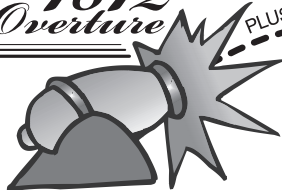


Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra

Sheldon Bair, Founder & Music Director



The
1812
Overture



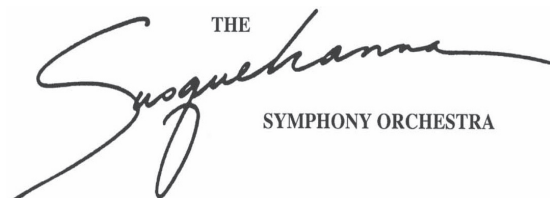
PLUS MUSIC FROM

The
Grateful
Dead



May 19, 2012





Our 35th Season

The Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra was founded in 1978 by Sheldon Bair and is a community orchestra of professional and amateur volunteer musicians. The Susquehanna Symphony's home is in Harford County, Maryland, near the mouth of the Susquehanna River. The Orchestra performs a subscription series of concerts every year in addition to outdoor and chamber music concerts. The Orchestra has performed opera and ballet, as well as standard orchestral repertoire, and is known for its premieres of new works and performances of unusual repertoire. The Orchestra performed in St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York City for over 3,000 people in November 2007, and at Carnegie Hall for 2,500 people in October 2009.

This year marks the 35th Season of the Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra. Such longevity would not be possible without your support. We thank you for attending this evening's concert, and look forward to many more years of making music!

Mission Statement

The Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra (SSO) strives to stimulate creativity and intellectual growth in the local community and volunteer musicians through the performance of diverse orchestral works.

Thank You!

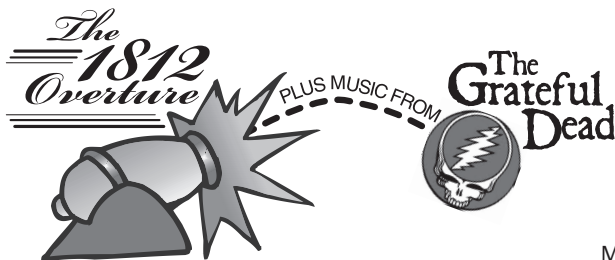
The SSO would like to express their gratitude to Chris Schler and Laura Stafford from the Town of Bel Air for all their help with coordinating the concerts and contracts with Bel Air High School. We also are indebted to Paul Labe, Dean for Visual, Performing, and Applied Arts at HCC; Gregory Komondor, Principal, Bel Air High School; and the Bel Air High Music Department, Terri Mathews, Department Chair. We thank Harford Community College for providing rehearsal space, our ticket outlets, and our sponsors/donors who make sharing excellent orchestral music with our community possible.

Cover Photo of SSO: Stefan Antwarg

Please Note:

- Silence pagers, cell phones, and signal watches during the performance.
- The use of cameras and recording devices is prohibited.
- Latecomers will be seated only between movements/selections.
- All children should be carefully supervised so that they are not disruptive to the musicians or the audience.
- Smoking is prohibited anywhere on school property.

**Thank you for your cooperation.
Please enjoy this evening's performance.**



May 19, 2012

Lee Johnson

Symphony No. 6 – Dead Symphony

If I Had the World to Give
 Dead Overture / Saint Stephen
 Here Comes Sunshine
 Mountains of the Moon
 Bird Song
 China Doll / Finale

Intermission

Wolfgang A. Mozart
 (1756–1791)

Two Arias from “Don Giovanni”

Batti, batti o bel Masetto
 Vedrai, carino

Soprano: Emma Zyriek

Peter I. Tchaikovsky
 (1840–1893)

Preghiera (Ave Verum Corpus) from Suite No. 4, “Mozartiana”

Peter I. Tchaikovsky
 (1840–1893)

1812 Overture

*Symphony No. 6 — Dead Symphony was acquired from the composer with thanks.
 Permission to use the album cover art was also granted.*

We thank COL Jeff Holt of the Aberdeen Test Center, US Army, for the use of the tank wrenches.

*Note: When a symphony with multiple movements is performed,
 please hold all applause until after the final movement. Thank you.*



The Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra is supported by funds from the Maryland State Arts Council, an agency dedicated to cultivating a vibrant cultural community where the arts thrive, and the Harford County Government through the Harford County Cultural Arts Board. Funding for the Maryland State Arts Council is provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency, which believes that a great nation deserves great art.

Music Director

Sheldon Bair is the Founder and Music Director of the Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra (Maryland), a community orchestra of over 90 members. He holds a Bachelor's degree from Elizabethtown College (Pennsylvania) where he studied conducting with Otis Kitchen and composition with James McVoy and Darrell Douglas, and a Master's degree from Towson University (Maryland). In addition, his post-graduate studies include classes at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey. Sheldon Bair has studied conducting with Witold Rowicki in Vienna, and Marc Mostovoy, William Hudson, and Leonid Grin.



Bair teaches orchestra for the Harford County Public Schools (Maryland), is adjunct faculty for Harford Community College, is on the conducting staff for the Elizabethtown College Music Camp, and is often invited to conduct and adjudicate youth orchestras and soloists. In November 2000, Bair was bestowed the Paderewski Award for Contributions to Society and Culture at the Polish Embassy in Washington, DC. In the fall of 2007, Bair was the guest conductor for the Flower Mound Symphony Orchestra in Dallas, Texas, and in February 2011 he conducted the Oklahoma Youth Orchestra in Norman, Oklahoma. In the fall of 2007, 93 members of the Susquehanna Symphony appeared at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City, performing a program of Polish music with several choirs in front of an appreciative, standing-room-only audience. In the fall of 2009, 100 members of the Susquehanna Symphony performed on the main stage at Carnegie Hall for the same Polish impresario, performing a program of Polish works under three different conductors.

Putting Harford County on the Map

In October 2011, Bair was invited to speak at the 6th Annual Malcolm Arnold Festival in Northampton, U.K. The invitation came more than a year before and was due to the fact that he had conducted the U.S. premiere of Arnold's 9th (and last) Symphony in Bel Air in March 2000. On the 90th anniversary of Arnold's birth, Bair was given the honor of laying a wreath at the bust of Sir Malcolm Arnold in the lobby of the Northampton Concert Hall where the festival was being held. Also during Bair's trip he met with Tony Masters, a retired high school band director who had brought his school band to Bel Air on two occasions; and met with English conductor Andrew Penny who had conducted the Naxos label's CD set of all nine Arnold symphonies. There may be some possible future collaboration with the SSO and the local youth orchestras from England. Maestro Bair's travels connect the SSO to points all over the world and are one of the reasons why this all-volunteer community orchestra is of such an amazing value to Harford County.

About the Composer



Lee Johnson was born in Minnesota in 1961. He grew up taking lessons on piano, cello, and classical guitar and began composing at age 15. Lee joined the US Army Band as a guitarist and lived in Wurzburg, Germany which gave him and his family many wonderful opportunities to see and experience Germany and Europe.

Today, Lee Johnson is working as a very requested composer, conductor, performer, and producer. He has works that have been performed and recorded

by the London Symphony Orchestra, the chart-topping Taliesin Orchestra, the London Session Orchestra, The American Rock Orchestra, The Cyberlin Philharmonia, and many others—all under his baton.

Lee Johnson has recorded and conducted numerous works at the famed Abbey Road Studios in London. He has composed five symphonies, numerous chamber works, four musicals, two operas, concerti, choral and vocal works, works for ballet theater, feature and experimental film, and hundreds of works for multimedia and interactive technologies. Johnson is in demand as a guest lecturer for his creative works and is a frequent speaker and clinician at colleges, universities, and fine arts organizations.

Lee Johnson has conducted and recorded with world class orchestras such as: The Russian National Orchestra, The London Symphony Orchestra, The Taliesin Orchestra, The London Session Orchestra, The American Rock Orchestra, The Cyberlin Philharmonia, among many others.

Johnson has received an Emmy Award, was named Georgia Artist of the Year, has charted on Billboard, has won ASCAP and ADDY Awards, and is the full-time Callaway Professor of Music Chair at LaGrange College in Georgia.

Our Guest Performer



Emma Zyriek is a junior at C. Milton Wright High School. She has loved music since she was a small child, and has performed at numerous church and civic functions, as well as with ensembles such as the Young Victorian Opera Company of Baltimore, Harford Community College's Phoenix Theater, and the Maryland All County and All State Choruses. Emma attended the Brevard (NC) Music Center's high school opera program in 2010 and will spend six weeks at the Tanglewood Young Vocal Artist

program this summer. She studies voice with Dr. Phillip Collister, and hopes to pursue a double degree in vocal performance and political science in college.

Personnel

‡ In Alphabetical Order

First Violins ‡

Wendy Bohdel, *Concertmaster*
Elizabeth Caughey
Gwendolyn Clemens
Shannon Eaton
Mary Folus
Anne Lehman
Enid McClure
Andrew Nowakowski
Terry O'Neill
Kim Politz
Christine Robbins
William Spencer
Lily Wang
Amy Wilkinson

Second Violins ‡

Manfred Reek, *Principal*
Anthony J. Belcastro
Katie Bohdel
Beverly Caswell
Ashley Harris
Cristine Larson
Martha Schmidt
Sara Twist
Alexander Weber
Demi Wilkerson
Chelsea Wilks

Violas ‡

Jessica Conklin, *Principal*
Will Conway
Colleen Grotke
Karyn Hetmanski
Noreen Hiltz
Caitlin Norman
Edna Rainey

Violoncellos ‡

Laura Ruth, *Principal*
Elaine Bundy
Kim Damian
Julia Dather
Chelsea Friend
Fred Gehris
Mark Grotke
Barbara Hill
Kevin Klein
Michele Martin

Basses ‡

Brian Folus, *Principal*
Zachary Bair
Carol Benck
Ken Hennings
Dylan Jennings
Beth Weed

Flutes

Doris Reinhardt
Carol Thompson
Marjorie Roberts

Oboes

Barbara Bair
Cathy Zink
Lindsay Evans, *English Horn*

Clarinets

Fiona Sparks
Kelly Rhodes
Jane Mammana
Margaret Holmes, *Bass*

Bassoons

Alicia Bourassa
Margaret Holmes
Benjamin Schuhart
Terry Ewell, *Contrabassoon*

Horns

Timothy Byrnes
Dawn Zipay
Bruce Kovacs
Michael DeZearn

Trumpets

David Stauffer
Robert Storey
Kelly Hall
Glenn Krueger

Trombones

Charles Phillips
Phillip Hubbs
Donald Raff

Tuba

Donald McClure

Harp

Shu Jun Li Hom

Timpani

Allan Andreycak

Percussion

Mary Eilerman
Joanne Mitaro
Welles Still

Librarian

Laura Ruth

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Alicia Watts

Anne Lehman

Stage Manager

Welles Still

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Samantha Smith
Caroline Huang
Gus Carlson
Faith Wang

Second Violins

Samantha Litvin
Alexandra Stephens
Michael Perrotti
Justin Taylor

Violas

Deedra Renae Haynes
Kerry Ingram
Ben Hubbard
Kamini Mallick

Violoncellos

Lauren Betz
Alexis Sfikas
John Grotke

Basses

Zachary Bair
Shayla S. Schlossenberg

Flute

Annemarie Dickerson

Clarinets

Ariel Breidenbaugh

Bassoon

Clark Butler

Trombone

Jacob Weinstein

Percussion

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Full Season (5 Concerts)	\$500	\$400	\$200	\$100
Single Concert Program	N/A	\$125	\$75	\$30

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Program Notes

Symphony No. 6 – Dead Symphony

Lee Johnson

Lee Johnson is a professor of music composition, music technology, and film music for LaGrange College in central Georgia. His compositions include nine symphonies, two nontraditional operas, concertos, musicals, cantatas, chamber music, vocal and choral works, and award winning film music.

In 1995 Johnson's friend, producer Mike Adams asked him "to see if it was possible to make a symphony of the music of the Grateful Dead." Johnson knew of the group, but didn't really know their music. Over a period of ten years he studied their music and discovered much of it to be improvised, but searched for songs that he said, "would be flattered by the use of the orchestra." As a result, the symphony was *inspired* by the Dead, but is not an orchestral version of the songs.

The original completed work was recorded in 2005 by the Russian National Orchestra, a group of young musicians who Johnson had worked with previously. The first live performance was on August 1, 2008, on what would have been Jerry Garcia's 66th birthday, by the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra with Lucas Richman conducting. The symphony as initially completed consisted of twelve short movements, each of which, except for the overture and finale, were



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Program Notes (Cont'd)


inspired by a different Dead song. The overture includes references to crowd memories, tuning of guitar and drums, and the use of *Funiculi, Funicula* which the group often played before shows. The finale also includes references to that Italian tune.

After a number of public performances, Johnson decided to revise the symphony from its original forty-five minute length to the shorter version being performed this evening.

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Program Notes (Cont'd)

Two Arias from “Don Giovanni”

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–1791)

Mozart's popular opera set in 1600s Spain recounts the adventures of the lothario Don Juan (Giovanni, in the Italian translation). Included in the cast are a young engaged peasant couple, Zerlina and Masetto. In Act I, Scene 2 peasants are celebrating the upcoming wedding of the couple when Giovanni joins in and begins flirting with Zerlina, which angers Masetto. Alone with Giovanni, Zerlina is flattered by his attention, but a friend arrives and whisks her away and denounces him as a seducer. Outside the palace, Zerlina begs Masetto to forgive her apparent infidelity (“Beat, o beat me, sweet Masetto”). Later in the act Giovanni continues flirting with Zerlina and numerous other women.

In Act II, Scene 1, knowing Giovanni's true nature, Masetto enters with a band of armed peasants intending to punish Giovanni. Dressed in a disguise Giovanni gives the group false information, sending them off. Masetto remains behind and is beaten by Giovanni. Zerlina arrives and sweetly tends to her fiancé (“You'll see, dear one”).

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Program Notes (Cont'd)

Preghiera (Ave Verum Corpus) from Suite No. 4, "Mozartiana" Peter I. Tchaikovsky (1840–1893)

Written in 1877, Mozartiana is an orchestral suite written as a tribute to Mozart on the 100th anniversary of his opera Don Giovanni. The suite consists of four orchestrations of piano pieces. Three of the pieces were the work of Mozart. The Preghiera, written as a choral work, was part of a piano transcription Liszt wrote in 1862 of this, one of Mozart's loveliest melodies. Tchaikovsky conducted the premiere of the suite in November 1887 in Moscow.



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Program Notes (Cont'd)

1812 Overture

Peter I. Tchaikovsky (1840–1893)

Czar Alexander I had commissioned the building of the Cathedral of Christ the Savior in Moscow to commemorate the defeat of Napoleon in 1812 and in 1880 the church was nearing completion. In 1881, the 25th anniversary of Alexander II would be observed, and the 1882 Moscow Exhibition of Arts and Industry was being planned. It was suggested that Tchaikovsky write a grand commemorative piece for use in some of the festivities. He began working on what would become *1812 Overture* in October 1880 and finished it six weeks later.

Although conceived to be performed outdoors with a brass band added to the finale, the cathedral bells and all other Moscow downtown church bells pealing, and live cannon fire written into the score, the work never saw an outdoor performance. The first performance was indoors in 1882, with conventional instrumentation. In 1891 Tchaikovsky visited the United States and conducted the piece at the dedication of Carnegie Hall in New York City.

Tchaikovsky didn't like the piece. He told a friend that he was "not a concocter of festival pieces" and the piece would be "very loud and noisy, but [without] artistic merit, because I wrote it without warmth and without love." Ironically, it became one of his most performed and eventually recorded works that made his estate very wealthy.

Program notes compiled by Don Raff



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The SSO's presence contributes to Harford County's quality of life which makes our area an attractive place to live and work. Your contributions will allow us to bring new artists to the stage and purchase/rent new compositions. Pre-concert lectures, the Judith L. Famous Scholarship Benefit concert, and another SCOR workshop for wannabe string players are proof of the SSO's dedication to community enrichment. The SSO Annual Fund is underway and we need your financial support to sustain fine orchestral programming right here in Harford County. (There is free parking and you don't have to fight traffic on I-95!)

To give you an idea of what it takes to implement five concerts a year, a simplified budget is provided (right).

Even with all the volunteer hours, the SSO continues to need your financial support through direct donations and your participation in our fundraisers.

INCOME

State and County Grants	\$5,500
Corporate Cash Support	\$500
Individual Cash Contributions	\$6,000
Advertising	\$2,000
Ticket Sales	\$25,000
Fundraising	\$3,500
TOTAL INCOME	\$42,500

EXPENSES


Production (Artists, Scores, Audio, Auditorium rental)	\$24,000
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TOTAL EXPENSES	\$42,400

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The SSO Memorial Fund is an important part of the Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra's ability to sustain its commitment to providing a quality orchestral music experience to Harford County residents. Begun by a bequest from Sibyl Davis Gunther, long time violinist and patron, the Memorial Fund will provide operating funds for the orchestra from interest generated while leaving the principal intact.

How Do I Contribute?

Donations to the operating budget or memorial fund can be made with a credit card on our Web site or with a check made payable to Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra, P.O. Box 963, Abingdon, MD 21009. The SSO is a 501(c)(3) non-profit educational organization.



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Music Summer Camp Opportunities

String Camp of Rochester—SCOR! (Adult)

May 30–June 2 (Bel Air, MD)

July 10–14 (Rochester, NY—overnight camp)

Overnight string camp in Rochester, NY is an inspiring summer program for adult string players and pianists of all skill levels. Day camps at other locations. Check <www.stringcamp.com> for other dates and locations. E-mail: <scor@stringcamp.com>.

Baltimore String Orchestra Camp (Grades 6–12)

June 19–28, 2012, 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. (Baltimore, MD)

Day camp with Violin/Viola/Cello/Bass ensembles, Beginning, Chamber, and Young Peoples Orchestras.

Audition Dates: April 21 or 29, 2012. Check <www.baltostringorchcamp.org> for application.

Summer Strings (Grades 6–12)

July 9–13, 2012, 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. (Bel Air, MD)

Day camp with string orchestra rehearsals, small group sessions with guest clinicians, and music theory. Camp serves as audition for Harford Youth Orchestras. Camp concert on Friday evening. For information call 443-412-2376. Registration is through Harford Community College.

Elizabethtown Music Camp (Grades 7–12)

July 25–21, 2012, 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. (Elizabethtown, PA)

Overnight camp with Chamber, Orchestra, Band, Chorus, Piano, Voice, Jazz Band, Jazz Orchestra, and Show Choir tracks. Students reside on Elizabethtown College campus studying music with practicing musicians from the College. Camp concert on Saturday afternoon. Contact Grant Moore, Director, at 717-361-1114 or <mooreg@etown.edu>.

Harford
Youth Orchestra

harfordyouthorchestra.org

See the Summer Strings ad above for audition opportunities.

The orchestras are offered as non-credit classes through Harford Community College.

Next Season's Concerts

36th Season 2012–2013

1. A Night in Old Vienna

Ludwig van Beethoven	Leonore Overture No. 1, Op. 138
Franz Josef Haydn	Symphony No. 98 in B-Flat Major
Johannes Brahms.....	Tragic Overture, Op. 81
Johann Strauss, Jr.	Du und Du Waltz from “Die Fledermaus”
Johann Strauss, Sr.	Radetzky March

2. Mozart and Tchaikovsky (Jazzed Up!) for the Holidays

Erich Wolfgang Korngold.....	The Snowman Overture
Wolfgang A. Mozart	Sleigh Ride from German Dances, K. 605
Wolfgang A. Mozart	Bassoon Concerto in B-Flat Major, K. 191
Piotr I. Tchaikovsky	December from “The Seasons”
Piotr I. Tchaikovsky	Russian Dance (Trepak) from “The Nutcracker”
Piotr I. Tchaikovsky	Nutcracker Suite
arr. Brian Folus	A Chanukah Celebration

3. Be-Knighted Masterworks

Sir Malcolm Arnold	Symphony No. 5, Op. 74
Sir Hamilton Harty	The Londonderry Air
Sir William Walton	Touch Her Soft Lips and Part from “Henry V”
Sir Edward Elgar	Cello Concerto in E-Minor, Op. 85

4. Reflections on the Civil War - An Anniversary Concert

Jerry Bilik.....	An American Civil War Fantasy
Kermit Poling	No Sound of Trumpet nor Roll of Drum
Jay Ungar	Ashokan Farewell
Ernst Bacon.....	Ford's Theatre
Aaron Copland	Lincoln Portrait

If you would like to receive information about next season's concerts and/or notices about upcoming events, please send an e-mail request to <manager@ssorchestra.org>.



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