



NEW HAVEN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

# Program Notes

for

# KIDS

February 15, 2018  
Woolsey Hall



# Neale Conducts Mozart

Alasdair Neale, conductor  
Michael Brown, piano

# Neale Conducts Mozart

## **Mothership**

Mason Bates

## **Piano Concerto no. 20 in D minor**

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

## **This Noble Company**

Kevin Puts

## **Variations on 'Enigma'**

Edward Elgar

## Welcome to the NHSO!

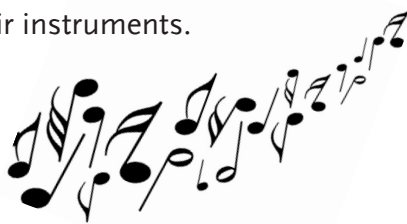
### Before the concert begins:

- Turn off any device that makes noise.
- Read the *Program Notes for Kids*.
- Locate the restrooms and exits.
- Look around at the architecture of the theater.
- Listen to musicians warm-up their instruments.



### During the concert:

- Clap as people enter the stage.
- Listen quietly as the orchestra plays.
- Wait for every section (called *movements*) of a piece to be played, then clap. (Hint: the conductor will turn to face you when it's time.)
- During intermission, you are free to get up.
- At the end of the concert, people may stand up to show their appreciation. This is called a *standing ovation*.



ENJOY!

Words & Music Literacy Project

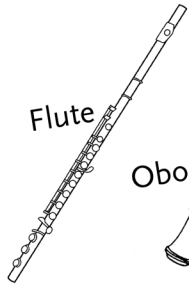
supported by:



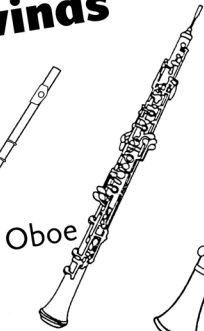
NewAlliance Bank

# Instruments of the Orchestra

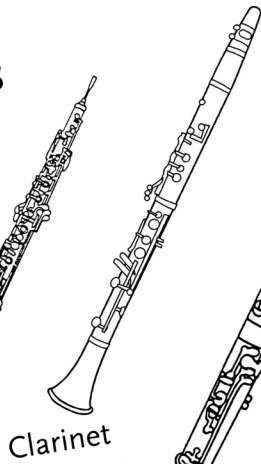
## Woodwinds



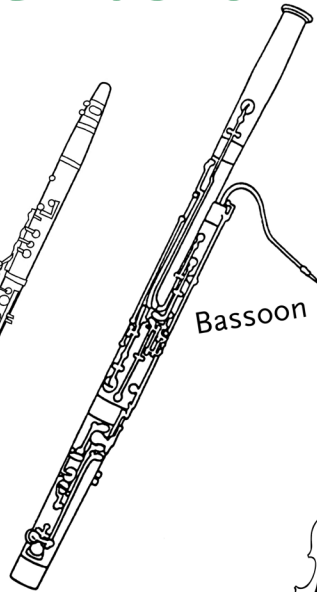
Flute



Oboe



Clarinet



Bassoon

## Strings



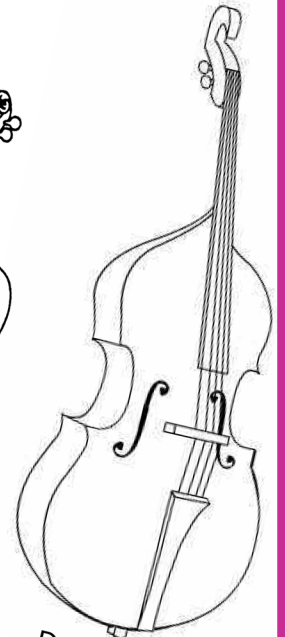
Violin



Viola



Cello

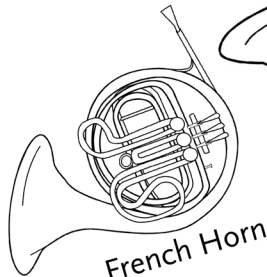


Double Bass

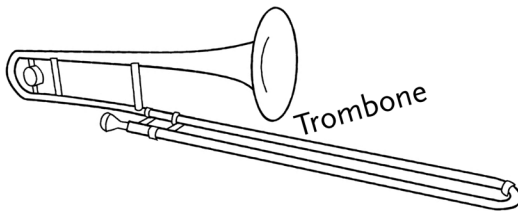
## Brass



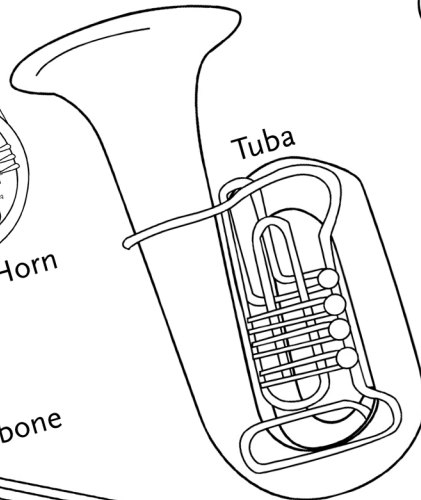
Trumpet



French Horn

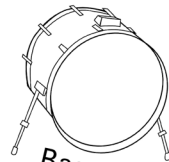


Trombone



Tuba

## Percussion



Bass Drum



Snare Drum



Timpani



Gong



Triangle



Tambourine

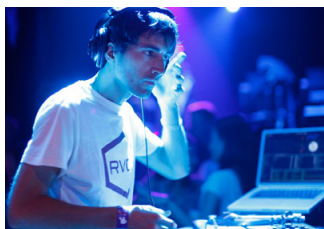


The orchestra is led by a conductor, sometimes called "maestro"

and more!

# Mothership

*Mothership* was written by Mason Bates in 2011. This piece was premiered at the Sydney Opera House by the Youtube Symphony Orchestra (did you know Youtube had its own orchestra?!) According to the composer's program notes, this piece "imagines the orchestra as a mothership that is 'docked' by several visiting soloists..." Enjoy your ride aboard Mason Bates' *Mothership*!



Mason Bates is an American composer originally from Virginia. In addition to writing music for orchestras, Mr. Bates also enjoys electronic music and was a DJ in Oakland, California! He has worked closely with the San Francisco Symphony, the Chicago Symphony, and is currently the Composer-in-Residence at the Kennedy Center for Performing Arts in Washington, D.C.

# Piano Concerto No. 20 in D minor

*Piano Concerto No. 20 in D minor* was written by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart in 1785. A **concerto** is a piece of music that is written for a solo instrument with the orchestra playing in the background. When the piece was premiered in 1785, Mozart himself played the piano as the featured soloist. This piece was one of Ludwig van Beethoven's (another very famous composer) favorite pieces to play when he was young. The piece is split up into three different movements, or parts:

**Movement I - Allegro (Fast)**

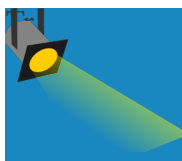
**Movement II - Romanze (Romance)**

**Movement III - Allegro assai (very fast)**



Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart is one of the most well-known composers that has ever lived. He began playing the piano at age 4, after listening to his older sister, Nannerl, play the piano. The two of

them also learned how to play the violin. Both were considered **child prodigies**, or VERY talented musicians at a young age, and played for kings and queens when they were still very young. As he got older, Mozart became one of the leading composers of his day. He wrote operas, masses, symphonies, and concerti. He wrote 27 piano concerti, including the one you will hear tonight.



**Spotlight on:**

**Michael Brown**



Tonight's soloist is Michael Brown, who you may recognize if you came to our opening night concert. Michael has performed all over the world as a

soloist. Michael studied piano at Julliard and has also written a lot of music. We are also lucky to have Michael as the NHSO's Composer-in-Residence for 2017-2019, when he will write music for the NHSO to perform and teach students in the New Haven area how to compose their own music!

# This Noble Company

*This Noble Company* is written by American composer Kevin Puts in 2003. Mr. Puts was asked by the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra to write an “*American Pomp and Circumstance*.” The original *Pomp and Circumstance* is a piece of music that is often played at graduation ceremonies around the country, but the Atlanta Symphony wanted a piece written by an American. Lucky for us, they chose Kevin Puts to write it!



Kevin Puts is an American composer originally from St. Louis, Missouri. He attended the Eastman School of Music and also Yale University right here in New Haven! His music has been played by orchestras all over the world. He won the 2012 Pulitzer Prize for Music for the first opera he ever wrote, *Silent Night*. Mr. Puts is currently on the faculty at the Peabody Institute, which is a music conservatory at Johns Hopkins University in Maryland.

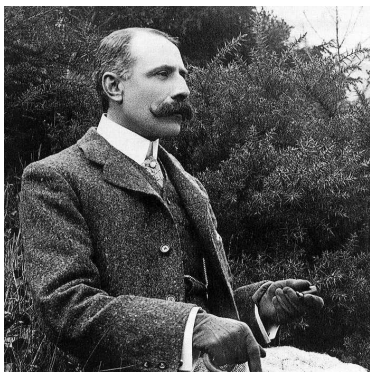
## Spotlight on: Alasdair Neale



Tonight's guest conductor will be Alasdair Neale. Maestro Neale grew up in Scotland, and now lives in San Francisco. He currently works as the Music

Director for the Sun Valley Summer Symphony in Idaho and the Marin Symphony in California. Maestro Neale is auditioning to be the NHSO's new Music Director. If he wins the job, he will be the new conductor after Maestro Boughton leaves at the end of next season. Make sure to give Maestro Neale a warm welcome!

# Variations on 'Enigma'



*Variations on 'Enigma'* was written by Edward Elgar between 1898 and 1899. This piece is an example of **theme and variations**. The first section of music you will hear is called the **theme**. After you hear the theme for the first time, it will be changed. Elgar changes the speed, volume, and instruments used. These changed sections are called **variations** (because the composer is “varying” the theme). There are 14 variations in total in this piece. The titles of the variations are code names that represent Elgar's friends. Some historians have been able to figure out which people are represented, but others are still a mystery. Out of your friends, who would you name pieces of music about?

### Names and People of the Enigma Variations

1. Theme
2. C.A.E. (Elgar's Wife, Carolyn Alice Elgar)
3. H.D.S-P (Hew David Steuart-Powell, Elgar's friend)
4. R.B.T. (Richard Baxter Townshend, author)
5. W.M.B. (William Meath Baker, a rich man)
6. R.P.A. (Richard Penrose Arnold, son of a famous poet)
7. Ysobel (Isabel Fitton, a viola student of Elgar)
8. Troyte (Arthur Troyte Griffith, Elgar's best friend)
9. W. N. (Winifred Norbury, local secretary)
10. Nimrod (Augustus J. Jaeger, Elgar's close friend)
11. Dorabella (Dora Penny, a family friend)
12. G.R.S. (George Robertson Sinclair, a local organist)
13. B.G.N. (Basil George Nevinson, a musician friend)
14. \*\*\* (Lady Mary Lygon, a local sponsor of music)
15. E.D.U. (Himself - a nickname from his wife)

# Scavenger Hunt

How many questions can you answer?

1. How many columns are there around Woolsey Hall? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How many organ pipes are there behind the stage? \_\_\_\_\_
3. How many french horns are on stage? \_\_\_\_\_
4. How many woodwind instruments are on stage? \_\_\_\_\_
5. How many lights are hanging from the ceiling? \_\_\_\_\_

If you were writing a review of Michael Brown's performance tonight, which words would you use to describe it? Check all that apply!

- |                                       |                                  |                                      |                                  |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Captivating  | <input type="checkbox"/> Boring  | <input type="checkbox"/> Effortless  | <input type="checkbox"/> Quick   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exhilarating | <input type="checkbox"/> Amazing | <input type="checkbox"/> Fascinating | <input type="checkbox"/> Vibrant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Quiet        | <input type="checkbox"/> Fast    | <input type="checkbox"/> Strong      | <input type="checkbox"/> Slow    |

Are the beginning and ending of the movements in Mozart's concerto performed **piano** (softly) or **forte** (loudly)?

Beginning of Movement:

End of Movement:

- |                    |       |       |
|--------------------|-------|-------|
| I. Allegro         | _____ | _____ |
| II. Romanze        | _____ | _____ |
| III. Allegro assai | _____ | _____ |

Out of the three pieces that you heard tonight, which one is your favorite? Why?

---

---

---

---

# Concert Review

Write about your experience at the concert tonight.

Who did you see? What did you hear?

What did you think about the music and the experience?

What would you like to tell the Maestro and the musicians?

We would love to know what you think!  
Scan or copy this page and send it to us:

Education Department  
New Haven Symphony Orchestra  
4 Hamilton Street  
New Haven, CT 06511  
[Education@NewHavenSymphony.org](mailto:Education@NewHavenSymphony.org)



## Family Concert Series:

# “THE SYMPHONY GOES TO THE ZOO!”

The NHSO Family Concert Series provides fun, interactive concerts for students ages 3-9 to meet the instruments of the orchestra. These concerts will be held from January - March at Davis Street School in New Haven and Shelton Intermediate School.

Before each concert, the NHSO offers an Instrument Petting Zoo where children can tap, tickle, and toot real orchestral instruments before the performance. Following the concert, families are invited to stay for a healthy snack. New Haven Reads provides free children's books for everyone who attends the concert. Attendance is FREE but donations are welcome!

TORTOISE AND THE HARE  
February 17 | 10am & 2pm  
Davis Street School, New Haven

February 18 | 2pm  
Shelton Intermediate School

CAT IN THE HAT  
March 3 | 10am & 2pm  
Davis Street School, New Haven

March 4 | 2pm  
Shelton Intermediate School

Visit [www.NewHavenSymphony.org/Family-Series](http://www.NewHavenSymphony.org/Family-Series) to learn more.



## Did you know?

Kids go **FREE** to **ALL**  
NHSO concerts!

The NHSO offers free KidTix for children age 17 and under with the purchase of an adult ticket. Additional child tickets are available for \$10 each. KidTix must be purchased by phone by calling the NHSO box office at 203.865.0831

**Frontier**  
COMMUNICATIONS

[www.NewHavenSymphony.org](http://www.NewHavenSymphony.org)