



Side By Side: The Story of a Musician's Life



Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra Darden Family Concert #3
April 1, 2007



Christopher Wilkins, Conductor
Yoon Chung, Piano Soloist
Cynthia Demos, Interviewer



Members of the *Florida Symphony Youth Orchestra* will join the *Orlando Philharmonic* for this side-by-side performance.

Prelude from Lohengrin, Act III Richard Wagner



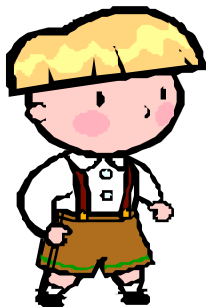
Piano Concerto #1Serge Prokofiev
Andante • Allegro
Featuring **Yoon Chung**, Piano Soloist

Swan Lake SuitePeter Tchaikovsky
Lake Scene • Spanish Dance
Dance of the Cygnets
Featuring Dancers from **Orlando Ballet**



Symphony #5 Dmitri Shostakovich
Allegretto

Peer Gynt Suite Edvard Grieg
Morning and Ase's Death



Symphony #5 Dmitri Shostakovich
Allegro non troppo

Peer Gynt SuiteEdvard Grieg
In the Hall of the Mountain King





SIDE BY SIDE – The Story Of A Musician’s Life
Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra
Darden Family Concert

Do you ever wonder what it is REALLY like to be a professional musician in an orchestra? Is it exciting and glamorous? How many hours do they practice every day, and do they ever get tired of playing? Do they have a favorite piece or favorite composer? What happens if they make a mistake? How does it feel when they hear the audience applaud? Did they always want to be a musician? What advice would they give to a young person who wants a career in music?

The **Orlando Philharmonic** invites you to learn the answers to these questions and more as you listen to the orchestra perform beautiful and exciting music in the *Side By Side* concert. The orchestra will be joined by musicians from the **Florida Symphony Youth Orchestra**, who may be on a path to their own career in music some day. **Cynthia Demos**, from WFTV Channel 9 News will conduct live interviews with the musicians onstage.



Prelude from Lohengrin
Composed in 1850 by Richard Wagner

Richard Wagner was very interested in how music could be combined with drama to tell a story. In this opera, the character Lohengrin is a knight in shining armor, sent to rescue a young maiden in distress named Elsa. They fall in love and are married, and for the wedding scene, Wagner composed the *Bridal Chorus* – which you may have heard referred to as “Here Comes The Bride.” As a composer, Wagner created “leitmotifs” or musical themes that the orchestra would play to represent characters or events in the story. When you hear this exciting theme played in the brass and strings, it helps you think of the heroic Lohengrin coming to rescue Elsa.



A Musician’s Life – Richard Wagner

Born in Leipzig, Germany on May 22, 1813, died in 1883 at age 70.
Wagner first wanted to be a writer of plays, then a composer.
Wrote his first composition at age 16.
Beethoven was one of Wagner's favorite composers.
Wagner's operas were so BIG, that a special stage and opera house called Bayreuth was built just for his performances.





*Andante and Allegro from
Piano Concerto #1 in D-flat Major
Composed by Serge Prokofiev*

A Musician's Life: Yoon Chung, Piano Soloist

When a composer writes a **concerto**, it features a solo instrument accompanied by the full orchestra. The soloist is a **virtuoso**, or expert on their instrument. Each year, the *Florida Symphony Youth Orchestra* sponsors a concerto competition, and this year's winner is **18-year old Yoon Chung**, who will perform on piano. Yoon is a student at Lake Brantley High School, and lives with his family in Longwood. Yoon is an accomplished performer on both piano and violin, and has won many awards and competitions. He began piano lessons at age 4, and is now a student of Zalina Gurevich. Yoon often performs duets with his sister Kelly, and he studies violin with Dr. Lev Gurevich. He likes to compose music in his spare time, and here are his thoughts on becoming a composer: *I want to write music with the clarity of Bach, the whimsical remarks of Prokofiev, the phenomenal melodies of Rachmaninov, and the originality of my own.*



*Swan Lake Ballet Suite
Lake Scene • Spanish Dance • Dance of the Cygnets
Composed in 1877 by Peter Tchaikovsky*



Swan Lake is a famous ballet with music by **Tchaikovsky** that tells a fairy tale story. Prince Siegfried must choose a bride from the young ladies that the queen has invited to his birthday ball. Siegfried has no interest in romance, and goes on a moonlight walk beside the lake, carrying his crossbow for hunting. As he prepares to shoot an arrow, one of the swans comes out of the lake, and is transformed into the beautiful Odette, queen of the swans. She tells Siegfried of the spell cast upon her and the swan maidens; they can only return to human form from midnight to dawn. The prince and Odette fall in love, but they are tricked by the evil magician Rothbart and so they are unable to marry.

Dancers from Orlando Ballet will join the Philharmonic on stage to perform the *Dance of the Cygnets* (baby swans). In this famous *pas de quatre* (dance for four) the ballerinas are costumed as swans, and they perform intricate dance steps in a line while holding hands. Listen as the light, bouncing sounds of the music transport you to the moonlit Swan Lake.

A Musician's Life – Peter Tchaikovsky

Born in Vyatka, Russia on May 7, 1840, died in 1893 at age 53.

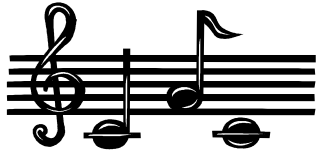
Tchaikovsky was unhappy when he had to go to a military boarding school at age 14.

His family wanted him to be a lawyer, but Tchaikovsky left the law college to study music at the St. Petersburg Conservatory.

His income as a composer often came from a wealthy patron - Madame von Meck.

Tchaikovsky wrote symphonies, piano music, and ballets including *The Nutcracker*.





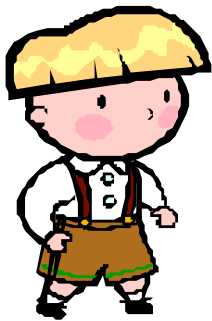
*Allegretto & Allegro non Troppo from Symphony #5
Composed in 1937 by Dmitri Shostakovich*

A Musician's Life – Shostakovich and His Critics



When a composer writes music, they wish to express their most personal ideas, feelings and sense of style in the sounds they create. Sometimes they must “change” what they compose to please a certain audience or meet the terms of a contract. The Russian composer Dmitri Shostakovich faced this problem after the government did NOT approve of the music he had written for an opera. Not only could he lose his career as a composer, he might even be put in prison if his next symphony did not win the approval of the government officials. When Symphony #5 premiered, it was a great success. Audiences loved the bouncing rhythm and melody of the

Allegretto, which sounded both comical and serious. The finale sounded like a salute to heroes of the past and future. The Russian audience, and even the government officials, made this one of their favorite symphonies, and the musical ideas of Shostakovich are still heard today all around the world.



*Morning • Ase's Death
In the Hall of the Mountain King
from Peer Gynt Suite
Composed by Edvard Grieg*



The people of Norway have many folk legends, and one of the best known is the story of Peer Gynt. The tales of this young boy's adventures became a play by author Henrik Ibsen, and Norwegian composer Edvard Grieg created music for the stories. The Orlando Philharmonic will perform three selections – we need you to imagine the characters and events as you listen.

Morning – The young boy, Peer (almost like the name Peter) awakens to a beautiful day, with the sounds of sunrise, birds singing, and a chance for adventure. Peer is always ready to go places and try things, but he does not always make the right choice, and often gets into mischief or even serious trouble.

Ase's Death – A very different sound this time, not a happy beginning, but a sad ending. Ase is Peer's mother, and he has been away for many years on his journeys and adventures. When he finally returns home, he is very sad to find his mother is now old, sick and dying. Listen for the mournful sounds played in the string section of the orchestra.

In The Hall of the Mountain King - This is one of the best known and exciting musical themes from the Peer Gynt stories. Trolls are important characters in the folk legends of Norway, and in this story, Peer enters the tunnels and caves of the King of the Trolls, under a huge mountain. Although Peer may hope to gain gold, jewels and treasure from the trolls, instead he finds the King wants Peer to marry his daughter and live underground forever. Peer is desperate to escape, and runs away as fast as he can, with the trolls chasing after him. Listen to the musical theme below - it begins softly as Peer tiptoes to sneak away from the trolls. The theme repeats over and over, getting gradually louder and faster as the trolls begin to follow after Peer. The music ends with a thunderous crescendo and loud crashes in the cymbals and drums. Did the mountain come crashing down and bury the trolls? Or is it only the sound of Peer's heart pounding as he slips out the door of the cave and escapes from the trolls to continue on his adventures?

