



The Talent that Surrounds Us

at Kahilu Theatre

Sunday
January 22, 2023
2pm

Brian Dollinger, Artistic Director & Conductor

MasterWorks Concert



Scan for
e-Program

2022/23
SEASON

Featuring

Youth Concerto Competition winner performances,
a **World Premiere** by Hawai'i Island composer, Irminsul,
and Sibelius's triumphant **Finlandia!**



This concert is made possible with support from Rob and Terry Ryan

FROM THE MAESTRO

Welcome and Aloha! I am delighted you are with us this afternoon for a great day of symphonic music showcasing exceptional Hawai'i talent!

Bringing young, talented musicians to the stage to perform with the Philharmonic as part of our annual concerto competition is always a highlight of my concert season. Sharing the once-in-a-lifetime experience with these students of music and, hopefully, giving them an incredible experience to remember and build upon is so very special to me.

I can guarantee that you will be blown away by today's performances. These three young ladies are truly talented and have been incredibly taught and coached by their teachers. From the moment they walk on stage, "Brava!" for accomplishing this impressive feat.

Presenting Irminsul's composition, *The Three Virtues of Zarathustra*, to life for the first time will be a moving and memorable experience. His ethereal writing has an enormous potential to take you to another place and time as you listen to these three movements. In fact, many times I've said this, I invite you to close your eyes during this piece and let the sound wash over you and engulf your senses.

Jean Sibelius's *Finlandia* is one of his most iconic and famous tone poems. Written as a call to national pride against an oppressive regime, it gave an entire nation the energy, hope, and perseverance to overcome enormous odds. Symphonic music is not only entertainment but cultural history wrapped up into musical notes. And many times, history repeats itself.

The Philharmonic musicians and I are pleased you are here with us and invite you to sit back, relax, and let us fill you with musical inspiration and joy.



Brian Dollinger
Artistic Director & Conductor
conductor@kamuelaphil.org

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Aloha, and mahalo for attending *The Talent That Surrounds Us*, the second MasterWorks concert of our 2022-23 season. The program includes *Finlandia* by Sibelius and features performances by the three young winners of our 2022-23 Madeline Schatz-Harris Youth Concerto Competition, Miyu Akino, Sophie Chan, and Laura Huang. To continue the theme of showcasing talent based in Hawai'i, we will World Premiere *The Three Virtues of Zarathustra*, a work by Irminsul, a Hawai'i Island composer. The three winners, all pianists from O'ahu, demonstrated outstanding technique and musicianship in their auditions, and we're sure you'll find their performances to be of the highest quality.



Joel E. Gimpel
Kamuela Philharmonic Orchestra Society
Board President

The Talent that Surrounds Us

Brian Dollinger, Artistic Director & Conductor

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN

Piano Concerto No. 3 in C minor, op. 37, mvt. I
Allegro con brio

Miyu Akino (12), piano

IRMINSUL

The Three Virtues of Zarathustra (WORLD PREMIERE)

- I. Humata–Good Thoughts
- II. Hu‘ukhta–Good Words
- III. Huvarshata–Good Deeds

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN

Piano Concerto No. 2 in B-flat major, op. 19, mvt. III
Rondo – molto Allegro

Laura Huang (17), piano

— *Intermission* —

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART

Piano Concerto No. 21 in C major, K. 467, mvt. I
Allegro maestoso

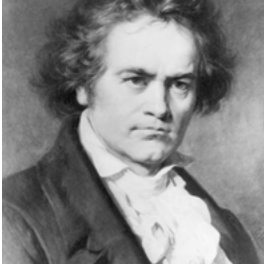
Sophie Chan (14), piano

JEAN SIBELIUS

Finlandia

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PROGRAM NOTES



Piano Concerto No. 3 in C minor, op. 37, mvt. I

Ludwig van Beethoven

The first movement of Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3 is known to use its theme forcefully throughout. It is terse, blunt, and to the point. Beethoven develops the opening movement along the general lines of Classical concertos. However, the composer pays specific homage to Mozart's C minor Concerto No. 24

near the end of the movement with intricate interplay between the soloist and orchestra.

Following the cadenza, the piece launches into a coda in which the piano sparkles with arpeggios and other expressive motifs. The movement ends with an inspired finishing touch as the piano revisits the scales-in-octaves used in its entrance earlier in the piece.



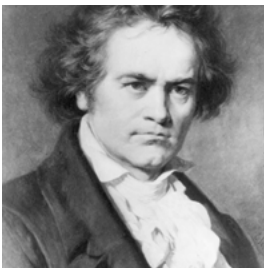
The Three Virtues of Zarathustra

IRMINSUL (Hawai'i Island)

This three-part suite for orchestra is an adventure in a relatively new genre of music called Neo-Sacred. It equally reaches the spiritual and the secular by applying a modernist-minimal approach to orchestral music, extolling oftentimes archaic and ancient principles of The Divine, which do not put off those looking for

fine secular music. In fact, the piece aims to draw in both groups, uniting them on what ends up being ideas and virtues going to the core of humanity itself.

The Three Virtues of Zarathustra presents a musical outreach to the listener of the three pillars of Zoroastrian faith: The thinking of good thoughts (HUMATA), the speaking of good words (HUUKHTA), and the doing of good deeds (HUVARSHTA).



Piano Concerto No. 2 in B-flat major, op. 19, mvt. III

Ludwig van Beethoven

The last movement of Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 2 is a rollicking Rondo that has proven over time to be the most memorable of the piece. Beethoven's early period playfulness is on full display here, as it is an infectious tune blessed with "short-fast" rhythms

PROGRAM NOTES

that linger in one's ear. The Rondo refrain appears four times during the movement, with the interludes providing a delightful contrast. Before the last appearance of the rondo theme, Beethoven brings in the piano in the incorrect key of G major prior to the orchestra discovering the incongruity and returning to the correct key in what amounts to a bit of a musical joke, something seen in many of Beethoven's subsequent compositions.



Piano Concerto No. 21 in C major, K. 467, mvt. I Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 21 is considered by many to be the composer's best-known of his many piano concerti—his Piano Concertos are some of his greatest works. No. 21 is among the most technically demanding of all of Mozart's concerti, and the concerto's first movement is an exuberant, extroverted

composition. The composer perfectly balances forcefulness, elegance, and wit in the piece. Together the soloist and orchestra work out a unique relationship in which both forces seem preoccupied with their own material yet play off of one another marvelously.



Finlandia Jean Sibelius

Finlandia is a tone poem by the Finnish composer Jean Sibelius and is considered the composer's best-known and most enduring work. The composition was composed in 1899 as a covert political protest against increasing oppression by the Russian Empire. Most of the piece is taken up with rousing and turbulent music,

evoking the national struggle of the Finnish people. Towards the end, a calm comes over the orchestra, and the serene and melodic *Finlandia Hymn* is heard.

Finlandia's extra-musical intention helps to shape the composition. The composer described the work in stirring words, "We fought 600 years for our freedom, and I am part of the generation which achieved it. Freedom! My *Finlandia* is the story of this fight. It is the song of our battle, our hymn of victory."

MADELINE SCHATZ-HARRIS YOUTH CONCERTO COMPETITION WINNERS



Miyu Akino, a 12-year-old pianist, is a 6th grader at Kaimuki Middle School in Honolulu. She was born in Japan and moved to Hawai'i at the age of 7. Since moving to Hawai'i, Miyu has been studying the piano under the tutelage of Mrs. Joanna Zane Fan.

Miyu has won awards in several piano competitions, including 2nd Place at the Hawai'i State Music Competition in 2022 (Level 3), 1st Place in 2021 (Level 2), and 2nd Place in 2019 (Level 1). 1st Place at the Aloha International Piano Competition in 2019. 1st Place at the Rising Talents of Asia & Oceania International Music Competition (GCC) in 2020.

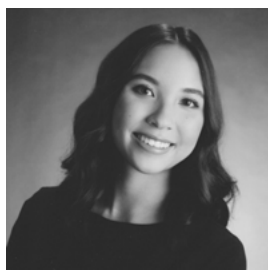
Besides playing the piano, she enjoys playing 'ukulele and Oboe—which she recently started learning in her school band. Miyu also loves Hula and respects Hawaiian culture. She feels lucky to live in Hawai'i and is very excited to have an opportunity to perform alongside the Kamuela Philharmonic Orchestra.



Sophie Chan, a 14-year-old pianist, attends the Punahou School in Honolulu, on O'ahu, and is a student of Dr. Wendy Yamashita. Under the tutelage of Dr. Yamashita, Sophie has won countless accolades in numerous piano competitions, including the Hawai'i Music Teachers Association (HMTA), MTNA Hawaii Competition, the American Protégé International Piano & Strings Competition, the Osaka

International Music Competition, the Great Composers International Music Competition, and the Hawai'i Steinway Junior Piano Competition. Sophie has even performed at Carnegie Hall in New York and other major halls in Hawai'i and Osaka, Japan.

Sophie enjoys oil painting and reading in her spare time and is in several school clubs, including Punahou's newspaper club, music mentoring club, and a Global Issues Articles club.



Laura Huang, a 17-year-old pianist, was born and raised in Honolulu, Hawai'i, and is a senior at 'Iolani School on O'ahu. She began studying piano at age four under the tutelage of her dedicated teacher Joanna Zane Fan and will attend Swarthmore College in the Fall of 2023.

Laura is honored with the following achievements: 1st Place at the Hawai'i Music Teachers Association Junior Artists Piano

Competition in 2019 (Level 4), 2nd Place in 2018 (Level 4), 2nd Place in 2015 (Level 2), and Honorable Mention in 2013 (Level 1). 2nd Place at the Aloha International Piano Festival Competition in both 2017 (Level B) and 2014 (Level A) and Honorable Mention in 2016 (Level B), 2015 (Level B), and 2013 (Level A). 2nd Place in the Great Composers Competition Masters of Piano Sonata in 2017. 3rd Place in the Hawai'i Regional Round of the Osaka International Music Competition in 2017 (Section I – Category E3). She has also performed for a Masterclass with Haewon Song in 2017 and received the Paderewski medal from the American College of Musicians in 2019.

Laura also enjoys cooking, playing the violin with her school orchestra, and playing tennis with her Varsity tennis team.

ABOUT IRMINSUL, Composer, Hawai'i Island

Irminsul is a composer and performer on the Celtic Harp and piano. He has also written numerous pieces for string quartets, varied ensembles, orchestras, and multimedia. His musical disciplines are Classical, NeoClassical, Romantic, Modern, Folk, Experimental, and Neo-Sacred.

A native of Utah, Irminsul is now based in Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i Island. He currently is commissioned composer and musical director for the theater show *Tribal Motion*, as well as a soloist and member in the World Music group INANNA.

Irminsul holds numerous awards and commissions, among them being the Winner of The Salt City Collective New Works for String Quartet (String Quartet No.1) in Salt Lake City, Utah 2008, and winner in three categories (Harp, Esoterica, and Alternative) Big Island Music Awards for 2011 and 2013.

Additionally, he has several publications of original music and arrangements for harp, piano, and string ensemble, including three full volumes of original piano etudes, interludes, and work for mixed ensembles with Celtic Harp.

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 at each rehearsal and performance. 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, 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 in performances of Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker*. He has been appointed the Music Director & Conductor for the WHDT 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.

Maestro Dollinger is a frequent conductor and clinician for various youth string festivals, competitions, and workshops. When Mr. Dollinger is on Hawai'i Island, he enjoys working with student ensembles as well as speaking to the youngest students about music. He was the guest conductor for the Illinois Music Educator's District Festival held on the campus of Western Illinois University in November of 2018 and 2019. He conducted the IMEA District #3 Festival in 2019 as well. In March of 2019, he was the featured wind ensemble conductor at the NUIC Music Conference Festival. During the '16-17 season, Maestro Dollinger was the guest conductor at the Iowa Junior Honors Festival held in Ames, Iowa. He has been invited on numerous occasions to conduct at Illinois Music Educators Association events, including all-day festivals rehearsing, teaching, mentoring, and performing with some

ABOUT OUR MAESTRO

of the state's best high school symphonic musicians. He was the conductor of the 2014 Metro Orchestra Festival in Cedar Rapids (IA). He was a guest clinician at the Jefferson Orchestra Invitational in 2016, which was also held in Cedar Rapids. Mr. Dollinger has been a recurrent guest conductor with the Northwest Indiana Youth Symphony Orchestra.

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 presented 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 Lambda 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 participated in numerous humanitarian joint task force missions to impoverished Central American countries.

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



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DON'T MISS THESE **SEASON EVENTS** AT KAHILU THEATRE

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 Tiborics
Richard Lee
Ray Broginni
Ae Kyong Yoon
Kayla Uchida
Simona Gronic

VIOLIN II

Joel Gimpel
Elise Doran
Jessica Salerno-Woodbury
Joanne Turner
Mary Collier
Joanie Collins
Jennifer Haywood-Farmer
Tyler Tucker

VIOLA

Susan McGovern
Gary Yap
Tyler Katsura
Marya Szaur

CELLO

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Peggy KempHenry
Julie Salis
Meg Saunders

DOUBLE BASS

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Sayuri Yamamoto

PIANO

Adrienne Cherry

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OBOE

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Merry Kay Kiyon

CLARINET

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Melissa Thompson

BASSOON

Lisa Wells
Wayne Kawakami

HORN

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Colleen Whitty
Sara Kamibayashi

TRUMPET

Gary Ross
Charley O'Kelly
Josh Timmons

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Jenny Brown
Michael Smellie

TUBA

Garry Russell

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Larry Boucher
Diesel Tucker

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