



KEYNOTES

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE EVANSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

LAWRENCE ECKERLING, MUSIC DIRECTOR

Double Your Pleasure, Double Your Fun!



FEBRUARY 3,
2008
2:30 PM

CONCERT PERFORMANCE

Maestro Lawrence Eckerling and the Evanston Symphony Orchestra will be highlighting two of the talented musicians within our midst at our February concert. The opening piece will be an original work, the *Overture with Fanfares*, composed by our principal bassoonist **Donald Draganski**. In the second piece, our principal flutist **Sherry Kujala** will be the featured soloist for Charles Griffes' *Poem for Flute and Orchestra*.

Donald Draganski (1936–) is one of those remarkable individuals who has been able to nourish his creative genius while working a full-time job and helping to raise a family. Mr. Draganski originally received a degree in Music Education with a Major in Bassoon and studies in Composition. After a tour of duty with the Seventh Army Symphony Orchestra, he earned a degree in Library Science and subsequently made his living as a librarian for over thirty years. During this time he has played bassoon in woodwind quintets and symphonies and composed numerous chamber and vocal works. He composed the *Overture with Fanfares* for the Evanston Symphony Orchestra's 50th anniversary season. This exciting work is so well-loved by our orchestra players that they have asked to perform it for you again. We hope you enjoy it as much as we do!

Charles Tomlinson Griffes (1884–1920) was raised in the small town of Elmira, New York. He

did not take up an instrument until he was recuperating from typhoid fever at age eleven, when he became fascinated by his sister's piano practicing. At thirteen he began studies with Professor Mary Broughton, who became his mentor and friend. When Griffes was 19, Professor Broughton helped finance a voyage to Berlin to study at a conservatory there. Originally, Griffes hoped to have a performing career, but his interest in composition led him to leave the conservatory to study with Engelbert Humperdinck for two years. After the death of Griffes' father, the need to help provide for his widowed mother caused Griffes to come home to America and accept a position as director of the music department in a prestigious prep school in Tarrytown, New York. Like Mr. Draganski, he composed a prodigious amount of chamber music and vocal music while working a full-time job. His works were influenced by

German Romanticism but also had a unique impressionistic American style. **Sherry Kujala** will be our soloist in Griffes' beautiful *Poem for Flute and Orchestra*, perhaps his most popular piece.

Although you may think **Sergei Rachmaninoff** (1873–1943) is most well known for his piano concertos, his three symphonies are just as beautiful to listen to. Rachmaninoff began studying piano with his mother when he was quite young, but she noticed no unusual talent in him. In fact, Rachmaninoff was considered to be lazy and spent his time ice skating when he was supposed to be practicing. However, his compositional talent emerged while still in his teens when he wrote a one-act opera, his first piano concerto, and a set of piano pieces. Not all his compositions met with unqualified success at first (his *Symphony No. 1* was harshly savaged by the critics), but by the time of the premiere of *Symphony No. 2 in E minor* in 1908, his first two piano concertos and many other pieces were widely acclaimed. Rachmaninoff's works are known for their beautiful melodies and wonderful orchestral color. We think you will agree; this symphony is one to truly savor! 

—Julie Westbrook



**MUSICAL
INSIGHTS**

FRIDAY,
FEBRUARY 1, 2008
1:30 PM



Presbyterian Homes

THE EVANSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA IS AN ILLINOIS NOT-FOR-PROFIT COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA PROVIDING DIVERSE, ENJOYABLE AND ACCESSIBLE MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT THAT ENRICHES THE ORCHESTRA, THE AUDIENCE AND THE COMMUNITY.

MEET OUR SOLOIST: *SHERRY KUJALA*



SHERRY KUJALA, FLUTE

The Evanston Symphony's principal flutist, Sherry Kujala, steps into the spotlight as our featured soloist in the Griffes "*Poeme*" at our February 3rd concert. After growing up in central Texas, Sherry completed a master's in flute performance at Northwestern University in 1985, and later, did advanced study at the Kellogg Graduate School of Management. Today, she balances her performing career with arts administration and publishing. "I developed a passion for orchestras at a very young age, because my mother was executive assistant to the music director of a regional orchestra, my father was a high school band director, and they both were church musicians," Sherry explains. "Over the years, I learned first hand the importance of all the behind-the-scenes operations which make performances possible. These imprints from my childhood made this a natural career choice," she says.

She is married to Walfrid Kujala, former principal piccoloist of the Chicago Symphony and currently professor of flute at Northwestern University, and together, they publish a number of his pedagogical materials. Like most artists, they have had some unusual experiences, including one in 1997, the night before Wally was to appear as soloist with the Evanston Symphony. He was still playing in the Chicago Symphony. "This was during the CSO renovation of Orchestra Hall, and the Orchestra was performing in Medinah Temple," Sherry says. "Wally parked illegally and his car was towed. After a short search, he called me to come to the rescue. Of course, I flew out the door—no make-up, disheveled hair, wearing old sweats. We spent three hours in the underworld where cars go when they are naughty." She adds, "Wally was still resplendent in his white tie and tales from the CSO concert. As we were leaving at 3 A.M., The Car Goon looked us over and asked if we had been to a costume party, and Wally said, 'No, just another day at the office.'" Sherry says she felt exhausted from the car retrieval with nothing to do Friday except the concert that night, "while Wally taught all day and played two concertos with the Evanston Symphony." 🎶

—Lilias Circle

AN EVANSTON SYMPHONY CHRISTMAS SUCCESS

An audience of nearly 1,000 thrilled to the fourth annual performance of AN EVANSTON SYMPHONY CHRISTMAS on Sunday, December 2 at Evanston Township High School. Sponsored by the Evanston investment firm of Romano Brothers & Co., Maestro Eckerling and the ESO were joined by the Evanston Symphony Festival Chorus, Sue Young, Director, and the Evanston Dance



Ensemble, Bea Rashid, Artistic Director, for a moving program of holiday favorites. Santa Claus made an appearance to the delight of the many children in the audience, and Master of Ceremonies Harry Porterfield of ABC7 News surprised us all by joining the orchestra in the 2nd violin section for the closing "Hallelujah" chorus from Handel's *Messiah*. Strolling carolers from ETHS filled out this great musical celebration. 🎶

ESO FAREWELLS

The Evanston Symphony has been fortunate to have many dedicated, long-time members. We have recently lost two of them. Edith Gaudio joined the orchestra in 1968, and played violin and viola until her retirement in 2000. Edith was Norwegian, but since she was born on Columbus Day, she decided she would marry an Italian. She met another musician, Jim Gaudio, in the 4th grade, and their daughter Jane later played cello with the ESO. Edith supported the Orchestra financially and enjoyed working on Keynotes for many years. She died last July 4, an appropriate holiday for an independent lady.

The ESO family also sends condolences to Gloria Boyell, second violin. Her sister, F. Marcella Eisenberg, died in mid-December. Some of the long supporters of the orchestra will remember "Fritzzy," who played viola with us until about 5 years ago. Fritzzy had a wonderful career as a professional violinist and, later, a viola player. She played with the New York Metropolitan Opera and Ballet Company. She had her own quartet and toured the country giving concerts and doing outreach programs for children. She played with us once she retired to this area. She was a woman with strong opinions and her apartment was filled with the most amazing mementoes of her life. She was dedicated to her family and loved orchestral music.

We will miss these remarkable women. 🎶

MUSICAL INSIGHTS



Please join us for a lively hour of music and conversation moderated by Julie Westbrook on Friday, February 1 at 1:30 pm in the Assembly Hall of Presbyterian Homes, One Calvin Circle, at Grant and Ridgeway in Evanston



Maestro Eckerling and Julie Westbrook will explore the beautifully, romantic *Symphony No. 2* by Rachmaninoff and Don Draganski will discuss his "*Overture*

with *Fanfares*" which he composed to mark the 50th Anniversary of the Evanston Symphony Orchestra in 1995. Our soloist, Sherry Kujala will also join in so be sure and join us for this program of Musical Insights in the Assembly Hall of Presbyterian Homes on Friday, February 1 at 1:30 pm. Parking is free on the Presbyterian Homes campus. All are welcome to attend this FREE event; light refreshments will be served

For more information call 847-864-8804, email esomusic@evanstonsymphony.org or visit our website at www.evanstonsymphony.org. 🎶



Presbyterian Homes™

SHARE THE STAGE

With your gift to the Evanston Symphony

As an ESO supporter, you share the excitement every time Maestro Eckerling and the orchestra take the stage. Now we are inviting you to take your place "on stage" by sponsoring a Section Member, a musician in our orchestra, with a tax-deductible gift of \$125-\$349. Or sponsor a Principal Player (one of the 19 section leaders) with a leadership gift of \$350 or more

We call it Share the Stage to recognize the importance of you, our most generous supporters. Our goal is to match a sponsor with each and every musician in the ESO!

At each concert your name, or the name of whomever you choose to honor, will be featured proudly on our ESO Community On Stage display in the lobby. Choose an instrument you love, one you play, or one you wish you could play – it's your turn to shine! Your giving will inspire others. Of course, every gift, whatever its size, helps further our mission and ensures that we keep live symphonic performances accessible to everyone.

The ESO earns about half of its operating budget from ticket sales. The other half comes from contributions—from people like you. Make your tax-deductible gift today and Share the Stage with us as a vital part of our ESO Community.

Please look for the ESO Community On Stage in the Pick-Staiger lobby on February 3. We can take your donation right there—and you can choose the instrument you wish to sponsor. Watch your mailbox for more information on Share The Stage...and thank you for your support!

Hear why ESO supporters took their place on the stage last year:

"My husband had played the trombone as a youth and always wished he had continued. Whenever we attend an ESO concert he watches the brass section closely and nudges me, nodding when their performance touches him. I couldn't think of a better way to honor his love of the instrument and put him 'on stage' than by buying him a seat in the section he most loves."—Naomi

"I gave a donation to sponsor the concert master in recognition for all the help Julian Arron and his father, Sam, gave me while I studied the violin with them for over 16 years."—Marvin

"We are happy to sponsor our son-in-law Mark Westbrook, along with his parents, because he has given us so much joy by introducing us to the Evanston Symphony Orchestra."—Winifred and Rudy



ESO Annual Fund – Share The Stage

DONATION LEVELS

- | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------|--|---------------|--|---------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conductor | \$2,500 and up | <input type="checkbox"/> Soloist | \$600 – \$999 | <input type="checkbox"/> Orchestra Member* | \$125 – \$349 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Concertmaster | \$1,500 – \$2,499 | <input type="checkbox"/> Principal Player* | \$350 – \$599 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporter | \$10 – \$124 |

DONATION

I would like to make a gift for the following amount: \$ _____

*Instrument choice: _____ Share The Stage donor listing name should read: _____

GIFT RECOGNITION OR TRIBUTE GIFT INFORMATION (OPTIONAL)

Tribute gift: in honor in memory Name and address to notify: _____

In honor/memory of: _____

DONOR

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____ EMAIL _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Check Enclosed OR Please bill my MasterCard Visa Discover

ACCT# _____ EXP. DATE _____ SIGNATURE _____

Mail this filled-out form with check or credit card number to: Evanston Symphony Orchestra • PO Box 778, Evanston, IL 60204

2007–08 CONCERT SEASON OF "GOOD VIBRATIONS."

Join us for the rest of our 2007-08 Concert Season of "Good Vibrations."

All concerts are at 2:30 pm in Pick Staiger Concert Hall,
50 Arts Circle on the Northwestern University Campus



Sunday, March 16, 2008 2:30 P.M.

With the North Shore Choral Society and Chicago's "Artist of the Year" Michelle Areyzaga

Bizet	L'Arlesienne Suite No. 2
Canteloube	Selected "Songs of the Auvergne"
Poulenc	Gloria
Dukas	The Sorcerer's Apprentice

This concert is sponsored by
Harris Bank.



Sunday, May 11, 2007 2:30 P.M.

With Percussionist Jordan Wirth

Beethoven	Symphony No. 6 "Pastoral"
Higdon	Percussion Concerto
Rimsky-Korsakov	Capriccio Espagnol 



TICKET POLICY

When you bring a guest using your Angel Voucher or exchange a previously unused concert ticket, please bring the voucher or ticket to the box office and you'll receive an available ticket for that afternoon's concert. Ushers are instructed not to accept any ticket except the current concert.

All children 12 years of age and under attend ESO concerts for free. However, please pick up a free ticket for any children you are bringing and hand it to the usher when entering the auditorium. Thank you. 

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For more information on ESO concerts and events, please contact Julie Schmidt, General Manager, at (847) 864-8804. Write us at Evanston Symphony Orchestra, PO Box 778, Evanston, IL 60204. Email us at esomusic@evanstonsymphony.org. Visit our website evanstonsymphony.org.



evanston!communityfoundation



PO BOX 778
EVANSTON, IL 60204-0778

REMINDER!

MUSICAL INSIGHTS

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CONCERT PERFORMANCE

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