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Masterclass: Seventh Ithaca International Conducting Masterclass with Larry Rachleff

Jeffery Meyer

Chris Younghoon Kim

Larry Rachleff

Cornell Symphony Orchestra

Ithaca College Symphony Orchestra

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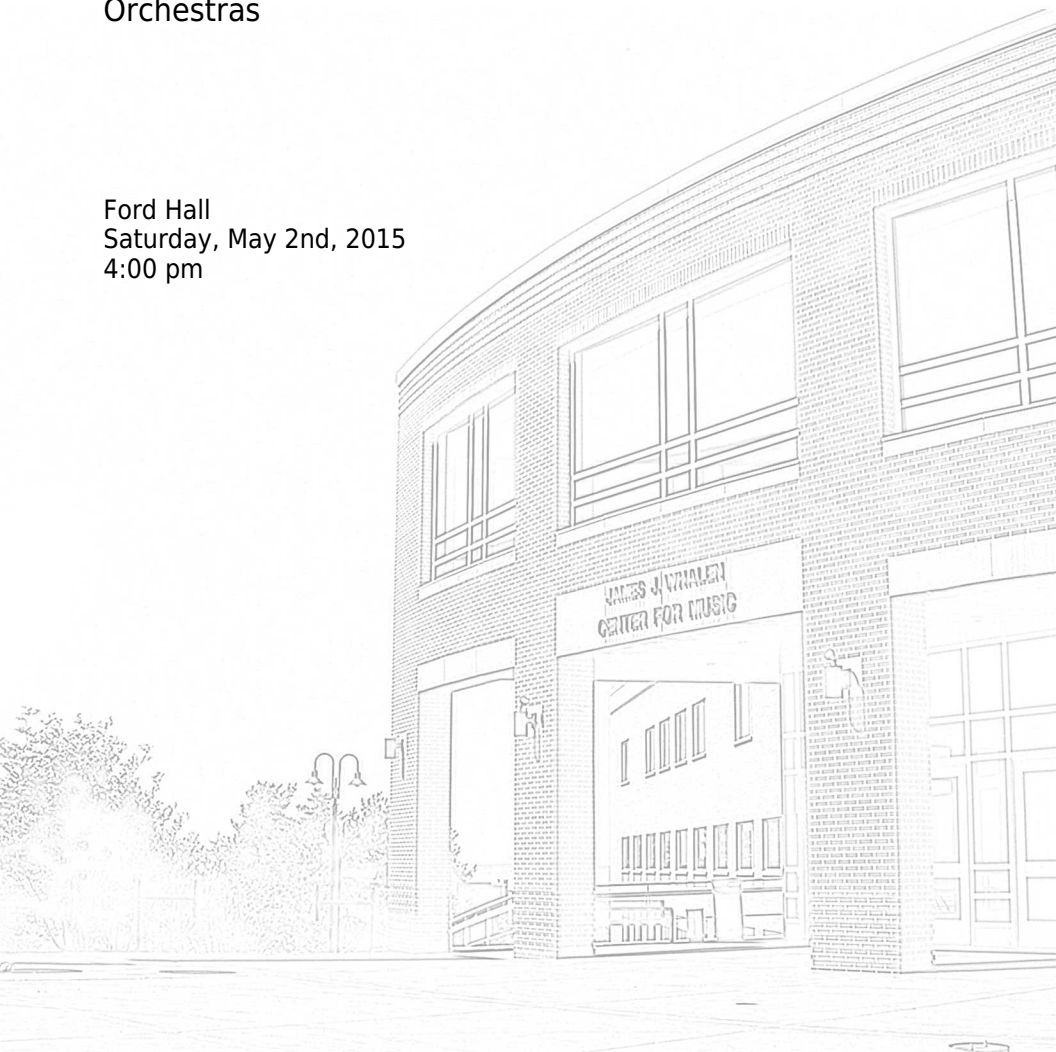
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Seventh Ithaca International Conducting Masterclass with Larry Rachleff

Jeffery Meyer and Chris Younghoon Kim,
Directors

Featuring the Ithaca College and Cornell Symphony
Orchestras

Ford Hall
Saturday, May 2nd, 2015
4:00 pm



ITHACA COLLEGE

School of Music

Program

Pini di Roma (Pines of Rome) (1924)

Ottorino Respighi
1879-1936

- I. I pini di Villa Borghese
Rebecca Smithorn, conductor
 - II. Pini presso una catacomba
Chris Whittaker, conductor
 - III. I pini del Gianicolo
Avishai Shalom, conductor
 - IV. I pini della via Appia
Tiffany Lu, conductor
- Cornell Symphony Orchestra*

Intermission

Symphony No. 5, Op. 82

Jean Sibelius
1865-1957

- I. Molto moderato
Joshua Hong, conductor
 - Ia. Allegro moderato
Mario Torres, conductor
 - II. Andante mosso, quasi allegretto
Paul Grobey, conductor
 - III. Allegro molto
Sameer Patel, conductor
- Ithaca College Symphony Orchestra*

Biographies

Rebecca Smithorn is a graduate assistant in orchestral conducting at the College-Conservatory of Music, where she is a student of Mark Gibson. Prior to attending CCM, Rebecca was the founder and conductor of Ad Hoc, an award-winning chamber ensemble in Rochester, New York which was nominated as a "Maverick Classical Music Ensemble" on ArtsJournal's Sandow. She has recently conducted in master classes with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, the Cabrillo Festival Orchestra, and the United States Army Orchestra, and was nominated for the Conductor's Guild Thelma A. Robinson Award, a biennial award for promising young conductors. She has also received career development awards from the Sigurd I. & Jarmila H. Rislov Foundation in Ann Arbor, Michigan and from the Arts and Cultural Council of Greater Rochester. Rebecca begins her doctoral studies at the Peabody Conservatory this fall, where she will study with Gustav Meier and Markand Thakar.

Chris Whittaker is a composer, conductor, and pianist originally from York, PA. He received his masters in orchestral conducting at the University of Michigan and studied composition at the Peabody Institute. His principal teachers include Kenneth Kiesler, Stuart Malina, Christopher Theofanidis and Philip Lasser. His music has been performed and broadcast throughout the United States. In addition to his freelance activities, Chris serves as the Interim Director of Music at Fort Washington Collegiate Church and directs a jazz worship service at Marble Collegiate Church in New York City.

A native of Israel, **Avishay Shalom** is a graduate assistant in orchestral conducting at the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music under the tutelage of Maestro Mark Gibson. Shalom completed his Bachelor's degree at the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance, where he conducted opera productions and was the assistant at the school symphony orchestra. Between 2012 and 2014 Shalom was the assistant conductor at the Jerusalem Academy Chamber Choir and the Israeli Vocal Ensemble, where he conducted an opera for children by Aharon Harlap. During this time he was also part of the Meitar Ensemble's *Wavelength Project* for distinct conductor, where he conducted contemporary music and participated in masterclasses with Fabian Panisello, Pierre- André Valade, Matthias Pintscher and Philippe Leroux. In Spring 2016 Shalom will be the musical director for the CCM studio production of Rossini's opera *Il Signor Bruschino*. Shalom is a recipient of the America-Israel Cultural Foundation's award for orchestral conducting.

Tiffany Lu, a native of Tampa, FL, recently completed a masters' degree in conducting at Ithaca College, serving as assistant conductor for the Ithaca College Orchestras and studying under Dr. Jeffery Meyer. Tiffany has also served as Orchestral Assistant and conductor at the Pierre Monteux School in Hancock, Maine, studying with Michael Jinbo. She has participated in master classes with David Efron, Carl St. Clair, Lior Shambadal, and Victor Yampolsky. Tiffany is an active orchestral and chamber violinist and violist.

Award-winning conductor and multi-instrumentalist **Joshua Hong** performs regularly throughout the United States and abroad. Recent public appearances included dual piano/violin recitals in Los Angeles, chamber music concerts in New York City, and conducting engagements in Ukraine. He currently serves as Junior Board Member for the Shriver Hall Concert Series,

Assistant Conductor of the Peabody Opera Theatre, and Music Director of the innovative Occasional Symphony. Joshua received his Bachelor of Music degree in violin performance from The Juilliard School in 2012, where he studied under renowned pedagogue Masao Kawasaki. Joshua is currently furthering his conducting studies under the tutelage of Gustav Meier and Markand Thakar as a Master of Music degree candidate and graduate assistant to the conducting department at Peabody Conservatory.

A native of San Pedro Sula, Honduras, **Mario Torres** is a student of Jeffery Meyer in orchestral conducting at Ithaca College where he is a graduate conducting assistant for the Symphony and Chamber orchestras. Torres earned a Bachelor ('13) and Masters ('14) of Music in Viola Performance from Northwestern State University of Louisiana, where he also was assistant conductor for NSU Symphony and Chamber orchestras. Torres has guest conducted Orquesta de Camara de San Pedro Sula in Honduras, and the Youth Orchestra project in Paramaribo, Suriname. Additionally, Torres has been a conducting student at the Pierre Monteux School of Music for conductors and orchestral musicians. Mario will lead the Youth Orchestra of Croix des Bouquets, Haiti this summer, and will lead the Ithaca College Symphony and Chamber orchestras in concert for the 2015-2016 season.

Paul Grobey is a graduate student in orchestral conducting at Ithaca College under the tutelage of Jeffery Meyer. Originally hailing from the Pacific Northwest, he earned a Bachelor of Music in Violin Performance from the University of North Texas in 2010. Since making his conducting debut in 2011, Paul has learned from such teachers as Neil Varon, Carl St.Clair, Martin Majkut, Jonathan Pasternack, and Miguel Harth-Bedoya. In 2012, Paul guest conducted the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon. During the 2014-15 season, Paul will guest conduct the Auburn Chamber Orchestra in Auburn, NY, and will lead the Ithaca College Chamber and Symphony Orchestras in concert.

Sameer Patel has held conducting positions with the Fort Wayne Philharmonic, Chicago Sinfonietta, and the Boston Philharmonic. Recent and upcoming guest conducting engagements include the Toronto Symphony, Detroit Symphony, Pacific Symphony, San Diego Symphony, Toledo Symphony, Knoxville Symphony, Alabama Symphony, Phoenix Symphony, and the Jacksonville Symphony. He was a participant in the 2013 League of American Orchestras National Conductor Preview and was also a recipient of a Mendelssohn Foundation scholarship in 2011 to work with Kurt Masur in Germany and Finland. Sameer received his undergraduate and graduate degrees at the University of Michigan and has participated in conducting masterclasses with Kurt Masur, Bernard Haitink, Gianandrea Noseda, David Zinman, Larry Rachleff, Neeme Jarvi, Marin Alsop, and others.