# NORTH CAROLINA **SYMPHONY**

# Beethoven Symphony No. 8

# THU, SEP 26, 2024 | 7:30PM

OWENS AUDITORIUM, BRADSHAW PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, PINEHURST

# North Carolina Symphony Joseph Peters, conductor

#### **PROGRAM**

Richard Strauss (1864-1949) Serenade in E-flat Major, Op. 7

Louise Farrenc (1804-1875) Symphony No. 3 in G Minor, Op. 36

- ı. Adagio Allegro
- II. Adagio cantabile
- III. Scherzo: Vivace
- IV. Finale: Allegro

## **INTERMISSION**

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827) Symphony No. 8 in F Major, Op. 93

- I. Allegro vivace e con brio
- II. Allegretto scherzando
- III. Tempo di menuetto
- IV. Allegro vivace

PENICK VILLAGE



Joseph Peters, conductor
The Lizette T. Dunham Chair

The Lizette T. Dunham Chair
The Bruce and Margaret King Chair

Joseph Peters is Associate Principal Oboe and English horn with the North Carolina Symphony. He has conducted the Symphony in Pops programs, including statewide Holiday Pops concerts, as well as leading educational concerts and performances at UNC Health Summerfest.

Joseph Peters conducts the Taneycomo Festival Orchestra in Branson, Missouri, and was Music Director of the SUNY Buffalo State Philharmonia Orchestra and the Saybrook College Orchestra of Yale University. He has also led a variety of programs at the New World Symphony in Florida.

He previously held Principal Oboe chairs with the Minnesota Orchestra and Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra. He has performed as guest principal with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and The Florida Orchestra, and for three years, he was a member of the New World Symphony.

Peters first played with the Minnesota Orchestra at age 18, performing Mozart's Oboe Concerto. He has also appeared as a soloist with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and New World Symphony, as well as the Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies, of which he is an alumnus.

Long committed to teaching, Peters was the oboe and conducting instructor at the SoBe Institute of the Arts and conducted side-by-side concerts for New World Symphony's MusicLab program. He received a bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota and a master's degree from Yale University.

## **About the Music**



Serenade in E-flat Major, Op. 7 RICHARD STRAUSS (1864-1949)

## THE STORY

Franz Strauss, father of Richard, was the principal horn player of the Bavarian Court Opera and known as the premier practitioner of the instrument in Germany. He instilled in his son a respect for the music of the past, particularly Beethoven, Mozart, and Haydn, and the music formulas to which they adhered. His disdain for the music of modern times, particularly the formless, unbridled music of Richard Wagner, was palpable to the younger Strauss, who later described his father viewing Wagner as a "Mephistophelian figure."

Richard Strauss composed his Serenade for 13 wind instruments at the age of 17, perhaps to impress his illustrious father. The decision to write a serenade was a conservative choice for the times and an homage to Mozart's mastery of the form. Serenades were popular in the time of monarchies, a century or two before Strauss, composed to be played during summer evenings when kings and queens would hold court outdoors.

Composed in 1881, the Serenade betrays no sign of the composer's youth. He deftly balances the 13 wind instruments, combining different voices to paint warm colors and interweaving them to create soaring melodies. The work foreshadows the mastery with which he will create his future works, balancing the old and the new, finding his own unique voice by honoring those who came before him.

#### **LISTEN FOR**

- The use of four horns—typically, a work of this scope would have two horns; the addition gives this piece a particularly expansive and noble sound and could be heard as a tribute to the composer's father
- The relationships among the instruments, with higher-pitched voices (flutes, oboes, and clarinets) often playing together and interacting as a group with the lower-pitched instruments (bassoons, contrabassoon, and horns)

### INSTRUMENTATION

Two flutes, two oboes, two clarinets, two bassoons, contrabassoon, four horns



Symphony No. 3 in G Minor, Op. 36 LOUISE FARRENC (1804-1875)

## THE STORY

Louise Farrenc's legacy was not safeguarded and meticulously preserved, but her known accomplishments show undeniable tenacity. Born shortly after the turn of the 19th century, she received an invitation to the Paris Conservatory at the early age of 15, admitted to study as a pianist. Farrenc had her sights set on composition, but women were barred from receiving instruction on writing music.

Not to be denied, Farrenc sought out Anton Reicha, who had taught such illustrious names as Berlioz, Liszt, and Franck. It was under his tutelage that she cultivated her compositional voice, one rooted in Germanic influences and the Romantic movement rising quickly throughout Europe. Later, accomplished as both a performer and composer, she was appointed professor of piano at the Conservatory—the only woman to hold such a position during the entirety of the 1800s—and taught for three decades.

Farrenc's decision to compose symphonies was bold—at the time, the musical landscape of Paris focused on opera, with the symphonic medium seen as the territory of German and Austrian composers. Orchestras that performed repertoire outside of the opera pit were few and far between. Her third and final symphony was composed in 1847. Only after two years would she hear the premiere, performed by the Société des concerts du Conservatoire.

## **LISTEN FOR**

- · Violins introducing flashes of a motif that evolves into the main, minor melody
- The gorgeous primary theme of the second movement, introduced by the clarinet and supported by horns, bassoon, and timpani
- A sudden ray of sunshine from the woodwinds in the contrasting middle section of the third movement
- The orchestra playing in unison to emphasize striking themes in the fourth movement

## **INSTRUMENTATION**

Two flutes, two oboes, two clarinets, two bassoons, two horns, timpani, strings



Symphony No. 8 in F Major, Op. 93 LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN (1770-1827)

## **THE STORY**

It is a testament to Ludwig van Beethoven's ambition that a piece of music with as much swagger and brilliance as his Eighth Symphony is considered one of his more modest works. Indeed, observing the symphonies that bookend the work, the comparison is unfair—the Seventh Symphony was an immediate and raucous success, and the Ninth Symphony (which the North Carolina Symphony will perform in February of 2025) is considered one of the greatest works of art ever created.

Sketches for the Eighth Symphony appeared in tandem with the Seventh Symphony in April of 1812. The work advanced quickly and was completed in October. The Seventh and Eighth Symphonies had their premiere at the same concert, in 1814; this marks the end of an incredibly productive period, in which Beethoven established an artistic voice that would set him apart from any previous composer.

In his final years, Beethoven's output would be more sparse: age, illness, personal relationships gone awry, and his ever-declining hearing took their toll. This later period, however, would be arguably even more impactful to the history of Western classical music, with works including his Ninth Symphony and late string quartets. With that struggle still in the future, the Eighth Symphony finds Beethoven at the height of his belief in himself and his ability to express himself in his art.

## **LISTEN FOR**

- The dancing three-beat pulse of the first movement, which begins without the traditional introduction
- The steady, ticking pulse in the woodwinds underneath the main theme of the second movement —often compared to Haydn's 101st Symphony, nicknamed "The Clock"
- The repetitive, undulating pattern that begins the third movement in the strings and is passed around the orchestra
- The wild ending section of the final movement, in which manically repeated notes create a humorous, jolly feeling

## **INSTRUMENTATION**

Two flutes, two oboes, two clarinets, two bassoons, two horns, two trumpets, timpani, strings

# The Musicians of the North Carolina Symphony

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

Grant Llewellyn, Music Director Laureate

To Be Filled, Associate Conductor The Lucy Moore Ruffin Chair

#### Violin

To Be Filled, Concertmaster The Annabelle Lundy Fetterman Chair

Jessica Hung, 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† 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, Ir. 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

Rachel Ahn\*
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, Il 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 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.

Thank you to the generous individuals, businesses, foundations, and community partners who support the North Carolina Symphony each year.

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





<sup>\*</sup>Acting position \*\*Leave of absence