

GNSO: Your Very Own World-Class Orchestra Offers You So Much!

- ◆ Great music selected for Orange County and the Mid-Hudson Valley, performed by skilled musicians *who are also your neighbors!*
- ◆ Featured works by local and internationally acclaimed composers.
- ◆ Exciting soloists including GNSO members and emerging international talent.
- ◆ **The Shacklett Preview.** GNSO cellist and musicologist Gordon Shacklett presents a fascinating and informative pre-concert discussion of what you'll be listening to that evening - interesting factoids and fun facts abound!
- ◆ Innovative GNSO/student "Side-by-Side" concerts give our young musicians the opportunity to rehearse and perform with a professional symphony orchestra.
- ◆ The annual *Family Concert* is fun-filled and specially programmed to introduce youngsters (and the young at heart) to the world of classical music.
- ◆ *Summer Pops Concert.* Enjoy a summer afternoon filled with music, and featuring the Mini-Maestros (yes, the kids conduct!).
- ◆ The *Newburgh Symphonic Chorale* is the GNSO's outreach into choral music, and welcomes singers from around the area for two performances throughout the year.

The Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra has made orchestral music accessible to young and old for a very modest cost. Please help keep the music coming with your support today!

For the past twenty-one years, the music of the Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra has lifted our spirits, soothed our souls, and touched us with its glory.

We encourage you to help keep the musical tradition of Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra alive by supporting the GNSO in its 2016-17 season.

- ◆ **Become a GNSO Supporter.** Contribute online at newburghsymphony.org
- ◆ **Call us to place an ad in our 2016-17 Program:** 845-913-7157

GNSO Tickets Make Ideal Gifts for Family, Friends, or Business Associates

This ideal gift fits *all sizes*, is appropriate for every age group, is *very low-calorie*, and provides your family, friends, important clients, employees, and others with exhilarating evenings of classical music! Select any combination – from a single concert, or season tickets to all performances. 845-913-7157 or GNSO@newburghsymphony.org



Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra
PO Box 10002
Newburgh, NY 12552

New Music Director Russell Ger Presents a Spectacular Inaugural Season



2016 / 2017

REGULAR CONCERT SCHEDULE
"SIDE-BY-SIDE" CONCERT W/YOUTH
NEWBURGH SYMPHONIC CHORALE
SUMMER POPS CONCERT
SUPPORT GNSO / SEASON TICKETS

 **gnsO**
GREATER NEWBURGH
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Meet Russell Ger, Music Director of the Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra



Russell Ger (pronounced "Grrr") is a charismatic, young Australian conductor based in Brooklyn, who was selected to lead the GNSO into the future after a two-year search to find a successor to Orchestra founder Dr. Woomyung Choe. Mr. Ger was selected from among four finalists in the 2015/16 season, all of whom delivered marvelous performances to the Hudson River Valley audience. His repertoire spans orchestral, operatic and choral music. Audiences will also discover that he has a keen sense of humor.

From the New World

The program title is borrowed from Antonin Dvorak's last symphony, which owed its nickname to two reasons. First, it was written while he lived in New York City in 1893. Second, and more importantly, Dvorak wanted to demonstrate how native music could be mined to create a uniquely American symphonic voice. In this case, he was referring to African-American spirituals, the styles of which appear prominently throughout the work. The balance of the program features composers who took up Dvorak's challenge and forged the American sound. They are Aaron Copland, with his beautiful *'Appalachian Spring,'* which depicts an idyllic 19th century love affair, and George Gershwin, whose brash and effervescent *'Rhapsody in Blue'* is an ode to the restless energy of New York City.

I. Saturday, September 17, 2016
7:30 PM

Aquinas Hall, Mount Saint Mary College, Newburgh, NY
Copland – Appalachian Spring
Gershwin – Rhapsody in Blue
Dvorak – Symphony No. 9 ("New World")

Deranged, Delirious, Dauntless

Three tales, three different kinds of heroes. Lord Byron's Manfred obsesses over his lost love and slowly loses his grip on reality, eventually becoming quite deranged. Wagner's wandering knight, *Tannhäuser*, has been lured by sirens into the Venusberg, the earthly dwelling place of the Goddess of Love (Venus). Here he revels for a year in the delirious delights of the nymphs' bacchanal. Beethoven's 3rd Symphony was originally dedicated to Napoleon Bonaparte as the embodiment of the new Enlightenment ideals of the French Revolution. But when the dictator crowned himself Emperor, Beethoven redacted the dedication with such ferocity that he accidentally tore a hole in the manuscript. The real hero of his symphony is Beethoven himself, who dauntlessly grapples with music as a vehicle for expressing his deepest thoughts and feelings while going deaf, rather than just serving as pleasant background noise to aristocratic socializing. Come and meet these three heroes: *Deranged, Delirious, and Dauntless.*

II. November 19, 2016
7:30 PM

Aquinas Hall, Mount Saint Mary College, Newburgh, NY
Schumann – Manfred Overture
Wagner – Tannhäuser
Beethoven – Symphony No. 3 ("Eroica")

**Visit newburghsymphony.org
for updates and details**

Into the Woods

To start the new year, GNSO will present a Family Concert that has been especially designed to appeal to the child in us all. Our Music Director has conceived a brand new multi-media experience in which the narrator will take us through a retelling of the well-known tale of Rapunzel accompanied by the music of Beethoven, Brahms, Tchaikovsky, Vivaldi, and others. We will then wind our way through Prokofiev's adored Peter and the Wolf. Come and send your imagination soaring.

III. Saturday, January 21, 2017
3:00 PM

(Snow Date: Jan. 22, 2017, 3PM)
Aquinas Hall, Mount Saint Mary College, Newburgh, NY
Multiple composers – Tale of Rapunzel, narrated
Prokofiev – Peter and the Wolf

5th Annual "Side By Side" Concert: February 4, 2017

Middletown High School. Orange County student musicians playing with the GNSO!

'Giant Footsteps'

After years of stalled attempts, when Brahms finally composed his First Symphony, he said, "You have no idea what it is like to always hear such a giant marching behind you!" (He was referring to Beethoven.) That idea of Giant Footsteps finds a more literal representation in Grieg's famous *In the Hall of the Mountain King* from his *Peer Gynt* suite. The theme is then expanded conceptually to include *Jupiter* from Holst's *The Planets*, for Jupiter is the celestial giant of our solar system. Mussorgsky's *Night on Bald Mountain* provides a connection between Grieg's Mountain King and Holst's Jupiter, for as earth's natural giants, mountains serve as a terrestrial representation of this idea. Finally, the journey through Brahms' symphony, which begins with what sounds like giant footsteps, ends in a blaze of triumph, which forever cemented the composer in the repertoire as a rightful heir to the great Beethoven, and a giant himself.

IV. Saturday, June 10, 2017
7:30 PM

Aquinas Hall, Mount Saint Mary College, Newburgh, NY
Mussorgsky – Night on Bald Mountain
Holst – "Jupiter" from *The Planets*
Grieg – Peer Gynt, Suite No. 1
Brahms – Symphony No. 1

Summer 2017 Pops Concert.
Date, Site, Time & Program TBA

Tickets & Support

You can also support GNSO and purchase tickets online at newburghsymphony.org

Season Tickets to Concerts I - IV

Center Reserved Section _____ \$ 115 per season
Open Seating _____ \$ 95 per season
Senior - Open Seating _____ \$ 75 per season

Individual Tickets Available Online

\$30 per concert - Reserved Center Rows D & E
\$25 per concert - Open Seating
\$20 per concert - Senior Open Seating
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Endowment Contributions will be used to build the endowment. Only the interest earned will be used for operating expenses.

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