

Pasadena Community Orchestra

Bethany Pflueger, Conductor



Friday, March 15, 2024, 8:00 pm

Pre-concert lecture by Torrance Buntyn, Jr., 7:20 pm

First Church of the Nazarene of Pasadena

Program

Adagietto from Symphony No. 5.....Gustav Mahler (1860-1911)
Sehr langsam (very slowly)

Concerto for Percussion and OrchestraAllan Gordon Bell (b. 1953)
Serenely
With Primitive Aggressiveness

Torrance Buntyn, Jr., percussion soloist

Intermission

Bal Masqué.....Amy Beach (1867-1944)

Symphony No. 103 in E-flat Major, “Drumroll”Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)
Adagio – Allegro con spirito
Andante
Menuetto
Allegro con spirito

The score for Bal Masqué for Orchestra was provided by the Edwin A. Fleisher Collection of Orchestral Music at the Free Library of Philadelphia

PERSONNEL

CONDUCTOR

Bethany Pflueger

VIOLIN I

Hong-Yi Hiroki Hon*
Ilana Amos
Alex Birkhold
Curtis Horton
Deanna Kitamura
Dayna Li
Frank Mori
Corinne Newbegin
Nancy Smith
Mary Yang
Jane Yu

VIOLIN II

Adrienne Lee*
Mike Fedrick
Reiko Goto
Daniel Hooper
Joe Kertes
Christopher Lange
Kristen Lee
Kevin Poindexter
Joy Sinclair
Oliver Truong
Erica Zabowski

VIOLAS

Tammy Coggnetta*
Rachel Goodrich
Mary Thornton House
Karen Moore
Janina Morrison
Yoji Sierra
Kris Wittry

CELLOS

Kristin Nyquist*
Celeste Alexander
Angela Kang
Michael Pinkham
Sean Wejebe
Elizabeth Wood

BASSES

Keith Brown*
Alec Graham
Manny Gutierrez
Masis Parunyan
David Tranchina
Trevor Young

FLUTES

Chase Rizkalla*
Olga Bergh

OBOES

Aubree Cedillo*
Lynn Olson

CLARINETS

Richard Holloway*
Kaitlyn Davidson
Mandy Peterson

BASSOONS

Donald Fisher*
John Nunez*

HORNS

Emily Kramer
Mariela Lee
Carlos Robles
Jennifer Thayer

TRUMPETS

Mathew Harwich*
Bruce Haines
Joel Stoup

TROMBONES

Larry Covellone*

HARP

Paul Baker*

PERCUSSION

Matt Pollard*
Therese Laux
Caleb Conner*

STAGE MANAGER

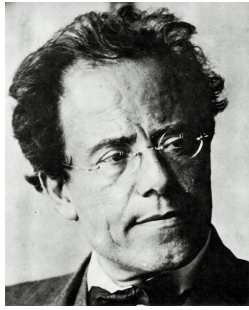
Gary Green

*Principal or Guest Artist

UPCOMING CONCERTS

Our 41st Season continues on Friday, May 10, 8:00 pm, with our Young Artist Competition Winners Concert. Hear these amazing young artists perform with the Orchestra. Program details on our website at <https://www.pcomusic.org/pco-events/>. The final concert of the season will be our always-popular *Concert in the Park*, on Saturday, June 8. Sign up (below) for our email Newsletters for more details of the our concerts.

PROGRAM NOTES – PCO CONCERT, MARCH 15, 2024



Gustav Mahler was an Austrian composer and conductor, and stands as one of the most influential figures in late-Romantic music. His career was marked by a relentless pursuit of emotional depth and philosophical expression, often exploring the human experience and the mysteries of existence. Best known in his lifetime as a conductor (he directed the Vienna Court Orchestra for 10 years), his music was neglected until the 1950s. These days, Mahler's compositions, notably his 10 symphonies scored for vast orchestral forces, are frequently performed.

Mahler's Fifth Symphony, composed in 1901-1902, is a monumental work in five movements that reflects the composer's personal struggles and triumphs. We hear its fourth movement, the famous *Adagietto*, perhaps Mahler's best known single work, written as a love song to his wife Alma. The large orchestral forces in the rest of the symphony are set aside, leaving only the string section and gentle arpeggios from the harp to create an atmosphere of profound introspection and emotional richness.

Allan Gordon Bell is a Canadian contemporary classical composer. Born in Calgary, Alberta, Bell received a Master of Music degree from the University of Alberta where he studied with Violet Archer, Malcolm Forsyth, and Manus Sasonkin, after completing undergraduate studies in philosophy. He also did advanced studies in composition at the Banff Centre for the Arts where his teachers were Jean Coulthard, Bruce Mather, and Oskar Morawetz. He has created works for solo instruments, chamber ensembles, orchestra, band, and electroacoustic media. He is a professor of composition and music theory at the University of Calgary.

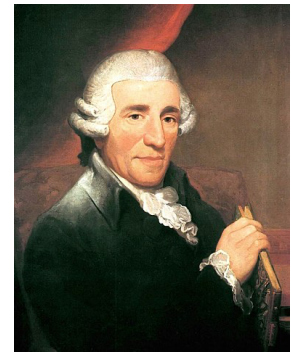


The *Concerto for Percussion and Orchestra* was commissioned in 1984 by the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, and written to display one soloist performing on a large number of percussion instruments, fifteen in all. It was conceived as a celebration of melody, of color, of musical intelligence, and of exuberant good humor. The first movement, *Serenely*, is stately and lyrical. The second movement, *With Primitive Aggressiveness*, has three main sections: an introduction of the themes, on drums and marimba, followed by the soloist moving through the history of percussion, from rocks and sticks to drums, and a third section featuring a return of the earlier themes, with "no drum left unstruck."



Amy Beach was an American composer and pianist, widely recognized as the first successful American female composer of large-scale art music. Born in New Hampshire, Beach showed prodigious musical talent and gained acclaim for works in several genres, including piano, chamber music, choral works, and symphonic pieces. Her compositions often blended Romantic and impressionistic elements, showcasing her technical skill and emotional depth. Despite societal norms and challenges faced by female composers during her time, Beach left a lasting impact on American music. *Bal Masqué* (Masked Ball) is an early work, dating from 1904, originally for solo piano and later orchestrated by the composer. It unfolds with intricate rhythms, melodic inventiveness, and a delightful sense of whimsy.

Franz Joseph Haydn was an Austrian composer of the Classical period. His contributions to musical form have led him to be called “Father of the Symphony” – he wrote 104 in all. Haydn spent much of his career as a court musician for the wealthy Esterházy family. In his later years he twice visited London, and his music dominated the concert scene there. On his second visit, he composed his last 6 symphonies (Nos. 99-104). Tonight we hear *Symphony No. 103 “Drumroll”* from the winter of 1794-95. Scored for what was then a very large orchestra of 60 players, it was an immediate success. After a slow and sombre introduction, it enters the standard four-movement form that Haydn himself helped define. And the nickname? Well, as you will hear, it needs no explanation!



About tonight’s soloist: A native of Jackson, Tennessee, **Torrance Buntyn Jr.** began his percussion studies at age ten and won many awards through numerous Tennessee Honor Bands. In 2018, he received outstanding recognition for performing in the Tennessee Bandmasters Association’s Honor Recital in Nashville. He also performed with the Jackson Symphony Youth Orchestra as principal timpanist.

Torrance is an alumnus of an HBCU (Historically Black College/University), Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN. He studied under Dr. Derrick Greene and Dr. Sean Daniels and received a Bachelor of Science in Music Education in 2022. While there, he performed in the two-time Grammy winning Aristocrat of Bands and toured with the TSU Wind Ensemble as principal percussionist. He has participated and performed in numerous seminars and festivals across the country.

Torrance is a May 2024 candidate for a Masters of Music degree in Percussion Performance at Southern Methodist University-Meadows School of the Arts, University Park, TX, where he studies with George Nickson (principal percussionist, Dallas Symphony Orchestra) and Brian Jones (Principal Timpanist, Dallas Symphony Orchestra). In Dallas, Torrance serves as freelance percussionist, percussion teacher, and extra percussionist for the New Philharmonic of Irving.

Torrance is currently a Protégé in the **Mentorship Program** of the **Alliance of Black Orchestral Percussionists (ABOP)** <https://www.abop.us/>. The Program provides training and support to Black percussionists seeking a career in symphonic percussion. He is mentored by Douglas Cardwell (Former Timpanist of New Mexico Philharmonic) and Raynor Carroll (Retired Principal Percussionist of Los Angeles Philharmonic, and CEO and Founder of ABOP).

Pasadena Community Orchestra is thrilled to be in a **community partnership** with ABOP (since 2022), providing young Black percussionists, like Torrance, the opportunity to perform and grow as artists and musicians on our concert stage.

Program notes by Stephen Unwin, PCO Board member

STAY IN TOUCH

Stay informed about Orchestra events and news by visiting our website at <https://www.pcomusic.org/> for up-to-date concert information. We're moving away from reliance on paper communication, but you can pick up a copy of the season brochure at any of our concerts.

SUBSCRIBE

If you haven't done so already, please subscribe to our occasional e-mail Newsletter. You can sign up under 'Contact us' on the website, or by sending a short email to info@pcomusic.org. We're also on social media, and you can find Orchestra news there also:



Facebook: @PCO1983 <https://www.facebook.com/PCO1983/>



X/Twitter: @PCOrchestra <https://twitter.com/PCOrchestra>



Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/pasadenacommunityorchestra/>



YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@PCO1983>

PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING

We rely on our generous donors for a major part of our operating budget. Please consider donating to keep the Pasadena Community Orchestra performing always-free concerts for our local community. We accept donations by check, PayPal, major credit card via PayPal and we also now accept Zelle. And we gladly accept cash donations at our concerts. All donations are fully tax-deductible.



More information on donating is on our website: <https://www.pcomusic.org/support-donate/>.

We are grateful to the following Organizations for partial support of the Orchestra:



◆ PASADENA COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS ◆
MARY HOUSE, President ◆ BETHANY PFLUEGER, Music Director
Tammy Cognetta ◆ Donald Fisher ◆ Thom Fountain ◆ Gary Green
Joe Kertes ◆ Eric Kirchhoff ◆ Stephen Unwin

Pasadena Community Orchestra Foundation, P.O. Box 92917, Pasadena, CA 91109-2917

DONORS

We thank our many donors who have generously given to the Pasadena Community Orchestra since July 1, 2023.

CORPORATE SPONSOR

John F. Merrell Charitable
Foundation
Mary Thornton House PC

MAJOR BENEFACTOR (\$1000 and above)

Anonymous
Greg Alexander
Alexander Birkhold
Alice Coulombe
Walt Fidler
Eric Kirchhoff
Pedro Pizarro & Monica Kohler
Jennifer & Chris Thayer
Ruth Wolman, the Otto &
Marianne Wolman Foundation

CONDUCTOR'S PODIUM (\$500-\$999)

Thom Fountain
Bruce Linsenmayer
Gloria Pitzer
Brad & Susan Ratliff in memory
of Susie Kyropoulos
Wayne & Sue Reinecke, in memory
of Alan Reinecke
William & Rita Tully

CHAIR SPONSOR (\$250-\$499)

Mike & Kim Fedrick
John Hallstrom
Sumita Nandi
William & Judy Opel
Janet Peters, in memory of
Reverend Robert W. Pflueger
Carlos Robles
Martha & Eugene Ruane
Mary Lea Schander

PATRON (\$100-\$249)

Donna Bailey
Ben Birnbaum
Ward & Louise Calaway
Bill & Ilse Cassell
Aubree Cedillo

Carol Chamberlain
Bill Collister
Janice Croft
Sandra Decker, Woodland Hills Tax
& Estate Planning Council
in honor of Judge Mary House, ret.

Laura De Francesco
Lisa Fowler
Jeffrey & Carol Gerber
Bruce Haines
Thomas Haworth
Martha & Radford Hunt
Deanna Kitamura
Karen Klages
Adam Koot-Bascomb
Adrienne Lee & Raynor Carroll
Laurence Leeland
Lyn MacDougall
Gene Mauk
Mark & Wendy McGrail
Norma Mota-Altman
Daryl Nagamine
Beth Owen
Dennis & Margaret Page
Shaylee & Nick Papadakis
Vesna Paulsen
Alan D Prochaska
Nancy & George Rothwell
Paige Taylor, in memory of
Alan Reinecke

& Susie Kyropoulos
Charles & Barbara Schufreider
Philip & Rosa Shiner
Robert & Marie Spencer
Jim & Susan Stanley
Dr. Norman E. Thomas
Dianne & Granville Thurman
in memory of Richard Kirtland
Terry & Maria Tornek
Mary Treat
Stephen Unwin
Melinda Welch
Ron & Roberta White

SPONSOR (\$60-\$99)

Karen Smith & Michael Adams
Carl Chow
Janet Damen

Mona Field, Uptown Gay &
Lesbian Alliance
Erwin James
Art & Suzy James
Andrea Kelly
Sophie Leung
Laraine Madden
Mitch Marich
John & Jean Prinz
Patricia Rees
Marianne Rorden,
in remembrance
of Elizabeth Marino
Roberta Wilcox

FRIEND (up to \$59)

Lisa Berger
Shelly Berner
Karen Bu
Cecile & Jim Bys
Sharon Chan
Carolyn Coleman
Robert Eaton
Deborah Ellis
Avedis Frandjian
Michael & Beatrice Fruchter
Joshua Goodrich
Gary Green
Kylie Hodges
Curtis Horton
Edith Hovey
William V Jones
Tom & Susan Kemp
Joe & Trish Kertes
Emily Kramer
Christine Lee
Christina Lopez
Masis Parunyan, in honor of
D'Anne Buddrius Rygg
Fernando & Linda Roth
Carli Simons
Putter Smith
Darryl & Jerri Thomson
Catherine Thrasher-Carroll
Oliver Truong
Laurine Tuleja
Adam Walker
Barbara Watkins
Mary Wilson