

Minnesota Orchestra

Nathan Aspinall, conductor

Christina Baldwin, host | Susie Park, violin

In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre

Maria Dively, American Sign Language interpreter

Sunday, October 30, 2022, 2 pm | Orchestra Hall

Edvard Grieg	<i>In the Hall of the Mountain King</i> , from <i>Peer Gynt</i> Suite No. 1, Opus 46	ca. 3'
William Grant Still	<i>Phantom Chapel</i>	ca. 5'
Modest Mussorgsky	Selection from <i>A Night on Bald Mountain</i>	ca. 7'
John Williams	<i>Hedwig's Theme</i> , from <i>Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone</i>	ca. 5'
Camille Saint-Saëns	<i>Danse macabre</i> , Opus 40 Susie Park, violin	ca. 7'
Anna Clyne	<i>Auguries</i> , from <i>Abstractions</i>	ca. 3'
Hector Berlioz	Selection from <i>Witches' Sabbath</i> , from <i>Symphonie fantastique</i>	ca. 7'



Nathan Aspinall, conductor

Australian conductor Nathan Aspinall has led orchestras across the U.S., Europe and Australasia. He is currently the associate conductor of the Nashville Symphony. He was a conducting fellow at the Tanglewood Music Center and a recipient of the Robert J. Harth Conducting Prize at the Aspen Music Festival. This past summer, he traveled to Leipzig for a concert with the Mendelssohn-Orchesterakademie of the Gewandhausorchester. He was formerly associate conductor of the Jacksonville Symphony, which he led in subscription programs each season and multiple tours; he will return there this season to lead a subscription program. He has guest conducted the orchestras of Atlanta, Sydney, Adelaide, Queensland and Tasmania, as well as the Queensland Conservatorium Chamber Orchestra. He has acted as assistant conductor for Opera Queensland and has made several festival and masterclass appearances. He studied orchestral conducting with Hugh Wolff at New England Conservatory in Boston. More: nathanaspinall.com.



Christina Baldwin, host

Christina Baldwin is a director, writer, adapter, producer, performer and frequent collaborator with the Minnesota Orchestra as a soloist, actor and recording artist. An advocate of new work, she develops new plays, musical theater and opera with the likes of the Ojai Playwrights Conference, The Playwrights' Center, Nautilus Music-Theater and The Moving Company. A longtime collaborator with the Tony Award-winning Theatre de la Jeune Lune, including serving as artistic director, she co-adapted and performed the title role in their critically acclaimed touring production of *Carmen*. She also writes, adapts and directs operas. Recently, she was the librettist for *In the Midst of Things* with An Opera Theatre and directed the virtual work *Everything Comes to a Head* with Lyric Opera of the North and the Decameron Opera Coalition, which was selected to be a part of the Performing Arts COVID-19 Response Collection in the Library of Congress. More: christina-baldwin.com.



Susie Park, violin

Australian-born Susie Park, the Minnesota Orchestra's first associate concertmaster, will be featured as soloist with the ensemble next June in Brahms' Double Concerto with Associate Principal Cello Silver Ainomäe. She has performed solos with numerous major orchestras in Europe, the U.S. and Australia, as well as Korea's KBS Orchestra and Orchestra Wellington in New Zealand. She won top honors at the International Violin Competition of Indianapolis, the Wieniawski Competition in Poland and the Yehudi Menuhin International Competition in France. She was the violinist of the Eroica Trio from 2006 to 2012, with which she recorded the ensemble's eighth CD, an all-American disc nominated for a Grammy, and toured internationally. Her interest in music of all genres has also led to collaborations with artists such as jazz trumpeter Chris Botti, with whom she performed 41 consecutive shows at the Blue Note Jazz Club in New York. More: minnesotaorchestra.org.

In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre

In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre (HOBT) produces original plays, hosts puppet shows and workshops and leads residencies throughout the Midwest. For many years it produced the MayDay parade, which is now transitioning to a celebration throughout May. Its recent productions include *Impact Theory* in June 2022 at the Avalon Theater. HOBT has often collaborated with the Minnesota Orchestra for Young People's Concerts and *Hansel and Gretel* productions. At the 2022 Summer at Orchestra Hall festival, it collaborated with the Orchestra in choreographed performances of Smetana's *The Moldau*. Its puppets were also featured at 2011 performances of Mozart's *The Magic Flute*. HOBT has traveled throughout the U.S., Sweden, South Korea and the Dominican Republic. Its many honors include a UNIMA-USA for the 2007 production *We the People, Wake!* More: hobt.org.

directors

Esther Ouray
Julie Kastigar Boada

performers

Silvano Aguilar
Stayci Bell
Ramon Cordes
Anne Sawyer
Laurie Witzkowski

stage manager

Jác Pau

build help

Duane Tougas
Puppets made by the many hands of our amazing HOBT artist community.



Maria Dively, American Sign Language interpreter

Maria Dively has been an American Sign Language interpreter for eight years in Minnesota and California. A NIC/Trilingual Interpreter, she is a

graduate of North Central University in Minneapolis. She was born and raised in Puerto Rico and has been involved personally and professionally in the Deaf community since college. From a young age, she has been involved with music as a woodwind player, percussionist and steel drums player, among other roles.



In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre performers onstage with the Minnesota Orchestra in July 2022. Photo: Greg Helgeson