



MasterWorks Concert

A Dynamic RETURN

Brian Dollinger
Artistic Director & Conductor

PROGRAM

Felix Mendelssohn *The Hebrides*
Ludwig van Beethoven *Symphony No. 7*
David Stern *Rhapsody for Violin and Strings*
featuring Concertmaster, Ursula Vietze

Sunday, September 25, 2022, 2pm

The Orchestra returns to Kahilu Theatre!

SEASON KICKOFF!



Digital Edition



Hawai'i
Public Radio

2022/23
SEASON

FROM THE MAESTRO



Aloha, and welcome to the return to LIVE Philharmonic performances! I can't begin to tell you how incredibly excited everyone onstage is having you here with us today. This concert is full of highs and lows that will take us on a wondrous musical journey through motion, movement, emotion, and fun!

As we gather together today, it is important to take stock of how integral live performing arts are to our human psyche. During the recent shutdowns, one thing has become eminently clear—our souls need music;

our souls need to feel connected and fulfilled. Today, it is my utmost goal to connect to each and every one of you in a special way. It won't be in the same way for everyone, but we will connect together. From the stage to the auditorium seats, and from your seat to your neighbors, all of us being part of this moment in time, together in music. What an amazing experience!

Thank you for your continued support of the Kamuela Philharmonic and all of our projects throughout the Big Island. Now, on with the show!

Mahalo!

Brian Dollinger
Artistic Director & Conductor
conductor@kamuelaphil.org

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Aloha and welcome to the first MasterWorks concert of our 2022-2023 season, which is also our first in more than two years before a live audience. Maestro Dollinger has chosen an inspiring and appropriate musical program for your listening pleasure—one that will inspire you, as it inspires us, to admire the fluidity and motion of our world as we begin to emerge from the throes and limitations of the pandemic.

We, like many of you, have been sorely affected by COVID, but also like you, have found comfort in

music that pleases the ear, soothes the soul, and transports us to a beautiful place. So today, we hope that our joint musical journey will bring us all to that better, more beautiful place.

Joel E. Gimpel
Kamuela Philharmonic Orchestra Society
Board President

A *Dynamic* RETURN

Brian Dollinger
Artistic Director & Conductor

FELIX MENDELSSOHN

The Hebrides, op. 26

DAVID STERN

Rhapsody for Violin and Strings
featuring Ursula Vietze, concertmaster

— *Intermission* —

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN

Symphony No. 7 in A major, op. 92

- I. Poco sostenuto–Vivace
- II. Allegretto
- III. Presto–Assai meno presto
- IV. Allegro con brio

A Dynamic Return is made possible with co-sponsorship by Jim Monk & Betty Eavis, Paul & Ursula Koehler, Niel Thomas & Hermine Baker, Fred Doshier & Carol Greenwell, Joanne & David Turner, and Anonymous.

PROGRAM NOTES



THE HEBRIDES, OP. 26

Felix Mendelssohn

Inspiration for *The Hebrides* struck Mendelssohn in 1829 while traveling in the British Isles. During this trip, he traveled to the Scottish island of Staffa, with its basalt sea cave known as Fingal's Cave. Reportedly, Mendelssohn was so moved by the cave that he immediately jotted down the opening theme for his composition and sent them to his sister Fanny, writing, "In order to make you understand how extraordinarily the Hebrides affected me, I send you the following, which came into my head there." The composer completed the first draft of the overture in 1830 and continued working on the piece over the next few years. It premiered in London in 1832 and was published in 1833.

Though labeled as an overture, *The Hebrides* stands as a complete work. The piece depicts a mood and "sets a scene," making it an early example of such musical tone poems. The overture consists of two primary themes; the opening notes of the overture state the theme Mendelssohn wrote while visiting the cave and is played initially by the violas, cellos, and bassoons. This lyrical theme, suggestive of the power and stunning beauty of the cave, is intended to develop feelings of loneliness and solitude. The second theme, meanwhile, depicts movement at sea and "rolling waves."

As an indication of the esteem in which musicians hold it, Johannes Brahms once said, "I would gladly give all I have written, to have composed something like the *Hebrides* Overture."

RHAPSODY FOR VIOLIN AND STRINGS

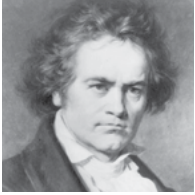
David Stern

David Stern's *Rhapsody for Violin and Strings* was composed in 2013 and revised over a period of time, with final touches added in 2020. This is a heartfelt work somewhat in the rich harmonic and melodic style of Samuel Barber's famous *Adagio for Strings*. The work is in A-B-A ternary form with repetition and variation of the A and B themes. The A theme is lyrical and sweet while the B theme is more poignant and emotional.

The *Rhapsody* also has been performed in an arrangement for string quartet by The Avanti Ensemble, and received its first performance with the original string orchestra scoring with Brian Dollinger conducting the Muscatine Symphony in April, 2021 in an online concert.

This performance of *Rhapsody for Violin and Strings* features Kamuela Philharmonic Concertmaster, Ursula Vietze.

PROGRAM NOTES



SYMPHONY NO. 7 IN A MAJOR, OP. 92

Ludwig van Beethoven

Beethoven began composing the 7th symphony when Napoleon was planning his campaign against Russia. Symphony No. 7 seems to be one of Beethoven's musical confrontations with Napoleon in the context of the European

wars of liberation from years of Napoleonic domination.

The symphony was composed by Beethoven between 1811 and 1812 and consists of four movements. It premiered in Vienna on December 8, 1813, with Beethoven himself conducting.

The premiere was at a charity concert for soldiers wounded in the Battle of Hanau. During Beethoven's address, he said, "We are moved by nothing but pure patriotism and the joyful sacrifice of our powers for those who have sacrificed so much for us." Beethoven also remarked that it was one of his best works.

The work is known for its use of rhythmic devices suggestive of a dance, such as dotted rhythm and repeated rhythmic figures. It is also tonally subtle, using the tensions between the key centers of A, C, and F. For instance, the first movement is in A major but has repeated episodes in C major and F major. In addition, the second movement is in A minor with episodes in A major, and the third movement, a scherzo, is in F major.

ABOUT OUR MAESTRO



In 2016, Maestro Dollinger was appointed the Artistic Director & Conductor for the Kamuela Philharmonic Orchestra. His charisma, energy, technical clarity, deep musical passion continues to inspire musicians and audiences alike across the country. He continues into his 19th season as the Conductor and Music Director of the Muscatine Symphony Orchestra as well as celebrating his 16th season with the Clinton Symphony

Orchestra as their Music Director & Conductor.

Whether on the concert stage performing masterworks or pops, or in the orchestra pit conducting opera and ballet, his personable approach combined with his clear conducting technique have come together to create a fun, inviting, energetic, and enriching atmosphere. He has conducted a variety of orchestras including the Georgia Symphony Orchestra, Kamuela Philharmonic Orchestra, Quad Cities Symphony Orchestra, Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra, Marion Philharmonic Orchestra, Idaho Falls Symphony Orchestra, and Muncie Symphony Orchestra.

Maestro Dollinger has collaborated with various dance companies in standard and non-traditional performances. He has worked with small,

ABOUT OUR MAESTRO (CONTINUED)

local studios as well as larger regional companies like Peoria Ballet, Gateway Ballet, and the Quad Cities Ballet. Since his appointment to the Philharmonic he has joined forces with musicians and dancers from the West Hawai'i Dance Theatre and Academy (WHDTA) in performances of Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker*. He has been appointed the Music Director & Conductor for the WHDTA ballet orchestra.

Among his many interests, conducting staged performances of opera and musicals remains extra special for him. He has conducted many staged performances including *Die Fledermaus*, *The Tenderland*, *Showboat*, *My Fair Lady*, *Gianni Schicci*, and many more.

When here on Hawai'i Island, Maestro Dollinger makes it a point to work with young musicians in their school environments. He has spent countless hours with music students all across the island as well as with young elementary school students. Mr. Dollinger has partnered with the Kailua-Kona Public Library and present a wide variety of music sessions with children of all ages.

During his studies, he has studied with many prestigious pedagogues. Larry Rachleff, Adrian Gnam, Leonid Korchmar, Manual Alvarez, and Glenn Block are but a few of his mentors. Mr. Dollinger has also been awarded a number of academic honors including induction into the Phi Kappa Lamda Honor Society.

Maestro Dollinger has a unique perspective for a symphony orchestra conductor having served in the United States Marine Corps where he was a part of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. During his time in the Marine Corps, he also took part in numerous humanitarian joint task force missions to impoverished Central American countries.

For more information about our Maestro, visit www.briandollinger.com.

DON'T MISS THESE SEASON EVENTS AT KAHILU THEATRE



22 January 2023: *The Talent that Surrounds Us*

Showcasing the winners from the 2022-23 Youth Concerto Competition. The concert also features a MasterWork by Jean Sibelius and a World Premiere from Hawai'i Island based composer Irminsul.

26 March 2023: *Brilliant!*

The Philharmonic performs Brahms's captivating and unforgettable Symphony No.1. Internationally acclaimed violin virtuosa Sirena Huang joins the Orchestra to perform Dvorák's genre-packed Violin Concerto in A minor.

21 May 2023: *POPS!*

The Philharmonic brings back the fun-loving POPS! Many talented Hawai'i Island musical artists join the Orchestra front and center to perform light-famous classical works with an eclectic collection of selections from stage and screen.

ROSTER OF MUSICIANS

VIOLIN I

Ursula Vietze Koehler, *concertmaster*
Jennifer Tiboris
Richard Lee
Ae Kyong Yoon
Kayla Uchida
Elise Doran
Simona Gronic

VIOLIN II

Joel Gimpel
Jessica Salerno-Woodbury
Joanne Turner
Mary Collier
Joanie Collins
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Tyler Tucker

VIOLA

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