



Spooky Symphoria

Concert Guide and
Teacher Resources

Symphor!a
THE ORCHESTRA OF CENTRAL NEW YORK

LET'S GET
SPOOKY!

PROGRAM

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART

Don Giovanni Overture

(<https://youtu.be/jyjVCbTo5F0>)

CHARLES GOUNOD

Funeral March of a Marionette

(<https://youtu.be/nuC2XhzCTHU>)

BELA BARTOK

Romanian Folk Dances

(<https://youtu.be/Z50Ooqv1GFg>)

MANUEL DE FALLA

“Ritual Fire Dance” from El Amor Brujo

(https://youtu.be/Qbx5i4A_XMc)

EDVARD GRIEG

“March of the Dwarfs” from Lyric Suite

(<https://youtu.be/6Cd3Mt2SDCw>)

KLAUS BADEL

Pirates of the Caribbean

(<https://youtu.be/6zTc2hD2npA>)



Yunn-Shan Ma, conductor

Taiwan native Yunn-Shan Ma is active as a conductor, pianist, and educator in both America and Asia. Praised as being “extremely musical” and “having the gift of keeping the orchestra tight with her hands,” Ma’s range of conducting experience bridges the gap between professional, semi-professional, collegiate, and youth ensembles.

With a passion for orchestral, operatic, choral, and contemporary repertoire, Ma has guest conducted select performances across Europe, Asia, and North America, including the Dohnányi Orchestra Budafok in Hungary; Cadaques Orchestra in Spain; North Czech Orchestra in the Czech Republic; Taipei Civic Orchestra; Evergreen Symphony Orchestra; and the Chin-Yun Choir in Taiwan. US engagements include the New York State Ballet; Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra; Genesee Symphony Orchestra; Greater Rochester Women’s Philharmonic; Geneva Light Opera; Syracuse Vocal Ensemble; Eastman School Symphony

Chorus; Eastman Chorale; and Eastman’s new music ensemble OSSIA. As co-founder and music director of the chamber vocal ensemble *F-Sharp* in Taipei, Ma led the ensemble to win the Gold Medal First Prize in the Sacred Music category, and the Gold Medal Third Prize for Mixed Choir category at the Taipei International Choral Competition in 2018.

Both on and off stage, Ma is committed to bringing new light to existing musical works. She is equally eager to present orchestral live performances in an interdisciplinary manner, incorporating new media, visual content, and special themes to interact with musicians and audiences. At the Rochester Institution of Technology, Ma has collaborated with specialists from the fields of AR/VR, Audio Engineering, Film and Animation, Illustration, Game Design, Modern Languages, and Museum Studies.

A devoted educator, Ma has served as a frequent guest clinician and adjudicator at competitions and festivals. She has been on the faculty of the Taipei International Choral Festival since 2015, led the Monroe All-County Senior High School Orchestra in 2018, and will direct the Monroe All-County Junior High School Orchestra in March, 2022. Under her astute leadership, the RIT Philharmonic Orchestra was awarded an Honorable Mention in Orchestra Performance at the American Prize 2021, while Ma herself has been a finalist in the Conducting Competition and a semifinalist for the Vytautas Marijosius Memorial Award for Conductors' Orchestral Programming.

Ma received her Doctorate of Musical Arts from the Eastman School of Music following conducting, piano, and violin performance education at the National Taiwan Normal University and the pre-college division of the Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst in Vienna, Austria. Her current conducting positions include Music Director of the RIT Philharmonic Orchestra; Music Director of the St. Kateri Parish in Irondequoit NY; and Music and Artistic Director of the Taiwanese Choral Society of Rochester.

Mozart's Don Giovanni Overture

FUN FACTS

Mozart is pronounced MOHT-sart

He was an Austrian composer (music writer)

He only lived to be 35 years old. 1756-1791

In his short life he wrote more than 600 pieces of music including operas, symphonies, concertos (pieces of music for a solo instrument and orchestra) for piano and violin and chamber music (pieces for smaller groups of instruments)

He is thought of as one of the greatest composers who ever lived.

He was playing harpsichord (an instrument like the piano) and violin when he was 5 years old.

At age eight he sat on the knee of J. S. Bach and improvised some music (wrote the music on the spot) called a fugue.

He composed music in the Classical Style at the end of the Baroque period.

Mozart liked to act silly and his music often sounds playful.

The Don Giovanni Overture is based on an Italian folktale.

NOTE A picture of Mozart has been included for your class to color before, during or after listening to the performance of Don Giovanni.



Funeral March of a Marionette

Summary

This piece of music tells a story of a puppet (Marionette) who fought in a duel and died. They have a funeral procession (a sad march). The sad people who are marching stop to eat refreshments before returning to the march.

Suggested activities before the concert:

Tell the brief summary of the story as stated above to the students.

Questions to consider before listening to the music:

- "What would a duel sound like or feel like in music?" Fast? Slow? Scary? Happy?
-
- "How would the music change when the people start the funeral march?" Slower? Faster? Happier? Scarier?
-
- Listen to the music. (There are many YouTube links for this piece.)
-
- Act out the story as a class including a brief duel, a sad march, stopping to eat "snacks" and then back to the sad march.

As with adults, when younger audiences listen to music, the change in moods in the music can be felt. This mood change is the most noticeable difference between **major** and **minor** in music. MAJOR sounding music increases the feelings of happiness and joy. MINOR sounding music is sad and many times slower. Have the students listen and raise their hands when they can hear the music change from "happy" to "sad".

3) Consider making a class marionette, or have each student make one.

Here is a simple way to make a marionette!

<https://www.wikihow.com/Create-a-Marionette>

4) Color the image of Gounod in the coloring section at the end of this guide.

Romanian Folk Dances

FUN FACTS

Bela Bartok was born in 1910.

He learned to play the piano from his mom when he was a little boy.

Bartok was sick a lot when he was a child.

He played his first recital when he was eleven which included pieces he had composed.

He was a famous Hungarian composer.

The harmonies (the way the music sounds) and lively rhythms Bartok uses were new to classical music and audiences didn't understand his music at first.

Bartok used different scales (not just major and minor) and complicated rhythms.

He traveled to many countries and became very interested in folk music

He composed The Romanian Folk Dances after being inspired after a visit to Romania.

The story of DRACULA was written in 1897 by Irish author Abraham Stoker. A summary of the story can be found at: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Dracula-novel>

The story of Dracula has been a popular influence in movies and books for many years. *Buffy The Vampire Slayer* and the *Twilight* books and movies are examples of recent examples.

Activity:

Color the provided image of Dracula while you listen to the Bartok piece.

Question to consider before listening to the music:

"Do you think Bartok's Romanian Folk Dances are going to sound scary or happy?"
"Why?" Listen to the music to see if you were correct!





Ritual Fire Dance from El amor brujo

This piece is based on a story about a woman named Candela who is haunted by a ghost. To get rid of the ghost she has people gather around a campfire and she performs a ritual fire dance! While she is dancing a ghost appears! She is eventually able to get the ghost into the fire to make him disappear.

Questions to consider BEFORE listening to the music:

- Will the music sound scary? (Minor) Or happy? (Major)? Why do you think that?
- This story includes magic. Do you think the music will sound magical? Why do you think that? How do you think the musicians make the music sound magical?

Questions to consider AFTER listening to the music:

- Did the music sound scary? (Minor) Or happy? (Major)?
- Did the music sound magical?
- What did you hear that sounded magical or scary?

Suggested Activities:

- 1) Coloring pages of a **fire**, **Candela** and a **ghost** have been provided. Students can color the images before, during, or after the concert. Use the images to act out /retell the story.
- 2) Act out the story by choosing one person to be Candela, and one person to be the ghost. The rest of the class can be people who have gathered around the campfire.
- 3) While listening to the music, act out the story. Repeat with different students acting out the parts of Candela and the ghost.

March of the Dwarfs

FUN FACTS

Greig was born in Norway.

He played the piano.

He composed in the Romantic Period

Greig was influenced by Norwegian Folk Music

The Peer Gynt Suite is one of his most famous compositions

In the Hall of the Mountain King is in the Peer Gynt Suite

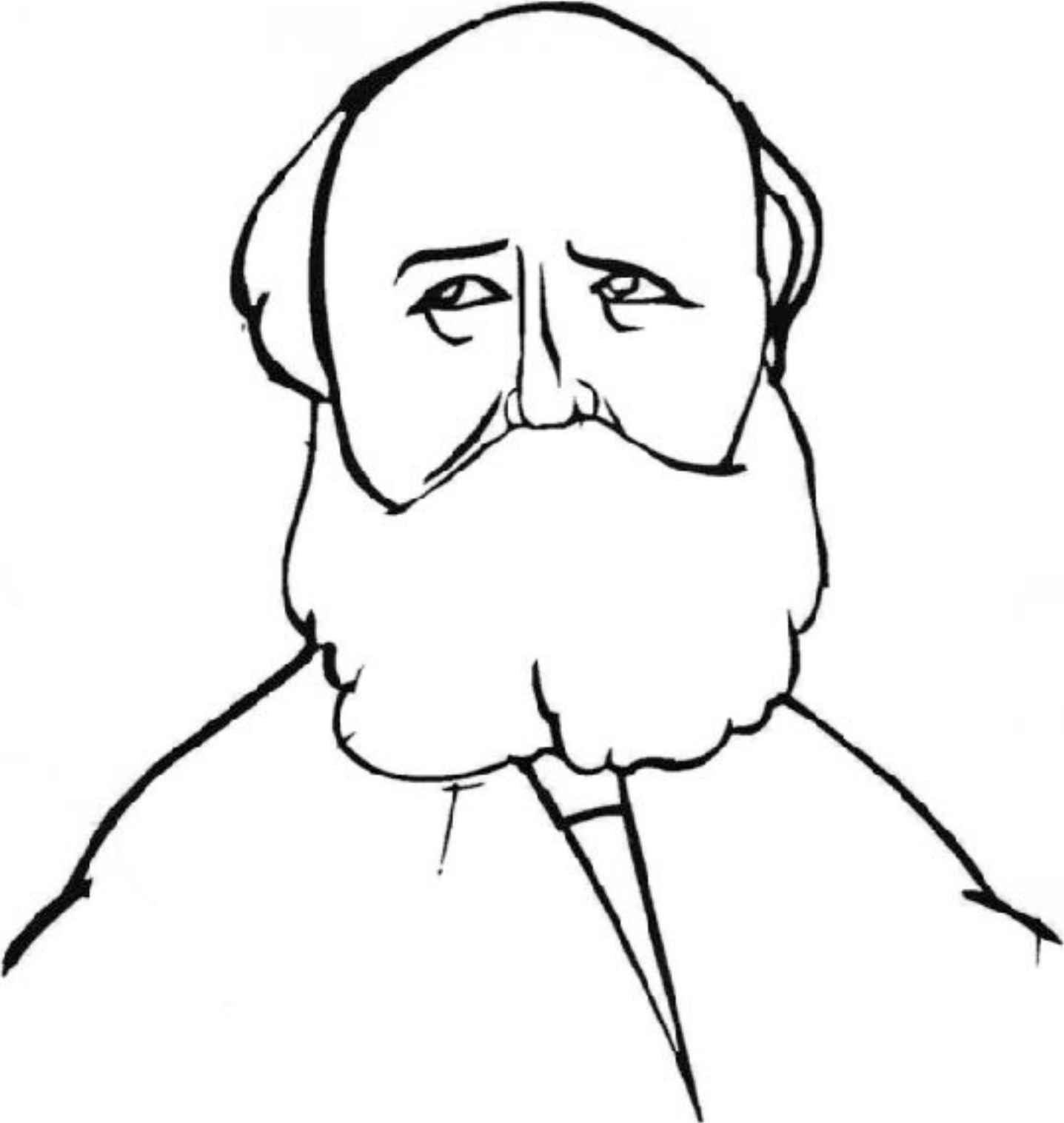
Listen to Greig's music (there are many recordings on YouTube) and march!!



Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart



Charles Gounod



Dracula



Candela





Symphoria!

THE ORCHESTRA OF CENTRAL NEW YORK

ExperienceSymphoria.org • 315-299-5598

UPCOMING KIDS SHOWS

February 12, 2022 at 10:30AM

Sound of Nature

We explore music that was inspired by nature, and pair with images of Central New York ecosystems and commentary from SUNY-ESF faculty

April 30 at 10:30AM

Stories of the Six Nations

Learn all about CNY's first people, in this special performance designed just for kids.