

Peabody Sinfonia

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SPEAKERS

Teresa, Nathan, Justin, Announcer, Rose, Haley, Anita, Ashley Biggs, Sophie, Abby, Adam

Announcer 00:01

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Ashley Biggs 00:19

We are, we are ready to start you ready for me to go ahead and get started. All right.

Rose 00:30

Hi, everyone. My name is Rose. I'm one of the CO directors of the Peabody string Sinfonia, the other co directors Haley, who's in the violin section tonight. And I'd like to welcome you to our first concert of the spring semester. So a little bit about Sinfonia. We're a conductor lists string ensemble, which means that we're student run without the help of another conductor and other person. All of our members are students of the Peabody Conservatory, which is right down the street from the library. And our mission is to perform for lots of different community organizations in Baltimore. And another thing we like doing is playing a lot of different types of music. So tonight, you're going to hear some traditional classical pieces, as well as pop songs, film scores, and things like that. So we're really excited to perform for you tonight. And we have a great program. And the first piece we're going to hear is September by Earth, Wind and Fire. I feel like this is a pretty popular piece and a lot of people have probably heard it before. But I want to tell you what makes this piece special to me. So one of the things that my friends and I have really enjoyed doing over the past couple years is going on lots of road trips, and some of the places we've been to have been Annapolis in Maryland, Delaware and

North Carolina. And so September is one of the pieces on our road trip playlist. So every time I hear this piece, I just think of all the fun times I have with my friends. So thank you again and I hope you enjoy

Nathan 05:44

My name is Nathan I play viola with Sinfonia. And one of the reasons I was really excited to join Sinfonia is because I was in a similar orchestra before coming to Peabody, we were a conductor listening orchestra there as well. And this is actually our next piece is kind of an interesting bridge between those two orchestras, because I used to play some Piazzolla Tango arrangements with that previous orchestra. And there's another Tango that I really wanted to play. But I couldn't find an arrangement. So in addition to playing viola, I do arranging and composing some of the arrangements and compositions you'll hear tonight. So the next piece is actually the serenade from my, our second movement from a string serenade that I wrote, so we did the last movement in the previous semester, so you guys would have heard that. So this one is called auroras, and I wrote it during the pandemic shutdown when we got all sent home from school, so there's some extra time I decided to take some of that time to write music, and hopefully you'll enjoy this movement called Aurorus.

Abby 13:29

Thank you for your applause. It's nice to see everyone's emojis. My name is Abby. I play bass in Sinfonia and I'm from Silver Spring Maryland. So not too far away from Baltimore. The next piece we're going to play is a piece that reminds me very much of my grandma who loved Frank Sinatra. Every restaurant we would go to that played Frank Sinatra on the PA, she would freak out and sing along and have a dance party at the table. And so I hope you enjoy this next song Fly me to the Moon.

Sophie 16:31

Hi everyone. I hope that you enjoyed that piece. Next out my name is Sophie and I'm currently a violinist freshman here. And the next few years we'll be playing a swan lake by Tchaikovsky. If you guys don't know, Swan Lake is one of the most famous ballets of all time, but it's actually Tchaikovsky's first ballet. And this piece is really special to me because I remember seeing this ballet live when I was really young, actually too young to really understand what was going on. But I remember when my grandmother would explain to me like the plot of the ballet. And I just thought that the dancers on stage were so pretty in their feathery costumes. So I hope that you're able to imagine that as we play Swan Lake for you today, and we hope you enjoy

Anita 17:25

Hi, my name is Anita and I'm currently the only cellist in Sinfonia. I hope you enjoyed Swan Lake and thank you for the nice comments. I see we're getting the next piece we're playing is don't stop believing by Journey. This is a fun piece and it reminds me of elementary school because I think this is the first song that I sang that I think this is the first thing I ever performed. I sang with the other elementary school or is and the first song I remember ever playing for an audience. So here I am now many years later, playing it for another audience, this time on Zoom, but it's comforting and reminds me of when I was little so I hope you enjoyed don't stop believing

Haley 25:02

Hi, everyone, I hope that you liked don't stop believing. That's one of my personal favorites on the program. My name is Hayley, I play violin with Sinfonia and I've been in Symphony for years now. So this is my last semester. I'm a senior. So sad moment, I might be graduating. But um, anyway. So you have sad moments. The sub alias that we're about to play is a little bit sad. So sub alias is from Finland. And so you know, there's a lot of snow up there. So we probably had seasonal depression or something. And it starts off really slow, and kind of sad, kind of somber. I hope that you can actually hear it over zoom because starts really quiet. Let us know if you can't. But then it goes into this sort of like, drunken waltz in the middle. It's so beautiful. That's so fun. I'm playing second violin. So I go check ticket ticket Ticket, ticket ticket, like the whole time. So if you hear me that's me. Yeah. So I'm really excited to play it mostly just because of that part because of like fun, but I hope that you enjoy the sort of like, somber solitude part in the beginning. So yes, this is impromptu by Sebelius.

Adam 32:03

Hello, everyone, can you hear me all right I hope you hope you enjoyed that last piece. I certainly did. So our next piece is going to be kind of the same feel but a different emotion is going to be a slow piece, but evokes more of like a soulful connection. I'm Adam, by the way. Hi. So I'm very excited to introduce our next piece is hallelujah as also featured in the movie Shrek. And what it really means to me is it's one of those pieces that has like a deep, like emotional connection. It kind of touches the soul in a way that classical music is only capable of doing. So I'm really excited and I really hope you enjoy Hallelujah.

Haley 33:00

Thank you Okay, I really liked that one, too. I think they're all my favorite is Haley again. By the way, I'm the one calling every song my favorite. But uh, the next one I actually read my favorite. It's really fun. It's like a tango. And it's by pizzolatto. But our dear friend Nathan also arranges for us and he miss introduced it earlier. So the suspense has been killing you, I'm sure. It's actually really fun. He wrote it. So it sounds really good for us. So um, I don't know how to describe that exactly. But we have a bunch of bases. And usually there's only like, maybe one bass for every four violins or five or six violins, but

we have like, exactly half the amount of faces as we do violence. So it's like a very high bass ratio. So there are groundskeepers, they're always keeping us in time for this piece. And it's just really fun to play. It's just we just go nuts. Like, I hope that you can hear it through zoom. So really excited for this one. See you on the other side.

Justin 42:39

Hello, I'm gonna hope you all can hear me. Okay? A little sick of asking that, but All right, thank you, Ashley. So it's gonna grab this honestly. So hi, my name is Justin. I'm a bass player and TYT Sinfonia and I'm a junior. So I've got one more year before I can maybe go to grad school anyway. So the next piece we're going to play is a piece called The Shokan. Farewell. It's pretty well known for being a Ken Burns documentary. But for me, it's my connection to this piece is pretty personal. So story time. When you're in my school district going up and you go from middle school to high school, you start hearing about this mythical orchestra director who directed the high school. And when I got into high school, my like ninth ninth grade year, she ended up being everything I wanted her to be, she was a really inspiring teacher. But at the end of the year, she sprung this announcement on us that she was retiring. For us, we had no idea we'd finish our last concert and she was just sprung it on us. So me and my orchestra loving slash, but kissing friends decided we are going to dedicate a song to her. We found this piece and we arranged it well. Rather, the arrangement was already done for us. But we found it. We played it. I tried conducting. It wasn't super good. And we tried playing it for her. So for me when Haley at the beginning of the year was like, hey, what pieces should we play? I was like, Yeah, this is my jam. Say I hope you enjoy this piece. It's very sentimental to me. But for other people, it's just like, really cool. Hi everyone.

Teresa 47:19

I'm Teresa and I'm a senior here at pod as well as playing violin and Sinfonia. I also play french horn. And I play recorders. I'm involved in a lot of the historic performance and early music ensembles here, which is why this next piece is so exciting to play because it's Baroque music. So next we have a movement of a Vivaldi concerto grosso for you all, and Antonio Vivaldi is probably one of the most well known Baroque composers. He has written, I think one of the most well known pieces of classical music. His four seasons set of concertos for solo violin and orchestra, you're probably familiar, especially with string, string, excuse me, it's spring from that set of concerti and a concerto grosso is similar to a concerto, which is a solo instrument orchestra. concerto grosso feature is the entire orchestra playing soloistic style. So this is such a piece, and it's really emblematic of the Baroque era because it has lots of super complex passages very virtuosic. It's very expressive, and we have some dramatic mood and dynamic shifts. And all the parts work very closely together. I think everyone gets the melody at some point. So we hope you enjoy the leg row. I believe it is from Antonio Vivaldi's concerto grosso orchestra.

Haley 51:06

Okay, it's me, Haley again. Um, well, we're just about done, we had a little bit more music than we anticipated. We also had minor technical difficulties. So maybe that's why we're going a little long. But uh, our last and final piece has amazing grace. So if you were here with us last last time, you will have heard this already. But it doesn't make it any less special. It's always Sinfonia tradition to play Amazing Grace at the end. Because most of all, we just want to have a positive impact on your lives. And we know that you have a positive impact on our lives. And that's really just what amazing grace is all about. Having positive impact. And that's really our mission here. So that's why we play it. And I hope you enjoy. This is also Nathan's version of Amazing Grace. So if you really like what you hear, you can thank Nathan at the end. And thank you so much for coming. We're gonna have a q&a after this. So think of your questions while we play. Okay,

Ashley Biggs 56:49

Everyone would unmute for a moment to give our wonderful players a round of applause. I would appreciate it.

Haley 57:03

Thank you so much, everyone, we really appreciate your attendance. And we also really value your participation. If you have anything to say, or anything you want to ask, if you remember people's names, you can ask specific people or specific sections. Yes, we really enjoy having you. So thank you so much for coming.

Ashley Biggs 57:22

This is Tony, may I speak? Absolutely. Go ahead, Tony.

Nathan 57:26

I'm curious. How are the members of Sinfonia selected? How'd you get there?

Haley 57:33

Well, everyone's here. Because they volunteered. We, at the beginning of every semester rolls and I post like an application. And it's really simple. You just say your name, your instrument and a couple of videos you're playing, just to make sure you can actually play the instrument. But of course, everyone at Peabody can play the instruments and all your cloud problems. But most importantly, we asked like why people want to join Sinfonia. And oftentimes people have really special answers. So Nathan

already talked about it. But one of the reasons he really wanted to join Sinfonia is because he really just miss playing in a string orchestra. And so at Peabody, we usually play with the wind instruments and the brass instruments, too. It's not just stringed instruments. But we get to do a lot of fun stuff. Like we oftentimes don't get to like pizzicato as much in orchestra, but we do a lot of that sometimes. And we have a lot of freedom in this group, too, because our student led versus conductor LED or like, teacher led or something. So a lot of people like to join for that reason, too. And then of course, a lot of people love to go out in the community and meet people like you guys have a special connection to so that sounds why I joined. But yes, people do get rejected freshman year, I was rejected from some phony real talk, everyone. I don't know why I was rejected, but it's really sad. But some Yeah, some people get turned away, but we haven't turned anyone away. Isn't that right? Rosie, we're nice. We're nice people.

Ashley Biggs 58:57

If you'd like to ask a question, please feel free to unmute.

Nathan 59:02

This is Tony again with a question I think for Nathan. When you wrote the piece from which Aurora was taken, were you thinking of this particular complement of instruments? Or do you write first and arrange later? Alright, so usually, usually, when I'm composing, I will think of the orchestration first. Not all the time, but usually. So yeah, this this projects to write this piece, because I haven't really, prior to this, this piece. I hadn't written anything for a string orchestra. I've written for chamber groups where you have like one on a part, string quartets, or something like that. And this is a little bit different because you get a fuller sound with the full string orchestra. So yeah, hopefully that answers your question. The the instrumentation comes first and then I'll just write for those instruments. Once I've decided kind of what my goal is. Yes, thank you.

Ashley Biggs 59:56

Well, I have a question Would everyone take a minute and just So, introduce yourself one more time. And tell us again the name of your favorite pieces.

Haley 1:00:10

Well, I guess I'm going first because I'm closest to the microphone, but my name is Hayley. I play the violin. And I'm from Seattle, so it's pretty far, but I really enjoy Baltimore and some of my favorite music. I just love Holland. Oh, it's like honestly, I feel like I can listen to Holland notes all day. So it's kind of unfortunate that I play violin. Well, I shouldn't say that. I'm grateful. I just want to jam you know, but anyway, Okay, who's next? Hi, I'm

Rose 1:00:37

Rose. I play viola and I'm from Phoenix. And some of my favorite musics to play at Peabody is anything chamber music. So like Sinfonia like we don't have a conductor. So that's considered chamber music. Anything in a smaller group is really fun for me.

Nathan 1:00:55

I'm making again, I played Viola, I think I forgot to mention where I'm from. I'm from Maine. So it's a little bit different down here, not as much snow. And your question about favorite music was meant for people, for some people it Sinfonia music or everything. My favorite piece on the program is the piano solo. That was pretty fun. But in general, I like obscure chamber music that like rarely gets played. So like, because some weird composer you haven't heard of, it generally liked playing that kind of stuff. I again, I'm

Teresa 1:01:26

Theresa, I'm from upstate New York. I think my favorite piece from the program was probably September. They used to listen to that in the car with my dad all the time, and it's super upbeat and fun. I think just in general, my current favorite style of music to play are Scottish Renaissance dances, so very specific, but really fun I recommend.

Justin 1:01:46

Hi, I'm Justin. I'm from New Jersey. And to be honest, I have I can't really choose my favorite piece of music ever. But I mean, like, I'm a huge, like, punk guy. So one of my favorite songs is weightless by all time low. But in terms of what we play in the program, probably Halloween is my favorite. It's definitely like, it's one of those songs I just grew up listening to. And I always remember of course, I remember the Shrek version because it was just me it was oddly touching for a kid's movie, you know? Yeah, definitely. Oh, yeah. For this program.

Abby 1:02:24

Hello, my name is Abby. I play bass. I'm from Silver Spring, Maryland. And my favorite piece on the program was definitely Nathan's kids a lot. I just love the bass part. And also the spicy violin. The violin parts don't know that my favorite music of all time, but one of my favorite songs is don't let me down by the Beatles. Anything groovy with a groovy bass lines, my my kind of thing.

Adam 1:02:57

Hi, I'm Adam. I play violin. And I'm originally from Detroit, Michigan. One of my favorite pieces on the program tonight is definitely hallelujah. Just because one of my favorite things to play with the violin is just these like beautiful, luscious chords. And that's kind of, you know, the ones that can just rip your heart out. That's definitely one of those songs. But what I like to listen to outside of classical music and stuff, I'm definitely it ranges between like pop music, like going on on Kelly Clarkson. And like all rock, so yeah.

Sophie 1:03:33

Hi again. I'm Sophie. I'm a violinist and I, I Oh, right. I'm from Atlanta, Georgia. And my favorite piece that we played today was definitely the pizzolatto as well. Every time every time I play it, I mean, they can attest I end up breaking some bow hairs like that's how into it I get like today I broke five bow hairs that's like a personal record for me. I didn't know that was possible.

Ashley Biggs 1:03:59

We clap for that or

Sophie 1:04:11

I mean, it's just really fun. You know, I can't remember this. But I outside of classical music. I really like to listen to film score. So like any movie soundtracks, and things like that, and a really good I also really like some I recently got into like jazz and like, like, acoustic indie type things. So yeah, that's, that's where I'm at. And I love Taylor Swift. I will have to say that so.

Ashley Biggs 1:04:36

No shame. No shame. I love Swift.

Anita 1:04:40

Hi, again. I'm Anita. I'm from Brooklyn, New York, and I play the cello. And I think my favorite piece we played tonight was Nathan serenade second movement. Well, it does have a big cello solo, but I just feel like the harmonies and everything are very epic and just playing it as a group. feels like you're in an epic adventure. So yeah, but otherwise, why I love classical music. I also love jazz because my my dad plays bass, jazz bass. And but I think every type of music has some value to it. Yeah. Yeah, that's everyone. That's everyone.

Ashley Biggs 1:05:23

It's so cool to see you guys again, I know that. I was certainly looking forward to it. And I think everyone here was as well. Are there any additional questions? Would anybody like to learn a little bit more about anything? While we have our wonderful presenters here? All right. Well, I'm going to ask for one more round of applause. Just to show how much we appreciate them. And of course, to show that we would love to have them back anytime they would like to visit so 123.

Haley 1:06:03

Yes, thank you all so much. I hope you have a good night and I hope we see you again soon. So

Ashley Biggs 1:06:08

definitely.

Haley 1:06:10

Okay. Bye by everyone. Thank you.

Ashley Biggs 1:06:17

Alright, everyone, I'm going to go ahead and end the thank you for voting. Thank you, my dear. I will be in touch with you guys shortly.

Rose 1:06:26

Sounds good. All right. Bye.

Announcer 1:06:29

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