

10-13-2006

Concert: Ithaca College Symphony Orchestra

Jeffery Meyer

Ithaca College Symphony Orchestra

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ITHACA COLLEGE

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

ITHACA COLLEGE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Jeffery Meyer, conductor

Ford Hall
Friday, October 13, 2006
8:15 p.m.

ITHACA

PROGRAM

Loco (2004)

Jennifer Higdon
(b. 1962)

Variations on a Theme of Haydn
in B-flat major, Op. 56a

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

Chorale St. Antoni: Andante

Variation I: Poco più animato

Variation II: Più Vivace

Variation III: Con Moto

Variation IV: Andante con Moto

Variation V: Vivace

Variation VI: Vivace

Variation VII: Grazioso

Variation VIII: Presto non troppo

Finale: Andante

INTERMISSION

Symphony No. 7 in D minor, Op. 70

Antonin Dvorak
(1841-1904)

I. Allegro maestoso

II. Poco adagio

III. Scherzo: Vivace

IV. Finale: Allegro

PROGRAM NOTES

Loco celebrates the Centennial season of Ravinia, and the train that accompanies the orchestra. When thinking about what kind of piece to write, I saw in my imagination a locomotive. And in a truly ironic move for a composer, my brain subtracted the word "motive", leaving "loco", which means crazy. Being a composer, this appealed to me, so this piece is about locomotion as crazy movement!

Commissioned by the Ravinia Festival, Highland Park, Illinois, to commemorate the Ravinia train as part of the Train Commission Project as organized and imagined by Welz Kauffman.

Notes by Jennifer Higdon
(July, 2004)

The conductor would like to dedicate this performance to the memory of Bruce R. Meyer, an avid Chicago-land resident who was a rail-fan joyously consumed with steam locomotives and all things trains for the span of his lifetime.

As with the Händel Variations, Op. 24, the eight **Variations on a Theme of Haydn, Op. 56a**, are bound by a consistent harmonic motion; at times, this is the only perceptible remnant of the original theme. Since its first performance in Vienna, on November 2, 1873, this has been among Brahms' most popular compositions—a sprawling masterwork based on the simplest of thematic germs, very much in the tradition of Bach's Goldberg Variations and Beethoven's Diabelli Variations. Brahms composed both the orchestral and two-piano versions of the Variations on a Theme of Haydn in the summer of 1873, while at the Starnberger See near Munich; during the same months, he completed the String Quartets, Op. 51. The piano variations, Op. 56b, were published first, in 1873 by Simrock in Berlin; the orchestral setting in 1874, also by Simrock. Commonly referred to as the "St. Anthony" variations, the piece is based on a theme from the first of a set of six Divertimenti (Feldparthien)—for many years thought to be by Haydn, but now thought to be by Haydn's pupil, Ignace Pleyel—the second movement of which is based on an old Burgenland (an Austrian state that abuts Hungary) chant entitled, "Chorale St. Anthony."

Notes by Blair Johnston

Many consider Antonín Dvorák's **Symphony No. 7 in D minor, Op. 70**, the pinnacle of his achievement as a composer. Indeed, never before had he risen to such a height, and one can make a formidable case that he never again did, the immense and just popularity of the "New World" Symphony notwithstanding. Dvorák had spent a full five years away from the symphonic domain when, in December 1884, he began plotting his course through the Symphony No. 7. The interval had been an important if not especially prolific one; the works of this period had been significant (for example the Piano Trio in F minor, Op. 65, the String Quartet No. 11 in C, Op. 61), and when the time came to compose the Symphony No. 7 Dvorák was prepared. The commission came from the London Philharmonic Society, to whose membership Dvorák had been elected in 1884.

Notes by John Palmer

ITHACA COLLEGE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Jeffrey Meyer, conductor

Violin I

Andrew Bergevin,
concertmaster
Chris Jones
Kate Goldstein
Megan Atchley
Elizabeth Cary
Jeff Abbott
Natasha Colkett
Laura Scivolino
Brenna Gillette
Elizabeth Stein
Jeannine McGreevy
Diane Bartholomew
Sharon Mohar

Violin II

Joshua Modney,
principal
Brian Hwang
Natalie Brandt
Mary Raschella
Colin Oettle
Maeve O'Hara
Ian Salmon
Tim Ball
Shawn Riley
Charlie Palys
Will Downey
Mark Bettis
Mary Holzhauser

Viola

Lauren Buono,
principal
Nicole Wright
Frances Rose-Newton
Kathryn Kimble
Sara Shepard
Derek Hensler
Zach Slack
Kaitlyn Kaminsky
Bethany Niedbala
Marissa Ledet

Cello

Jennifer Chieffalo,
principal
Matthew Rotjan
Tim Nowak
Laura Messina
Sam Boase-Miller
Peter Guarino
Allie Rehn
Phil Abbott
Emily McNeill
David MacLeese
Eric Perreault
Kelly Quinn

Bass

Patrick O'Connell,
principal
Sara Johnson
Kyle Olmstead
Xander Lott
Paul Feissner
Justin Wixson
Naomi Williams
Casey Georgi
Ben Reynolds

Piccolo

Melissa Bravo

Flute

Leslie Harrison,
principal
Aimee Shorten
Melissa Bravo

Oboe

Noelle Drewes,
principal
Monica Eason
Megan Kimball

Clarinet

Lauren Del Re,
principal
Will Cicola
Karyn Poulin

Bassoon

Andrew Beeks,
principal
Jeff Ward
Jessica Tortorici, contra

Horn

Rose Valby, principal
Meredith Moore,
assistant
Chelsey Hamm
Bryn Coveney
Jenna Troiano

Trumpet

Calvin Rice, principal
Lindsey Jessick
Nick Kunkle

Trombone

Megan Boutin,
principal
Francis R. Cook
Nick Smarcz, bass

Tuba

Susan Wheatley,
principal

Percussion

Kaye Sevier, timpani
Matthew Donello,
principal
Lauretta Noller
Evan Peltier
Jason Taylor

Piano/Keyboard

Atakan Sari

Graduate Assistant

Devin Hughes