



MasterWorks Concert  
**SEASON OPENER!**



# LEGACIES & PRODIGIES

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2024, 2PM**  
**KAHILU THEATRE**

Brian Dollinger, Artistic Director & Conductor

**JUAN CRISÓSTOMO ARRIAGA** OVERTURE IN D MAJOR  
**ERNEST BLOCH** CONCERTO GROSSO NO. 1  
**LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN** SYMPHONY NO. 2 IN D MAJOR

CONCERT PROGRAM



2024/25  
SEASON



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# FROM THE MAESTRO

Aloha everyone and welcome to our first MasterWorks concert of the 2024-25 season. We are eager to get this concert started for you today and I'm sure it'll blow your slippahs off!

We all know the names Mozart, Beethoven, and Haydn, but what about composers who were these giants' contemporaries? Who else was composing great music at the same time? Discovering special gems like this is an enjoyable part of the job of being a conductor. I think that I have found one that we'll spend some time with over the next few seasons.

Juan Crisóstomo de Arriaga was a Spanish-born prodigy. He was often referred to as the "Spanish Mozart!" While his full composition catalog is small due to his early death, nineteen years old, we can see some of his brilliance and enjoy his love and seemingly endless energy in the music that we do have. Much of his music has an elegance and affinity for Spanish rhythms and ambiguous harmonies. Today's Overture will give you a glimpse into this, as well as give off a Rossinian flair.

Bringing another lesser-known symphonic composer, Ernest Bloch, to the stage today helps to bring the spotlight onto the musicians of the Philharmonic themselves—specifically the strings and our pianist. The concerto grosso had its introduction and heyday in the Baroque era. But Bloch created his own style of this uniquely Baroque piece with contemporary, 20th-century harmonies, techniques, and prowess.

One of the composers I enjoy the most is Beethoven. Having performed his works as a bassist, and now conducting them, I have found a personal connection to my interpreting his music. Each time I revisit his works, I strive to explore and find new nuances to bring forth in the performance; each unique and hopefully bringing about a wondrous response from the musicians and audience alike.

We are looking forward to an incredible season of great symphonic music and I truly hope that I will see you at each and every one of the performances.

Mahalo for joining us today, and I'll see you in the lobby after the concert to chat about today's performance!



Brian Dollinger

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'BDollinger'.

Artistic Director & Conductor  
conductor@kamuelaphil.org



# FROM THE PRESIDENT

Aloha and welcome to the first MasterWorks concert of our 2024/25 Season at Kahilu Theatre. As President of the Kamuela Philharmonic Orchestra, I'm delighted to extend my warmest greetings to you all. Maestro Dollinger has prepared an exciting lineup of music this season, featuring masterpieces from both classical and contemporary repertoire that are sure to delight.

We deeply appreciate your support, which makes it possible for us to bring symphonic music to our wonderful island community. Thank you for being here, and we look forward to sharing these musical moments with you Mahalo!



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dennis Yates".

Dennis Yates  
Kamuela Philharmonic Orchestra Society  
Board President

A collage of three images: the top image shows an outdoor dining area with a fire pit in the foreground and a building with red umbrellas in the background; the bottom-left image shows a breakfast table with food and drinks; the bottom-right image shows a bedroom with a bed and a window.

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# LEGACIES & PRODIGIES

**Brian Dollinger**, Artistic Director & Conductor

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Overture, op. 20.....Juan Crisóstomo de Arriaga

Concerto Grosso for String Orchestra and Piano.....Ernest Bloch

- I. Prelude
- II. Dirge
- III. Pastorale and Rustic Dances
- IV. Fugue

— *Intermission* —

Symphony No. 2 in D major, op. 36.....Ludwig van Beethoven

- I. Adagio molto – Allegro con brio
- II. Larghetto
- III. Scherzo
- IV. Allegro molto

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**THIS CONCERT IS DEDICATED TO  
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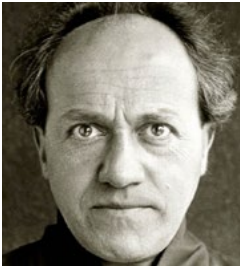
## PROGRAM NOTES



### **Juan Crisóstomo de Arriaga – Overture, op. 20**

Juan Crisóstomo de Arriaga's Overture is a remarkable work by a composer often referred to as the "Spanish Mozart." Born in 1806, Arriaga exhibited extraordinary musical talent from an early age, composing complex pieces even before reaching his teenage years. His Overture, written when he was just 15, demonstrates a maturity and sophistication beyond his years, blending elements of Classical and early Romantic styles. The piece showcases dramatic contrasts, lyrical melodies, and dynamic orchestration, capturing the listener's attention from the very first notes.

Arriaga's Overture, though rooted in the Classical tradition of Haydn and Mozart, carries a unique Spanish flavor, offering glimpses of the vibrant national character. Despite his brief career, the Overture reflects his prodigious talent and hints at the remarkable potential he possessed, making it a captivating and essential part of any concert program.



### **Ernest Bloch – Concerto Grosso for String Orchestra and Piano**

Ernest Bloch's Concerto Grosso for String Orchestra and Piano is a fascinating blend of old and new, merging Baroque traditions with 20th-century musical ideas. Composed in 1925, this piece was Bloch's response to critics who doubted the relevance of tonality and traditional forms in modern music. The result is a work that pays homage to the past while embracing contemporary harmonic language and rhythmic complexity.

The Concerto Grosso consists of four movements, with the piano playing an integral, yet not dominating, role within the ensemble. Its lively first movement is reminiscent of a Baroque concerto grosso, while the second offers a lyrical, introspective theme. The third movement introduces a charming Pastoral, and the final movement bursts forth with energy and vigor, showcasing Bloch's masterful counterpoint.

Bloch's innovative use of tonality and his ability to balance tradition with modernity make his Concerto Grosso a powerful and engaging work, demonstrating the enduring possibilities of classical forms in a new musical landscape.

# PROGRAM NOTES



## Ludwig van Beethoven – Symphony No. 2 in D major, op. 36

Ludwig van Beethoven's Symphony No. 2, composed between 1801 and 1802, marks a pivotal moment in his early symphonic output. Written during a challenging period in Beethoven's life as he began to confront his worsening hearing loss, the symphony is surprisingly cheerful and full of vitality, contrasting with the personal struggles he faced.

The work opens with a majestic slow introduction, leading into an energetic Allegro that brims with optimism and rhythmic drive. The second movement, Larghetto, offers a serene and lyrical contrast, showcasing Beethoven's gift for crafting beautiful, expansive melodies. The lively Scherzo that follows is full of playful energy and wit, while the final movement, Allegro molto, is a whirlwind of joyful exuberance, propelling the symphony to an exhilarating conclusion.

Beethoven's Second Symphony, though grounded in the Classical style, reveals an emerging adventurousness that would come to define his future works. The piece pulses with life, blending elegance and wit, while also hinting at the bolder, more dramatic voice that Beethoven would soon unleash. Its spirited nature and inventive character have ensured its place as a staple of the symphonic repertoire, showcasing Beethoven's unique ability to infuse tradition with his own unmistakable energy and vision.



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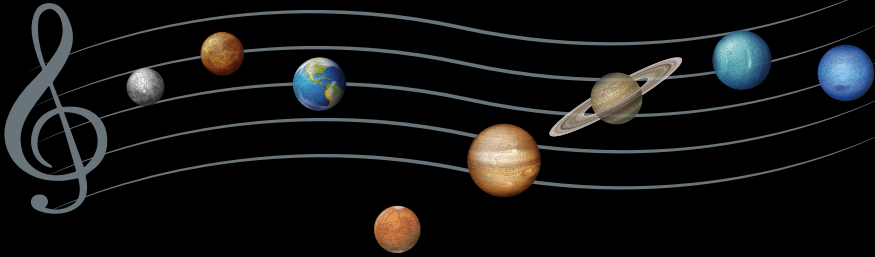
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