## NORTH CAROLINA **SYMPHONY**

# Mozart & Mahler

SUN, MAR 23, 2025 | 3PM MEMORIAL HALL, CHAPEL HILL

North Carolina Symphony Carlos Miguel Prieto, conductor

PROGRAM

## Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791) Symphony No. 41 in C Major, K. 551, "Jupiter"

- I. Allegro vivace
- II. Andante cantabile
- III. Allegretto
- IV. Molto allegro

## INTERMISSION

Gustav Mahler (1860-1911)

## Symphony No. 5 in C-sharp Minor Part I:

1.Trauermarsch

2. Stürmisch bewegt, mit grösster Vehemenz

Part II:

3.Scherzo: Kräftig, nicht zu schnell Part III:

4. Adagietto: sehr langsam

5. Rondo – Finale: Allegro giocoso. Frisch

## **About the Artists**



Carlos Miguel Prieto, Music Director The Maxine and Benjamin Swalin Chair

Mexican conductor and Grammy-winner Carlos Miguel Prieto started his tenure as Music Director of the North Carolina Symphony at the beginning of the 2023/24 season. From 2007 to 2022, he was Music Director of the Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de México. In 2023 he received the Fine Arts Medal, Mexico's highest honor for a musician. He was Music Director of the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra from 2006 to 2023, where he helped lead the cultural renewal of New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina and won a Grammy in 2024. In 2008, he was appointed Music Director of the Orquesta Sinfónica de Minería (OSM), which he has led to a Latin Grammy nomination, a Grammy award, and a residence in 2024 at Bravo! Vail.

Prieto is in demand as a guest conductor for orchestras including the Chicago Symphony Orchestra; the symphony orchestras of Atlanta, Dallas, and Toronto; The Cleveland Orchestra and Minnesota Orchestra; and the San Francisco, Houston, and New World symphonies. He made his BBC Proms debut in 2023 and led the Los Angeles Philharmonic at the Hollywood Bowl in 2024. Recent engagements include the London Philharmonic Orchestra, Frankfurt Radio Symphony, Spanish National Orchestra, BBC National Orchestra of Wales, and Auckland Philharmonia.

Since 2002 Prieto has conducted the Orchestra of the Americas, which draws young musicians from the entire American continent—serving as Principal Conductor until 2011, when he was appointed Music Director. He has also worked with young musicians at The Juilliard School, the Colburn School, the Curtis Institute, and elsewhere, and leads the Carlos Miguel Prieto Conducting Fellowship at OAcademy, an online conservatory bringing together teachers and students from around the world. He has also worked with the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain and conducted both the National Youth Orchestra-USA and NYO2 at Carnegie Hall.

Prieto has conducted over 100 world premieres of works by Mexican and American composers, many commissioned by him. He places equal importance on championing works by Black and African American composers such as Florence Price, Margaret Bonds, and Courtney Bryan, among others.

Prieto has an extensive discography and was recognized by *Musical America* as Conductor of the Year in 2019. He is a graduate of Princeton and Harvard universities.

## About the Music



Symphony No. 41 in C Major, K. 551, "Jupiter" **WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART** (1756-1791)

## THE STORY

In the final five years of his short life, Mozart produced masterpieces including the operas *The Marriage of Figaro, Don Giovanni, Cosí fan tutte,* and *The Magic Flute,* five piano concertos, four symphonies, and his unfinished Requiem mass.

Mozart's final three symphonies including his last, Symphony No. 41, were written in the span of a remarkable nine weeks in the summer of 1788—while the composer was simultaneously grieving the loss of a six-month-old child, taking care of his sick wife, and dodging debt collectors. He would pass away in a little over three years, at the age of 36.

Though no reliable source exists detailing the premiere or its reception, this final symphony quickly gained renown as one of the greatest compositions for orchestra. Mozart put on display his mastery of compositional technique— form, melodic writing, rhythmic play, and orchestration. Its status as the pinnacle of symphonic writing up to that point earned it the nickname "Jupiter," named by a future publisher after the Roman king of the gods. Despite the turmoil in his life, in his final symphony Mozart grins confidently and winks, declaring, "Look what I can do."

## **LISTEN FOR**

- The three ascending gestures that open the first movement, played in unison by the orchestra, followed by a sweet, lilting figure in the violins: two elements which serve as the foundation for the entire movement
- The muted strings giving the second movement a dreamy, distant, and warm quality
- The descending chromatic scale that begins the courtly dance of the third movement
- The end of the fourth movement, which features five independent melodic lines playing simultaneously in a dazzling display

### INSTRUMENTATION

Flute, two oboes, two bassoons, two horns, two trumpets, timpani, strings



Symphony No. 5 in C-sharp Minor **GUSTAV MAHLER** (1860-1911)

## THE STORY

Gustav Mahler was aware of the revolutionary nature of his Fifth Symphony. In a letter to his new wife Alma in 1904, during rehearsals for the work's premiere in Cologne, he despaired: "Heavens, what is the public to ... say to this primeval music, this foaming, roaring, raging sea of sound, to these dancing stars, to these breathtaking, iridescent, and flashing breakers? ... Oh that I might give my symphony its first performance fifty years after my death!"

The work's breaking of convention begins with its structure. The first part consists of the first and second movements, both dark and stormy in their effect. The second part is the massive third movement, acting as a pivot from the ominous opening part to the triumphant closing. The third and final part, consisting of the fourth and fifth movements, is an exploration of love and celebration.

Mahler's use of the orchestra is also striking. Its massive forces are divided— small subgroups interact with one another, juxtaposed with the full might of the orchestra. The result is an incredible variety of soundscapes.

## LISTEN FOR

- The trumpet solo opening the Symphony with an homage to Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, mirroring its short-short-long rhythmic motif
- The joyous hymn-like brass chorale near the end of the second movement, portending the boisterous ending in the fifth movement
- The solo horn acting as a protagonist in the third movement, conversing and sometimes battling with other sections of the orchestra
- The romantic music in the fourth movement (often heard as a stand-alone piece), written for Alma and played only by the strings and harp
- The horn and woodwinds which open the fifth movement—some of the most uplifting music Mahler ever composed

## INSTRUMENTATION

Two piccolos, four flutes, three oboes, English horn, three clarinets, bass clarinet, E-flat clarinet, three bassoons, contrabassoon, six horns, four trumpets, three trombones, tuba, timpani, percussion, harp, strings

### The Musicians of the North Carolina Symphony

Carlos Miguel Prieto, Music Director The Maxine and Benjamin Swalin Chair

Grant Llewellyn, Music Director Laureate

Sophie Sze-Ki Mok, Assistant Conductor The Lucy Moore Ruffin Chair

#### Violin I

To Be Filled, Concertmaster The Annabelle Lundy Fetterman Chair

To Be Filled, Associate Concertmaster The Assad Meymandi and Family Chair

Anna Black, Assistant Concertmaster The Anne Heartt Gregory Chair

Karen Strittmatter Galvin, Assistant Concertmaster

Emily Rist Glover The Jessie Wyatt Ethridge Chair

Paul Goldsberry The Richard and Joy Cook Chair

Seula Lee The Governor James B. Hunt, Jr. Chair

Joseph Meyer\*

Maria Meyer The Tom and Mary Mac Bradshaw Chair

Minjoo Moon\* The Harvey At-Large Chair

Pablo Sánchez Pazos The Phyllis ("Pat") Conrad Wells Chair

Jessica Ryou The James C. Byrd and Family Chair

Erin Zehngut The J. Felix Arnold Chair

The North Carolina Symphony Foundation gratefully acknowledges the generous gift of the Lupot violin from Arnold and Zena<sup>†</sup> Lerman. tdeceased

#### Violin II

Jacqueline Saed Wolborsky, Principal

The Nancy Finch Wallace Chair Tiffany Kang,

Associate Principal The Blanche Martin Shaw Chair

David Kilbride, Assistant Principal

Qi Cao

Janet Gayer Hall

Chris Jusell Oskar Ozolinch

Subin Shin

Jeanine Wynton

#### Viola

Samuel Gold, Principal The Florence Spinks and Charles Jacob Cate and Alma Yondorf and Sylvan Hirschberg Chair

Kurt Tseng, Associate Principal The Betty Ellen Madry Chair

Brian Sherwood, Assistant Principal

Petra Berényi

Paul Malcolm

Amy Mason The J. Sidney Kirk Chair

Daniel Moore

Sandra Schwarcz The Samuel H. and Anne Latham Johnson Chair

#### Cello

Bonnie Thron, Principal The June and Tom Roberg Chair

Elizabeth Beilman, Associate Principal The Sarah Carlyle Herbert Dorroh Chair

Peng Li, Assistant Principal, Anonymously Endowed

Yewon Ahn\*\* Anonymously Endowed

David Meyer The Nell Hirschberg Chair Marc Moskovitz\* The William Charles Rankin Chair

Lisa Howard Shaughnessy The Sara Wilson Hodgkins Chair

Samuel Sykes\*

Nathaniel Yaffe The Secretary of Cultural Resources Betty Ray McCain Chair

#### **Double Bass**

Leonid Finkelshteyn, Principal The Martha and Peyton Woodson Chair

Joshua DePoint, Associate Principal The Dr. and Mrs. Preston H. Gada Chair

Craig Brown The Mark W. McClure Foundation Chair

Erik Dyke The Harllee H. and Pauline G. Jobe Chair

Bruce Ridge The John C. and Margaret P. Parker Chair

#### Flute

Megan Torti, Principal The Mr. and Mrs. George M. Stephens Chair

Mary E. Boone, Assistant Principal The Dr. and Mrs. Shaler Stidham, Jr. Chair

Alexandra Stokes\* The Jack and Sing Boddie Chair

#### Piccolo

Alexandra Stokes\* The Jean Dunn Williams Chair

#### Oboe

Melanie Wilsden, Principal The Hardison and Stoltze Chair

Joseph Peters, Associate Principal, The Lizette T. Dunham Chair

To Be Filled The Clarence and Alice Aycock Poe Chair English Horn Joseph Peters

The Bruce and Margaret King Chair

#### Clarinet

Samuel Almaguer, Principal The Mr. and Mrs. J. Christopher Walker, II Chair

Sammy Lesnick, Assistant Principal The Kathryn Powell and Green Flavie Cooper Chair

#### Bassoon

Aaron Apaza, Principal The Mr. and Mrs. Fitzgerald S. Hudson Chair

Wenmin Zhang, Assistant Principal, The Beethoven Chair

#### French Horn

Rebekah Daley, Principal The Mary T. McCurdy Chair

Kimberly Van Pelt, Associate Principal The Paul R. Villard and Gabriel Wolf Chair

Gabriel Mairson The James Marion Poyner Chair

Russell Rybicki The Roger Colson and Bobbi Lyon Hackett Chair

To Be Filled The Mary Susan Kirk Fulghum Chair

#### Trumpet

Paul Randall, Principal The George Smedes Poyner Chair

Ben Hauser, Associate Principal The Henry and Martha Zaytoun and Family Chair Trombone

John Ilika, Principal The Thomas Warwick Steed, Jr. Family Chair

Steven Osborne\*, Assistant Principal The Frances Armour Bryant Chair

#### **Bass Trombone**

Matthew Neff Anonymously Endowed

#### Tuba

Seth Horner, Principal The Governor and Mrs. James G. Martin, Jr. Chair

#### Timpani

Colin Hartnett, Principal The Patricia R., Steven T. and George F. Hackney III Chair

#### Percussion

Richard Motylinski, Principal The Margery and Earl Johnson, Jr. Chair

Rajesh Prasad, Assistant Principal The Abram and Frances Pascher Kanof Chair

#### Organ

To Be Filled The Albert and Susan Jenkins and Family Organ Chair

#### Library

Stephanie Wilson, Principal Orchestra Librarian The Mary Colvert and Banks C. Talley Chair

Taylor Troyer, Assistant Orchestra Librarian

\*Acting position \*\*Leave of absence Named musician chairs are made possible through very meaningful gifts to the Symphony's endowment. As such, these donor families are also members of the Lamar Stringfield Society.

All string players rotate stands on a periodic basis in each section with the exception of titled players: Principals, Associate Principals, and Assistant Principals.

The North Carolina Symphony is a member of the League of American Orchestras and the International Conference of Symphony and Opera Musicians.

The North Carolina Master Chorale is the Resident Chorus of the North Carolina Symphony.

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The North Carolina Symphony gratefully acknowledges financial support from the State of North Carolina.





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