

10-31-2015

Concert: Ithaca College Chamber Orchestra

Ithaca College Chamber Orchestra

Mario Alejandro Torres

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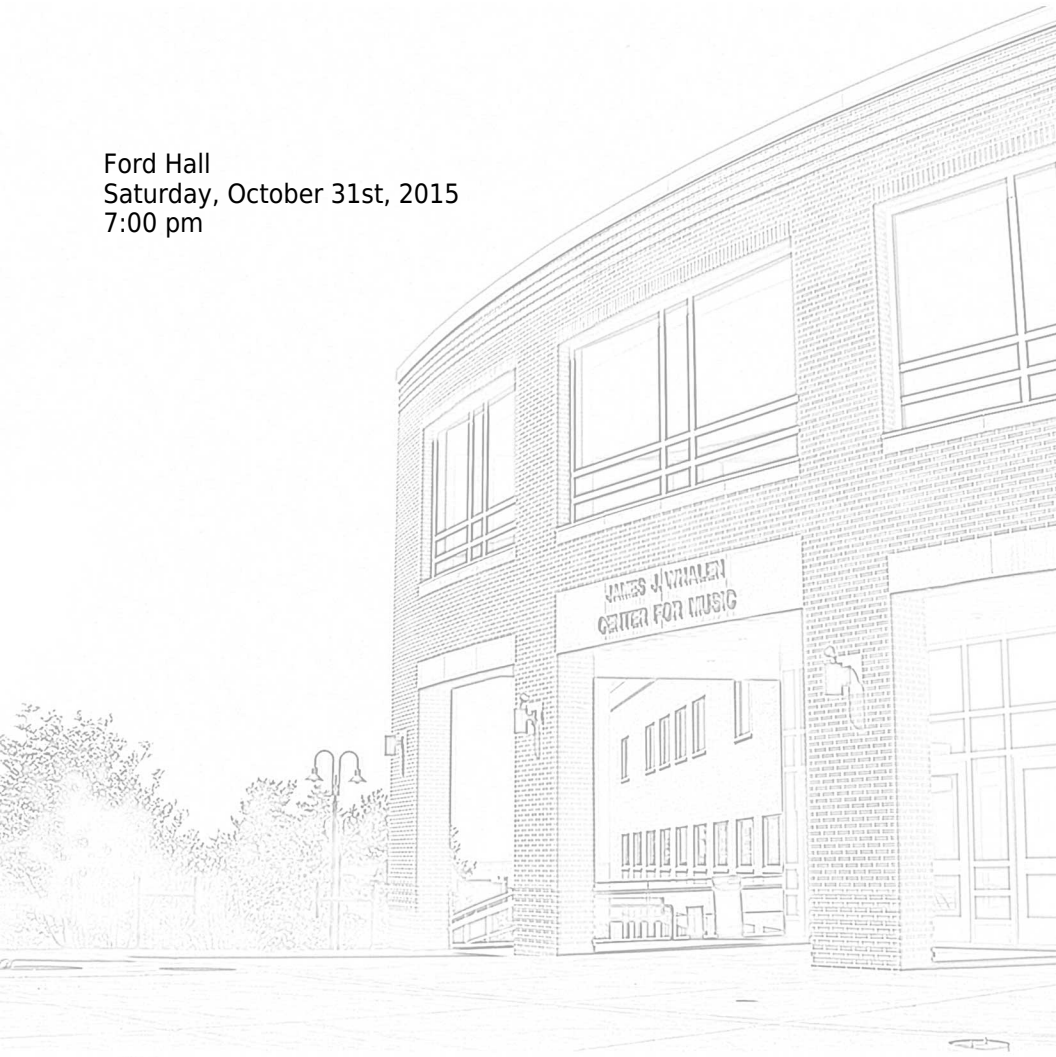
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Ithaca College Chamber Orchestra

Mario Alejandro Torres, conductor

Ford Hall
Saturday, October 31st, 2015
7:00 pm



ITHACA COLLEGE

School of Music

Program

Suite - Histoire du Soldat

Igor Stravinsky
(1882 - 1971)

Marche du Soldat
Petits Airs au Bord du Ruisseau
Pastorale
Marche Royale
Petit Concert
Tango, Valse, Ragtime
Danse du Diable
Grand Choral
Marche Triomphale du Diable

Pause

Egmont Overture Op. 84

Ludwig Van Beethoven
(1770 - 1827)

Biography

A native of San Pedro Sula, Honduras, **Mario Alejandro 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. Mario 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. Mario has guest conducted Orquesta de Camara de San Pedro Sula in Honduras, the Youth Orchestra of Paramaribo, Suriname, and the Youth Orchestra of Académie Musicale Occide Jeanty in Croix des Bouquets, Haiti. As well, he has participated as a conductor in the prestigious Pierre Monteux School for Conductors and Orchestra Musicians.

Program Notes

Suite – Histoire du Soldat “The Soldier’s Tale”

Igor Stravinsky. Born June 17, 1882, Lomonosov, Russia; died April 6, 1971, New York.

The Soldier’s Tale is a small theatrical production that illustrates the story of a soldier who deserts the army and sells his soul to the devil, in exchange for a book that will bring him wealth. This piece was conceived by Stravinsky and the novelist C.F. Ramuz based on one of Alexander Afanasiev’s tales in 1918. Stravinsky wrote the music for a small chamber group – violin, bass, clarinet, bassoon, cornet, trombone, and percussion – in addition to a narrator, two actors, and a dancer. The Soldier’s Tale became one of Stravinsky’s more popular works. Later, the composer extracted a nine-movement concert suite, which is the version being performed this evening.

The tale is as follows. The soldier makes a deal with the devil to trade his violin for a book that will bring him wealth. The soldier is instead deprived of his fortune, and so recovers his violin by getting the devil drunk. By playing his violin, the soldier cures a princess that was very ill. The princess and the soldier marry. The soldier pushes the devil away by playing his violin until he falls. Persuaded by his wife, the soldier then visits his home village despite being warned by the devil not to do so. As soon as he gets to the village, he is carried away into the devil’s domain.

Egmont Overture, op. 84

Ludwig van Beethoven. Born December 17, 1770, Bonn; died March 26, 1827, Vienna.

While Beethoven’s calling card is frequently as a master symphonist—and there is no denying that he was—one of his very important contributions to the modern canon were in fact his overtures to operas or other incidental music. In 1810, the year in which Beethoven wrote the incidental music to the play *Egmont*, Beethoven had completed six out of nine symphonies, all five piano concerti, an opera, and a vast collection of chamber and piano music. He was also completely deaf and had consciously devoted his life in the service of music, and in the service of humanity through his music.

The piece opens with an intense but noble F minor introduction. The intensity develops into a dark *Allegro*, with much of the most important material in the inner and lower voices of the orchestras. This main part of the movement is in sonata form, with a prominent dialogue between strings and winds through much of the movement. Though *Egmont* is itself a tragedy—telling the tale of a virtuous Dutch nobleman who is imprisoned in battle and martyred for his cause—the overture builds to a triumphant ending, in many ways emblematic of Beethoven’s own victory over his hearing loss. The finale bursts forth in rousing C major, with brass fanfares celebrating the life of the fallen hero.

Ithaca College Chamber Orchestra

Violin I

Hannah Lin, concertmaster*
Justine Elliott
Kathleen Wallace
Kang Zhuo li
Kristina Sharra
Amy Chryst

Violin II

Jason Kim, principal
Alma Dizdar
Darya Barna
Emily Kenyon
Jennifer Riche
Kai Hedin

Viola

Carly Rockenhauser, principal
Renee Tostengard
Sam Rubin
Zachary Cohen

Cello

David Fenwick, principal
Emily Doveala
Julia Rupp
Grace Miller

Bass

Lindsey Orcutt, principal*
Tristen Jarvis

Flute

Jeanette Lewis, principal
Kaitlyn Laprise

Oboe

Jacob Walsh, principal
Melissa DeMarinis

Clarinet

Brooke Miller, principal*
Ryan Pereira

Bassoon

Sonja Larson, principal*
Andrew Meys

Horn

Tori Boel, principal
Jacob Factor
Evan Young
Patrick Holcomb

Trumpet

Kaitlyn DeHority, principal*
Matthew Brockman

Trombone

Julie Dombroski, principal*

Timpani/Percussion

Lillian Fu, principal *

*L'Histoire du Soldat - players