

CSO to Perform Beethoven's World Renowned Masterpiece Symphony No. 5

World Premiere Performance of Stephen Montague's Invictus Will Open the Program

Arguably the best-known opening theme in all of classical music, Beethoven's Fifth Symphony leads the listener on a thrilling, uplifting, emotional journey. Ilya Gringolts, whom the *Financial Times* has praised as "one of the most inspirational violinists today," performs Englishman Sir Edward Elgar's expansive, thoroughly romantic violin concerto. Also on the program is the world premiere of *Invictus* by distinguished composer and OSU graduate, Stephen Montague. Inspired by the dark, poetic force of William Henley's poem, this tone poem is dedicated to Donald Harris, former Dean of the OSU College of the Arts. The entire program will be guest conducted by Thomas Wilkins.

The Columbus Symphony presents Beethoven's Fifth at the Ohio Theatre (39 E. State St.) on Friday and Saturday, November 15 and 16, at 8pm. Tickets start at \$25 and can be purchased at the CAPA Ticket Center (39 E. State St.), all Ticketmaster outlets, and www.ticketmaster.com. To purchase tickets by phone, please call (614) 228-8600 or (800) 745-3000. The CAPA Ticket Center will also be open two hours prior to each performance. Young people between the ages of 13-25 may purchase \$5 PNC Arts Alive All Access tickets while available. For more information, visit www.GoFor5.com.

The 2013-14 Masterworks Series is made possible through the generous support of season sponsors Anne and Noel Melvin.

About guest conductor Thomas Wilkins

Thomas Wilkins is Music Director of the Omaha Symphony, a position he has held since 2005. Additionally, he is Principal Guest Conductor of the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra and holds the Germeshausen Family and Youth Concert Conductor chair with the Boston Symphony. Past positions have included Resident Conductor of the Detroit Symphony, the Florida Orchestra (Tampa Bay), and Associate Conductor of the Richmond (VA) Symphony. He also has served on the music faculties of North Park University (Chicago), the University of Tennessee in Chattanooga, and Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond.

About guest violinist Ilya Gringolts

Winner of the 1998 International Violin Competition "Premio Paganini," Ilya Gringolts was also awarded two special prizes for the youngest ever competitor to place in the finals and the best interpreter of Paganini's Caprices. He studied violin and composition in Saint Petersburg with Tatiana Liberova and Jeanna Metallidi and at the Juilliard School with Itzhak Perlman, and was also one of 12 young artists selected by the BBC for their New Generation Artists Scheme. Gringolts has been appointed Professor of Violin at the Basel Hochschule, and is also acting as International Fellow at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama.

About composer Stephen Montague (b. 1943)

After studying piano, conducting, and composition at Florida State University (BM 1965 with Honors, MM 1967), Montague received a doctorate in composition from The Ohio State University in 1972. He did additional study in conducting at the Mozarteum, Salzburg, Austria, 1966; computer music at IRCAM, Paris, 1981; and at Stanford University, California, 1984. He was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship/Polish Cultural Grant to work at the Experimental Music Studio of Polish Radio, Warsaw, Poland, 1972-74. *Invictus* was commissioned by The Ohio State University School of Music for its Annual Contemporary Music Festival with funds provided by the Johnstone Fund for New Music at the Columbus Foundation.

About composer Sir Edward William Elgar (1857–1934)

Elgar was an English composer, many of whose works have entered the British and international classical concert repertoire. Among his best-known compositions are orchestral works including the *Enigma Variations*, the *Pomp and Circumstance Marches*, concertos for violin and cello, and two symphonies. He also composed choral works, including *The Dream of Gerontius*, chamber music, and songs. He was appointed Master of the King's Musick in 1924.

About composer Ludwig van Beethoven (1770–1827)

One of the most famous and influential of all composers, Beethoven was a crucial figure in the transition between the Classical and Romantic eras in Western art music. His best known compositions include nine symphonies, five concertos for piano, 32 piano sonatas, and 16 string quartets. He also composed other chamber music, choral works (including the celebrated *Missa Solemnis*), and songs. The **Symphony No. 5 in C minor** was written in 1804–1808. It is one of the most popular and best-known compositions in classical music, and one of the most frequently played symphonies. First performed in Vienna's Theater an der Wien in 1808, the work achieved its prodigious reputation soon afterwards. E. T. A. Hoffmann described the symphony as "one of the most important works of the time."

www.columbussymphony.com

CALENDAR LISTING

The Columbus Symphony presents BEETHOVEN'S FIFTH

Friday & Saturday, November 15 & 16, 8pm

Ohio Theatre (39 E. State St.)

In a program featuring guest pianist Maxim Mogilevsky and conducted by CSO Music Director Jean-Marie Arguabally, the best-known opening theme in all of classical music, Beethoven's Fifth Symphony leads you on a thrilling, uplifting, emotional journey. Ilya Gringolts, whom the *Financial Times* has praised as "one of the most inspirational violinists today," performs Englishman Sir Edward Elgar's expansive, thoroughly romantic violin concerto. Also on the program is the world premiere of *Invictus*, a work by distinguished composer and OSU graduate, Stephen Montague, all lead by guest conductor Thomas Wilkins. Tickets start at \$25 and can be purchased at the CAPA Ticket Center (39 E. State St.), all Ticketmaster outlets, and www.ticketmaster.com. To purchase tickets by phone, please call (614) 228-8600 or (800) 745-3000. www.columbussymphony.com

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About the Columbus Symphony Orchestra

Founded in 1951, the Columbus Symphony is the longest-running, professional symphony in central Ohio. Through an array of innovative artistic, educational, and community outreach programming, the Columbus Symphony is reaching an expanding, more diverse audience each year. This season, the Columbus Symphony will share classical music with more than 175,000 people in central Ohio through concerts, radio broadcasts, and special programming. For more information, visit www.columbussymphony.com.

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