

# Program Notes for Kids October 17 | Woolsey Hall



Congratulations to tonight's Art Contest Winner: Almanzo Abraham, Grade 3, Edgewood School

# Tchaikovsky's Fifth

These Worlds In Us Missy Mazzoli

Violin Concerto Samuel Barber --- INTERMISSION ---

Symphony No. 5 Peter Ilych Tchaikovsky

## 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*.







## These Worlds in Us

**Missy Mazzoli** is only 38 years old, but is already a very well-known composer! She is also a really good piano player and still plays today. She was born in Pennsylvania and then moved to Boston for college. After, she came right here to New Haven for some more schooling at Yale! She currently writes music (mostly operas!) all over the world, and other orchestras, like Chicago and New York, play her music, too.

These Worlds in Us was written when Missy was thinking about her father being a soldier in the Vietnam War. You'll hear some percussion (specifically snare drum) that will try and make it sound like the military is nearby. Try and hear that sound as you listen to the piece!



### **Violin Concerto**



**Samuel Barber** is an American composer that lived from 1910 - 1981. Just like Missy, he was also born in Pennsylvania! His family was very musical, so he started piano when he was very young and knew that he wanted to write music for the rest of his life by the time he was 10 years old.

### Help! What's a concerto?!

A **concerto** is a piece of music that has a solo instrument playing by itself in front of the orchestra. Tonight, that instrument is a violin. Concerti usually have three movements (like chapters of a book); the first movement is fast, the second slow, and the third fast. Usually, you don't clap between movements, but sometimes people get excited! At the end of the first movement, there will be a **cadenza**, where the orchestra stops playing and lets the violin really show off. See if you can tell where it is!



Jennifer Koh, violin



Violinist **Jennifer Koh** has traveled all around the world to play her violin in front of audiences. She was born in Chicago, and was so good that by the age of 11, she got up to play a concerto in front of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra! She's won a lot of awards in her career, and she also has recorded a lot of CDs and pieces of music. Make sure to give her a huge round of applause when she is done playing tonight!

# Symphony No. 5



**Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky** (Peter Ill-ee-ich Chi-coff-skee) was a very famous Russian composer. He was born into a military family, and his father and grandfathers were important members of the Russian military.

Tchaikovsky was a very bright child, and by 6 years old he was fluent in Russian, French, and German! He started taking piano lessons at 5 years old, and quickly grew to be one of the best students his teacher had ever seen.

In addition to his symphonies, Tchaikovsky is probably best known for his three ballets: *The Nutcracker, Swan Lake, and Sleeping Beauty.* 

There are 4 **movements**, or parts, of this symphony. The names of the movements all have to do with the tempo, or speed of the music. Movement IV has a REALLY long title because it changes speeds a whole lot! The names of all the movements are:

**Movement I** - Allegro con anima — Molto più tranquillo

Fast and animated - then much quieter

**Movement II** - Andante cantabile, con alcuna licenza — Non allegro — Andante maestoso con piano

Flowing and song-like, with some freedom - Not too fast - Majestic and flowing with a plan

Movement III - Valse: Allegro moderato

**Waltz: Moderately fast** 

**Movement IV** - Finale: Andante maestoso — Allegro vivace — Molto vivace — Moderato assai e molto maestoso — Presto

Ending: Majestic and flowing - Super fast - Even faster - Slow down and become more flowing again - Go as fast as you can!

Can you hear all of the tempo changes as they happen?

### The Tchaikovsky "Funny Zone"



Which composer has the most colds? Tchai-COUGH-sky

What is Tchaikovsky's favorite candy?

Sugar Plums

### **SCAVENGER HUNT**

How many questions can you answer?

1. How many columns are there around W	oolsey Hall?		
2. How many organ pipes are there behind	d the stage?		
3. How many clarinets are on stage?	-		
4. How many brass instruments are on stage	ge?		
5. How many lights are hanging from the co	eiling?		
If you were writing a review of Jennifer Koh	s's performance tonight, which wo	ords would you use to describ	be it? Check all that apply!
Captivating	Boring	Effortless	Quick
Exhilarating	Amazing	Fascinating	Vibrant
Quiet	Fast	Fire	Slow
Are the beginning and ending of the move	ments in Tchaikovsky's <i>Symphony</i> Beginning of Moveme		or forte (loudly)?  End of Movement:
I. Andante - Allegro con Anima			
II. Andante cantabile, con alcuna licenza			
II. Andante cantabile, con alcuna licenza III. Valse. Allegro moderato			
III.Valse. Allegro moderato			
III.Valse. Allegro moderato	rd tonight, which one did you	like best? Why?	
III.Valse. Allegro moderato  IV. Finale: Andante maestoso	rd tonight, which one did you	like best? Why?	

### **CONCERT REVIEW**

Write or draw 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:

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### **Family Concert Series: AROUND THE WORLD**

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!









#### **CHINA**

January 18 & 19

Join erhu player Kevin Chen as we kick off Chinese New Year celebrations!

#### **GHANA**

February 1 & 2

We invited John Wesley Dankwa to share his home country of Ghana's music and culture.

#### **PUERTO RICO**

March 14 & 15

Guitarist Lorena Garay will introduce us to the rhythms and melodies from her home country, Puerto Rico.

Visit NewHavenSymphony.org/Family to learn more.



NewHavenSymphony.org