

UNIVERSITY SYMPHONY PERSONNEL

Violin I

Lauren Rausch**
Jannie Wei
Valerie Nelson
Angeliena McConkey
HanJun Lee
Tricia Buzzard
Avril Javel
Arianne Shimanoff
Olivia Davis
Sean O'Neal
Abby Young
Sasha Chandler
Katherine Tomscha
Kelsey Aronstein
Da-sul Lim

Violin II

Kristen Harris*
Haley Engle
Rebecca Hunter
Erin Rolan
Scott Dinsfriend
Steven McVey
Sidran Olson
Jeanette Oleman
Jenelle Roskelley
Claire Pelofi
Erin Howe
Nathaniel Janove

Viola

Lillie Wells*
Kate Rogers
Holland Phillips
Brian Ki
Melissa Jordan
Amanda German
Whitney Wolfe
Nathan Reiman

Cello

Wan-Ting Huang*
Talia Lindsley
Ralph Stricker-Chapman
Travis Nutsch
Josh Koller
Joseph Howe
Austin Bennett
Mckenzie Kramer
River Ramuglia

Bass

Eli Copeland*
Shawn Alger
Corey Adkins
Andrew Juul

Flute

Tara Schwab*
Cassandra Lear
Amy Norland
Patricia Cardona

Oboe

Jeremy Curtis*
Cooper Wright*
Leslie Treber
Kate Nix

Clarinet

Alane Thayer*
Marissa Ochsner
Jesse Montgomery
Nicoleen Willson

Bassoon

Joey Hartman*
Brian McKee
Nate Helgeson

Horn

J. Andrew Hiserote*
Kenneth Westcott
John Dodge
Peter Yurkovich
Kaila Finlayson
Jason Gerraughty
Jamie Keesecker
Rebecca Olason

Trumpet

Will Hamilton*
Nathan Wilson
Randy Johnson
Derek Lyle

Trombone

Nathan Baker*
Evan Stewart
Hassan Shiban

Tuba

Charles Nickles

Harp

Rachel Miller

Timpani

Paul Owen*

Percussion

Grayson Fiske*
Carl Burnstein
Taylor Parrish
Evan Marquardt

** *Concertmaster*

* *Principal or
Co-Principal*



SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND DANCE

EMU Ballroom
3:00 p.m.

Sunday afternoon
May 17, 2009

UNIVERSITY SYMPHONY

Wayne Bennett, director

Leonard Atherton, guest conductor

with guest faculty artists

Fritz Gearhart, violin

Leslie Straka, viola

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109th Season, 121st program



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

PROGRAM

Sinfonia Concertante Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
for Violin and Viola, K. 364 (1756–1791)
Allegro maestoso
Andante
Presto

Fritz Gearhart, violin
Leslie Straka, viola
Leonard Atherton, conductor

INTERMISSION

Symphony No. 1 in D Major (Titan) Gustav Mahler
Langsam, schleppend (1860–1911)
Kräftig bewegt
Feierlich und gemessen, ohne zu schleppen
Stürmisch bewegt

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ABOUT TODAY'S GUEST ARTISTS

Leonard Atherton is the music director emeritus of the Muncie Symphony Orchestra and former director of the Ball State University Orchestra. Atherton is an associate of the Royal College of Music and a Licentiate of the Royal Academy of Music. He holds a doctoral equivalency from Ball State University and the Master of Arts degree from Oxford University. He held the Holroyd Music Scholarship at Keble College, Oxford University, and studied conducting on scholarship at Tanglewood Music Center. He received the Ricordi Prize for conducting at the Guildhall School of Music. With the Watney-Sargent Award, Atherton spent a year observing the Philadelphia Orchestra and visited professional music organizations in the U.S. Atherton has held music director positions with New Bedford Symphony Orchestra, the Greater Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra, the Niagara Symphony Orchestra, the Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra and the Young Artists Choral Program of the Boston University Tanglewood Institute. He was music director of the National Symphony Orchestra in Bolivia and was director of the University of Pennsylvania Choruses. He has recorded with the Canadian Broadcasting Company, and has been guest conductor with Canadian orchestras in Victoria, Kingston, Saskatoon and Toronto. He also has appeared with the Minnesota Orchestra, Baltimore Symphony, and the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra. Atherton made his debut in Japan conducting Strauss *Die Fledermaus* with the Sakai Opera Company, Osaka, and led concerts with the Opera House Orchestra of the Osaka College of Music and the Century Orchestra of Osaka. He has guest conducted the UANL orchestra of Monterrey, Mexico and returned to the Guildhall School of Music to conduct its orchestra. He has conducted in Taiwan with the Taipei Metropolitan Or-

chestra and given conducting masterclasses at the Royal Academy of Music. His textbook is available in Taiwan. Recent guest conducting has taken him to the Old Dominion University Orchestra and the National Symphony Orchestra of Bolivia. Maestro Atherton has served on many occasions as the Cover Conductor for the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra.

Fritz Gearhart joined the University of Oregon string faculty in 1998, teaching violin and chamber music and performing regularly with the Oregon String Quartet. The third generation of professional musicians in his family, Gearhart received his master's degree and the prestigious Performer's Certificate from the Eastman School of Music, where he studied with Donald Weilerstein. Gearhart's earlier studies were at the Hartt School of Music, where he worked with Charles Treger and members of the Emerson Quartet. Gearhart has performed in major concert halls around the country, including Alice Tully Hall, Carnegie Recital Hall, and the 92nd Street Y, as well as the Terrace Theater at the Kennedy Center. Prior to his appointment at the University of Oregon, Gearhart was first violinist of the Chester String Quartet, which was widely acclaimed by the press and singled out as a highlight of the 1989 American String Quartet Congress. Gearhart has been heard frequently on public radio, including live broadcasts featured on WFMT Chicago, WQXR New York, and NPR's "Performance Today." Gearhart has recorded nine compact discs, including *The Complete Works for Violin by Robert Casadesu* and *Oregon Festival of American Music Presents: William Grant Still*, released in 2001 and 2002, respectively. All were enthusiastically praised by the press, including *Fanfare*, *American Record Guide*, and *Strad*. Gearhart continues an active performing career around the country. Most recently, Gearhart worked with the Oregon String Quartet to complete their newest recording: *The Oregon String Quartet and All That Jazz, Jazz Influences in the Contemporary American String Quartet*, now available on the Koch Entertainment label.

Leslie Straka joined the University of Oregon faculty in 1987, teaching viola and chamber music and performing regularly with the Oregon String Quartet. Prior to joining the University of Oregon faculty, Straka was on the faculty at the University of Miami. She received the B.M., M.M., and D.M.A. degrees from Arizona State University. Her viola teachers have included William Magers, Walter Trampler, Paul Doktor, and Donald McInnes. She performed in the master classes of Gregor Piatigorsky, Eduard Melkus, and Max Rostal, among others. In 1978 Straka was awarded first place in the Collegiate Artist Competition of the Arizona Music Teachers Association, and was the national first place winner of the National Federation of Music Clubs Competition. With pianist Walter Cosand, she recorded the Brahms viola sonatas, released in 2004. Straka has performed extensively as a soloist and chamber musician throughout the United States and Europe, collaborating with many outstanding musicians. She has been a featured artist at the Luzerne Chamber Music Center in New York, Festival Miami, the Miami Bach Society, the University of Oregon Chamber Music Series, the Oregon Bach Festival, the Red Lodge Festival in Montana, the Mainly Mozart and Flagstaff Festivals in Arizona, and the York Festival in England. Straka has been a member of the Oregon String Quartet since 1987. The quartet has recorded two compact discs, both released by Koch International Classics.

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