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Paris in Spring!

WPO Concert - April 24, 2022

Get ready for a musical visit to France by attending Warren Philharmonic Orchestra's next concert featuring *Paris in Spring!* The concert features a magic firebird, Mozart, Debussy, and a mysterious "pulse" that captures it all! The concert begins at 3 p.m. on April 24, 2022, at First Presbyterian Church, 256 Mahoning Avenue, NW, Downtown Warren.

Under the baton of music director and conductor Susan Davenny Wyner, the orchestra will perform *Abduction from the Seraglio Overture* by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, the Ohio premiere of *Pulse* by Margaret Brouwer, *Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune (Prelude to The Afternoon of a Faun)* and *Fêtes* from *Nocturnes* by Claude Debussy, and *The Firebird Suite* by Igor Stravinsky. Program notes are posted on the WPO website.

"Our Spring Concert spirits us from Vienna and America over to Paris for five thrilling and very different musical adventures," explains Susan Davenny Wyner. "What particularly excites me about this program is how brilliantly each composer uses the orchestra's 50 instruments to evoke different dramas and 'colors.' And our American composer will be with us to talk about her piece!

"Mozart's 1782 comic overture is witty and sparkling, full of surprises. In a letter to his father, he wrote, 'I doubt whether anyone, even though the previous night has been a sleepless one, could go to sleep over it.' By contrast, Debussy in 1890s Paris, creates a delicately sensual world by blending the instruments around a solo flute for his depiction of Mallarmé's *Afternoon of a Faun*. In a complete turnabout his *Fêtes (Festival)*

is a marvel of bright quicksilver dancing rhythms as the orchestra depicts ‘memories of festive merry-making’ in the Bois de Boulogne,” she continues.

“For our Ohio premiere of *Pulse*, I am delighted to welcome award-winning composer Margaret Brouwer who will guide us through her propulsive and intriguing piece,” Davenny Wyner states. Though short, *Pulse* is full of surprising, dynamic orchestral exchanges that surround a mysterious appearance of motives in its middle section. Brouwer served as head of the composition department at the Cleveland Institute of Music from 1996 to 2008 and has been praised for having ‘one of the most inventive imaginations among contemporary American composers,’ according to the *Dallas Morning News*.

“As a grand finale, our Paris adventure closes with Stravinsky’s famous *Firebird Suite* – taken from music he created for Diaghilev’s Ballets Russes to perform at the Paris Opera in 1910. Based on the legend of a magical Firebird, the piece exploits dazzling orchestral sonorities and combinations to characterize its exotic characters,” she concludes.

The Orchestra’s 50 musicians with 65 different instruments have won raves for their superb performances, stellar musicianship and captivating programs of compositions from the 1600s to pieces just composed. The April concert concludes the Orchestra’s 56th performance season.

Tickets for the April concert can be purchased at the door; adults \$30, students \$15. Children under the age of 13 are admitted free, with parent or guardian. The Orchestra will follow First Presbyterian’s COVID-19 guidelines in effect at the concert’s date. For more information about the concerts or any of our youth outreach programs, contact the Philharmonic office at 330-399-3606 or email warren.philharmonic@gmail.com. Facebook: Warren Philharmonic Orchestra. Website: <http://www.warrenphilharmonic.org/>

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