has dominated film scoring. With five Academy Awards and 51 nominations, 20 Grammys and (get this!) 64 nominations – Williams is the most decorated film composer of all time. What would the movies be without music – and specifically John Williams' music? Can you imagine Star Wars without the *Imperial March*? Jaws or Indiana Jones without their instantly recognizable themes? His scores are magical, and we'll be performing the original orchestration right out of the movie!



Randall Craig Fleischer
ASO Music Director



ANCHORAGE
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA
PRESENTS

MUSIC OF JOHN WILLIAMS

THE FORCE WILL BE STRONG ON

Saturday, October 6, 2018 – 8pm | Atwood Concert Hall, ACPA

DUUHH DUNNN. DUUHH DUNNN. Never before have two little notes conjured up so much anticipation and foreboding. That is the magic of John Williams, composer of some of the most popular, recognizable, and critically acclaimed film scores in cinematic history. On Saturday, October 6th (8pm) your Anchorage Symphony brings some of his most iconic music to life including *Star Wars*, *Harry Potter*, *E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial*, *Indiana Jones*, *Superman*, and many more.

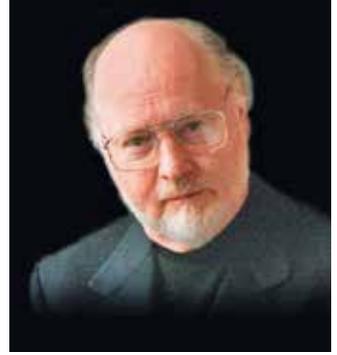
If you have seen a movie, or watched TV in the last 60 years, chances are that you have heard a John Williams composition. Closely associated with Steven Spielberg since 1975, Williams has scored for all but three of Spielberg's feature films. He has also composed for eight of the top 20 grossing films in cinematic history (adjusted for inflation).

Williams' music is not only associated with box office hits, he has also been nominated for 51 Academy Awards (the only person with more is Walt Disney!!). Of those nominations, he went on to win 5 Academy Awards (first one for *Fiddler on the Roof*), as well as 3 Emmys, 24 Grammys, 7 BAFTAs, and 4 Golden Globes. His *Star Wars* soundtrack was recently preserved by the Library of Congress into the National Recording Registry for being "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant."

Beyond films, you can also hear Williams' work each evening when "The Mission" opens the NBC Nightly news. His partnership with NBC extends to the theme for their Sunday Night Football broadcast, the 1984, 1988, and 1996 Summer Olympic Games; 2002 Winter Olympic Games, and the 1987 International Summer Special Olympic Games.

One of the most popular and successful American orchestral composers of the modern age, John Williams has worked his magic, setting the tone to countless movies and television shows. His scores have influenced generations of musicians and music-lovers. The Anchorage Symphony welcomes families to *The Music of John Williams*; all youth tickets only \$25.

Anchorage Symphony's Music of John Williams, Saturday, October 6, 2018, (8pm) in the Atwood Concert Hall, Alaska Center for the Performing Arts. Infrared headphones for the hearing impaired are available concert night from the House Manager on the Orchestra Level. Tickets: Adult, \$59-\$35; Youth, \$25; (prices include surcharges and fees). Discounts are available. To purchase tickets, visit the CenterTix Box Office at the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts or www.centertix.com or call 263-ARTS (2787), toll free at 1-877-ARTS-TIX.



John Williams

Special – Costume Contest

Audience members are invited to show us their best Superman, Princess Leia, Indiana Jones, Harry Potter, Luke Skywalker, Hermione, and yes, even Wookie!

On Saturday, October 6th come to the Anchorage Symphony *Music of John Williams* concert dressed as a character from a film featuring one of his iconic soundtracks. Take a picture at our John Williams wall and post it to Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram using #NorthofOrdinary. The photo with the most likes could win you a \$75 gift card to 49th State Brewing Company.*

*Winner to be chosen at 4pm on Friday, October 12th.



Bravo

**to the winners of the Mary and Lucian Cassetta Scholarship Competition.
We are thrilled to announce TWO scholarships awarded!**



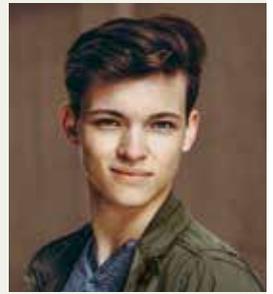
Charlie Latimer

Charlie Latimer, violin

Charlie is a Chugiak High School graduate who has been playing violin for over eight years. The last five years before leaving Alaska he studied under Dawn Lindsay. He was selected as winner of the Alaska Youth Orchestra and Anchorage Civic Orchestra's Concerto competitions. He was also awarded the competitive Undergraduate String Quartet Program Scholarship at the University of North Texas where he began studying this fall.

Jack Hale, vocals

Jack is a South Anchorage High School graduate where he was a member of Swing Choir. He studied privately with Kate Egan and Torrie Allen. Jack is now attending Baldwin Wallace Conservatory of Musical Theatre. He hopes to perform on Broadway one day.



Jack Hale

**Congratulations to these very talented young men.
We wish them the best of luck in their musical endeavors!**

The Mary and Lucian Cassetta Scholarship is a \$1,000 award given to one talented high school senior pursuing advance studies at a recognized music school or music camp. Instrumentalists and vocalists are both encouraged to apply. Established in memory of avid arts supporters, Mary and Lucian Cassetta, the scholarship was created to encourage development of musical talent in young Alaskans. Applications for the 2019 scholarship will be available in early spring.

Opening Night CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

music and is a long-time friend of mine. He's an amazing artist, and I love working with him."

From the tropics of Cuba, we next travel to the Far East. For his *Secret of Wind and Birds*, Grammy and Academy award-winning Tan Dun took inspiration from yin and yang, new and old, natural and man-made, East and West, ancient and modern. Part of that inspiration led him to incorporate recorded birdsongs played on traditional Chinese instruments that are then played from audience members' smartphones. After the piece's premiere, the New York Times wrote, "...as with many of Mr. Tan's works, this one teems with imagination and enticing sounds."

Completing this round-the-world tour is Rimsky-Korsakov's *Capriccio Espagnol*. This Spanish piece written by a Russian composer shows off his incredible orchestration skills and love of percussion. Originally written for solo violin and orchestra, Rimsky-Korsakov decided that a full orchestra was necessary to do the lively Spanish melodies justice. And Respighi's love of Renaissance and Baroque music shines in *Ancient Airs and Dances*. Audience members will find the second suite instantly loveable.

Anchorage Symphony's Opening Night, Saturday, September 22, 2018, (8pm) in the Atwood Concert Hall, Alaska Center for the Performing Arts. Infrared headphones for the hearing impaired are available concert night from the House Manager on the Orchestra Level. Tickets: Adult, \$52-\$27; Youth, \$24.75-\$12.50; Senior, \$46.50-\$24.50 (prices include surcharges and fees). Military, student and group discounts available. To purchase tickets, visit the CenterTix Box Office at the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts or www.centertix.com or call 263-ARTS (2787), toll free at 1-877-ARTS-TIX.

Calendar of Events

September

- 20** **KLEF 98.1 Preview Show**
Tune into the **KLEF Preview Show** and hear Maestro Fleischer discuss and play the music from the ASO's 2018 *Opening Night*.
4:30pm, KLEF 98.1 FM
- 21** **Lunch and Learn (Pre-Concert Lecture)**
Join Maestro Fleischer for a lively noon-time discussion of the music from ASO's 2018 *Opening Night*. Bring your own lunch.
Noon – 1pm, Loussac Library Moose Meeting Room (2nd floor)
Co-Sponsored by Anchorage Public Library
- 22** **Words on Music (Pre-Concert Lecture)**
ASO Education Consultant, Susan Wingrove-Reed, gives a pre-concert lecture on the music and personalities of ASO's 2018 *Opening Night*.
7pm, Atwood Concert Hall (Orchestra Level)
- 22** **Opening Night**
Randall Craig Fleischer opens his 20th season as ASO Music Director with Alaska Music hero Zuill Bailey performing *Tales of Hemingway*, the piece that won him a Grammy. Audience members will be asked to take out their smartphones and join in the performance of Tan Dun's *Secret of Wind and Birds*.
8pm, Atwood Concert Hall
Generously Sponsored by ConocoPhillips and Sharon Davies



October

- 6** **Words on Music (Pre-Concert Lecture)**
ASO Education Consultant, Susan Wingrove-Reed, gives a pre-concert lecture on the music and personalities of *The Music of John Williams*.
7pm, Atwood Concert Hall (Orchestra Level)
- 6** **The Music of John Williams**
Best known for his iconic film scores and celebrated music, John Williams is one of the most popular and successful American orchestral composers of the modern age. From adventure to romance to tragedy, Williams has worked his magic for 60 years, setting the tone to countless movies and television shows. His scores have influenced generations of musicians and music-lovers. Relive the iconic soundtracks from *Star Wars*, *Harry Potter*, *E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial*, *Indiana Jones*, *Superman*, and many more!
8pm, Atwood Concert Hall

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**ANCHORAGE
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA**

400 D St., Suite 230
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Opening Night

featuring **Zuill Bailey**, cello

Saturday, September 22, 2018 - 8pm
Atwood Concert Hall, ACPA

Generously
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ANCHORAGE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PRESENTS **JOHN WILLIAMS**

THE FORCE WILL BE STRONG ON
Saturday, October 6, 2018 - 8pm
Atwood Concert Hall, ACPA

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