

NORTH CAROLINA SYMPHONY

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CONTACT

Meredith Kimball Laing

919.789.5484

mlaing@ncsymphony.org

North Carolina Symphony's 85th Season Features Masterworks and Expands NCS's Repertoire through Landmark Performances with Music Director Grant Llewellyn and Renowned Guest Artists

Highlights Include Production of *Romeo and Juliet* with UNC School of the Arts; Return Appearance by Pianist Natasha Paremski in Rachmaninoff Program; Collaborations with Resident Chorus, North Carolina Master Chorale, to Perform Mozart's Requiem and Ravel's *Daphnis and Chloé*; and Continued Commitment to New Art by Living Composers

RALEIGH, N.C. – The North Carolina Symphony, which engages more than 250,000 North Carolinians each year, will bring the highest quality performances of symphonic music to the entire state in 2017/18, its **85th Anniversary season**, with inspiring programs inside and outside of the concert hall. With its **commitment to creating unique arts experiences**, NCS earned **national recognition** as one of just four orchestras in the country selected to perform in Washington, D.C. at The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts on the first-ever *SHIFT* festival in March 2017. The Symphony's commitment to engagement and innovation continues next season, with creative programs that will delight audiences and expand the artistic endeavors of the orchestra's 66 professional musicians.

"NCS musicians bring deep passion and a spirit of curiosity to everything they perform," says **Music Director Grant Llewellyn**. "I am eager to hear the insights that they will bring to our programs in the coming season, and look forward to exploring the additions to the Symphony's extensive repertoire—creating new musical experiences for both our artists and our audiences."

"Marking our 85th year of service, Grant Llewellyn has developed a season that will inspire seasoned concertgoers and newcomers alike," says **President and CEO Sandi Macdonald**. "Working with artistic and statewide partners, we are honored to be a vital component of cultural life in North Carolina."

Acclaimed for its exceptional artistry under the direction of Grant Llewellyn, NCS **is proud to bring the highest caliber guest artists to our state**. The impressive roster of talent joining the Symphony on its **Classical Series** includes pianist **Natasha Paremski**, violinist **Philippe Quint**, cellist **Johannes Moser**, and many more; and conductors **Rune Bergmann** (for Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*) and **Ben Gernon** (for Respighi's *Pines of Rome* and *Fountains of Rome*), among others. NCS will **showcase the virtuosity of its own artists**, featuring

Concertmaster Brian Reagin, Principal Bass Leonid Finkelshteyn, and French Horn players Christopher Caudill and Rachel Niketopoulos as soloists. Engrained in the fabric of its cultural community, NCS looks forward to **continuing its established collaborations with the University of North Carolina School of the Arts** for a semi-staged production of *Romeo and Juliet*; and with its resident chorus, the **North Carolina Master Chorale**, for **Mozart's Requiem** and **Ravel's Daphnis and Chloé**.

NCS will expand its repertoire, introducing North Carolina audiences to works the Symphony has never before performed—**time-honored masterpieces** such as Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*, as part of a worldwide celebration of the centennial of his birth; the **world premiere** of a string bass concerto by the Symphony's own Bass Trombone player, Terry Mizesko; and **newer works by some of the most acclaimed composers of our time**, including **Nico Muhly, Jennifer Higdon, Missy Mazzoli, Sarah Kirkland Snider**, and more.

In May 2018, the Schumann Cello Concerto will be **recorded live in performance for the Symphony's upcoming album with Grant Llewellyn and Zuill Bailey**. This will be the Symphony's third recording collaboration with Bailey, one of the world's premier cellists; the first, released in 2014, reached the top of the Billboard Classical Chart.

Grant Llewellyn increases his appearances on the Pops Series in the coming season. He takes the podium in the fall for a program in the tradition of the great Boston Pops, and in the spring for a performance with North Carolina's own folk-classical fusion band, **The Kruger Brothers**. NCS has a longstanding tradition of bringing its community together through music at the holidays, and the 2017/18 season offers **new holiday programs**, including *Christmas with the Callaways* with **Tony-nominated sisters Liz Callaway and Ann Hampton Callaway**; a **screening of Home Alone** on Thanksgiving weekend with the Symphony **performing the soundtrack live**; and *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* on the day before Thanksgiving. **NCS will engage fans of a wide variety of musical genres**, with a semi-staged production of *My Fair Lady* on Valentine's weekend; *The Music of The Rolling Stones* and *The Music of Michael Jackson*; and *A Celtic Celebration*, complete with Irish step dancers.

Partnering with the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction to lead the **most extensive education program of any symphony orchestra**, NCS is dedicated to creating the next generation of classical music lovers. In addition to its education program for schools and students, the Symphony's **Young People's Concerts offer opportunities for families to experience music together**. The 2017/18 season includes Prokofiev's classic musical story *Peter and the Wolf* with the Triangle Youth Ballet; a comedic introduction to the orchestra in *The Listener*; and the enchanting fairytale *The Firebird* with masks, magic, and puppetry, together with the music of Stravinsky. The interactive Young People's Concerts are perfect for children ages three to 12, and include pre-concert fun such as the Instrument Zoo, where children can try out instruments of the orchestra; professional face-painting; photos with characters; and hands-on activities that meld music and science in partnership with Marbles Kids Museum.

Each summer, **thousands in the community gather for music under the stars at Summerfest**. Presented by UNC REX Healthcare at the Symphony's summer home, **Koka Booth Amphitheater**, Summerfest concerts offer classical masterworks and family-friendly concerts in a relaxed outdoor

environment. Concertgoers spread out blankets, lawn chairs, and picnics beginning at 5:30 PM for the 7:30 PM concerts, and enjoy the picturesque natural surroundings (including Symphony Lake, which was named for NCS) and pre-concert activities such as the popular Instrument Zoo. Dates and details for 2017 Summerfest programs will be announced in the spring.

NCS is dedicated to making classical music accessible to our entire community, bringing music outside of the concert hall to engage new audiences. The Symphony will present innovative chamber music programs featuring NCS musicians, in partnership with community hot-spots and institutions. **Soundbites at the Pub**, at Raleigh restaurants, offers a multi-course meal followed by an intimate concert and discourse from the musicians about the music, at an affordable price. Concerts at **Kings**, curated by the performers, reflect the musical tastes of NCS musicians. Tickets are just \$8 and the atmosphere is casual, with a mix of flexible theater-style seating, bar seating, and standing room; audience members enjoy drinks as they listen to the music. The **Manning Chamber Music Series** at William Peace University is presented free of charge to the general public with reserved seating. Continuing a collaboration with **Quail Ridge Books** in North Hills, **Grant Llewellyn will offer his personal insights** and provide a deeper understanding of the music he has programmed, in a **series of free lectures**. Dates and details for the above programs will be announced in the fall and throughout the season.

The Symphony engages students from all area colleges and universities through its **Campus Club**, a membership program that is free to join, offering \$11 tickets for the best-available Section-A seats at Classical and Pops Series concerts. NCS's **young professionals program, CLUB 25/39**, also with free membership, offers special events and discounts on select concerts throughout the season. Join the clubs at ncsymphony.org.

Concert series in Chapel Hill, Wilmington, New Bern, Southern Pines, and Fayetteville offer performances that include many of the programs performed in Raleigh, as well as programs and guest artists heard only in those communities. 2017/18 programs across the state will be announced in the spring.

HOW TO PURCHASE

Online: ncsymphony.org (*TicketMaster fees apply*)

By phone: 919.733.2750 (*\$8 processing fee applies*)

In-person: NCS State Headquarters Offices (3700 Glenwood Ave., Suite 130, Raleigh)

CONCERTS BY SERIES

NCS offers numerous subscription (season tickets and packages) options for the Classical Series, Pops Series, Friday Favorites, and Young People's Concerts, including the flexible "My Mix" package. For information about subscription options, visit ncsymphony.org or call 919.733.2750. **Subscriptions are on sale now.** Single-tickets (individual shows within these series) will be available for purchase on August 7 at 10 AM.

CLASSICAL SERIES at Meymandi Concert Hall

** indicates that this program, or a version of this program, is included on the Friday Favorites noontime concerts; see Concerts by Date section for further details*

An Evening of Rachmaninoff | September 22-23, 2017

The Symphony opens its 2017/18 season with an eagerly anticipated return appearance by the striking and dynamic pianist Natasha Paremski, who first wowed NCS audiences at 2016 Summerfest. Paremski will perform Rachmaninoff's Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini on this all-Rachmaninoff program conducted by Grant Llewellyn, which also includes NCS's first performance of the symphonic poem *The Rock*, as well as the lush, lively Symphonic Dances—the composer's final work.

Northern Lights | October 6, 2017

Grant Llewellyn is particularly passionate about this Nordic-themed program. Sibelius described the breathtakingly beautiful Symphony No. 2 as "a confession of the soul" and early on it was hailed by a critic as "An absolute masterpiece, one of the few symphonic creations of our time that point in the same direction as the symphonies of Beethoven." For the first time in its history, NCS performs Sibelius' tone poem *En Saga*—another intensely personal musical statement—of which the composer wrote "in no other work have I revealed myself so completely." The program is completed with the sanguine tone poem *Apotheosis*, one of the most popular works of Einojuhani Rautavaara, who died in July 2016 and is considered the finest Finnish composer since Sibelius.

Beethoven & Mendelssohn | October 20-21, 2017

NCS and Grant Llewellyn welcome 27-year-old violinist Benjamin Beilman—praised by the chief music critic of *The New York Times* for his "dark chocolate sound and lyricism"—for the spellbinding Mendelssohn Violin Concerto. The serene spirit of Beethoven's "Pastoral" Symphony is contrasted with the driving, John Adams-like energy of Wojciech Kilar's *Orawa*, a fun romp for string orchestra. Both works are based in nature: Beethoven's Sixth Symphony evokes everything from a country landscape, to birdcalls, to a rainstorm, while Kilar's *Orawa* alludes to the river flowing between Poland and Slovakia (the Orava) and a highland meadow where sheep graze (an oława).

Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto No. 1 | November 3-4, 2017 *

Appearing regularly with the world's greatest orchestras and noted for his impeccable technique and delicate expression, pianist Simon Trpčeski performs Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1, one of the best-loved concertos in the repertoire. Marcelo Lehninger, who first conducted NCS in the 2015/16 season, returns for this upbeat program, which also includes Dvořák's cheerful Symphony No. 8 and Kristin Kuster's *MOXIE*—immediately festive in mood, composed as a tribute to Baltimore Symphony Orchestra Music Director Marin Alsop.

Mozart Requiem | November 17-18, 2017

Known for bringing a fresh approach to repertoire staples, Douglas Boyd leads NCS in Mozart's storied final work, the deeply affecting Requiem—together with soprano Mireille Asselin, mezzo-soprano Sofia Selowsky, tenor Thomas Cooley, baritone Philip Cutlip, and the Symphony's resident chorus, the North Carolina Master Chorale. NCS gives its first performance of Vaughan Williams' "Pastoral" Symphony, a beautiful and evocative elegy for lives lost in World War I.

Baroque Masters | December 1-2, 2017 *

Grant Llewellyn returns to North Carolina for the holidays, conducting *Baroque Masters* with NCS and the North Carolina Master Chorale. The all-Baroque program includes Bach's Christmas Oratorio and selections from the Christmas Cantatas, as well Bach's popular Brandenburg Concerto No. 1, which has never before been performed by the Symphony. Vivaldi's Concerto for Two Horns spotlights NCS's husband-and-wife pair, Christopher Caudill and Rachel Niketopoulos, performing on natural horns.

Pictures at an Exhibition | January 12-13, 2018

Rune Bergmann, recently appointed as Music Director of the Calgary Philharmonic, makes his NCS debut with a program that showcases his skill in two contrasting styles. Beethoven's Symphony No. 4, with its cheerful spirit after a mysterious introduction, often nods to Haydn. Mussorgsky's 10-part suite *Pictures at an Exhibition*, inspired by a series of drawings by a Russian architect who had recently passed away, is a poignant tribute to the composer's dear friend—at times light and charming and at times profoundly emotional.

Schubert's Unfinished | January 26-27

The Grammy-nominated violinist Philippe Quint, lauded for his "searing poetic lyricism" (*The Daily Telegraph*) and dedication to a wide range of musical styles, performs Bernstein's violin concerto, *Serenade*—one of his most lyrical works. Joining in a worldwide centennial celebration of the iconic conductor and composer Leonard Bernstein, NCS and Grant Llewellyn also perform his jazz-tinged ballet suite *Fancy Free*. Schubert's mysterious and mesmerizing "Unfinished" Symphony completes the program.

Dvořák Serenade for Strings | February 2, 2018 *

(Friday Favorites only)

NCS and Grant Llewellyn explore the beauty and wide range of expression in music for string orchestra. The joyful Serenade for Strings echoes the happiness Dvořák was enjoying as a newlywed and new father when he composed this piece in 1875. Kilar's nature-inspired *Orawa* is in a minimalist style with high-energy rhythms, while Higdon's jaunty *To the Point* is a response to string quartets by the Impressionist composers Debussy and Ravel. The Concerto for Bass and Strings—a new work by NCS's own Bass Trombone player, Terry Mizesko—receives its world premiere with NCS Principal Bass Leonid Finkelshteyn as soloist.

Symphonic Stories | February 9-10, 2018

Under Grant Llewellyn, NCS and the North Carolina Master Chorale join forces to weave narratives through majestic choral works, including Ravel's famous suite from the ballet *Daphnis et Chloé*—a passionate Greek love story evoked through sumptuous harmonies. In celebration of Bernstein's centennial, NCS gives its first performance of the *Chichester Psalms*—a hopeful and life-affirming setting of Biblical Psalms, sung in Hebrew, and featuring a transfixing solo for boy soprano.

Dvořák Cello Concerto | March 2-3, 2018

Domingo Hindoyan, who has led many of Europe's greatest orchestras and debuts with The Metropolitan Opera in the 2017/18 season, makes his first appearance with NCS for a program of Dvořák and Prokofiev. Cellist Johannes Moser released a recording of the Dvořák Cello Concerto in 2015 and brings his "top-notch" interpretation (*Gramophone* magazine, Editor's Choice) to North Carolina. The concerto is paired with Prokofiev's uplifting Symphony No. 5, which was praised by Serge Koussevitzky—who led the Boston Symphony in the American premiere—as "the greatest musical event in many, many years. The greatest since Brahms and Tchaikovsky!"

Mendelssohn Scottish Symphony | March 10, 2018

Throughout history, composers have been inspired by travels. The impetus for Mendelssohn's "Scottish" Symphony was castle ruins that he saw in Scotland. Saint-Saëns frequently vacationed in Egypt and wrote his "Egyptian" Piano Concerto among the temples; Alessio Bax—whom *The New York Times* calls "a pianist worth getting excited about"—returns to NCS for this exotic work. Missy Mazzoli was in awe of Detroit the first time she visited. Afterward, an image of the River Rouge Plant and the concept of the "transformation of grit and noise ... into something massive, resonant, and unexpected" led to her techno-influenced *River Rouge Transfiguration*. Elim Chan, the first female winner of the Donatella Flick Conducting Competition, leads this wide-ranging program.

Fountains & Pines of Rome | March 23-24, 2018 *

Performing with all of the major London and BBC orchestras, British conductor Ben Gernon makes his first NCS appearance with Respighi's masterpieces *Fountains of Rome* and *Pines of Rome*, depicting fountains and pine trees across the Italian city at various times of day. NCS Concertmaster Brian Reagin is featured in Bruch's most famous composition, the Violin Concerto No. 1. Nico Muhly, one of the best known composers of the younger generation, wrote *Mixed Messages* for The Philadelphia Orchestra; *The Philadelphia Inquirer's* music critic praised it as a "knock-out orchestral showpiece that does the work of a Berlioz overture but in 21st-century post-minimalist terms."

Brahms Symphony No. 4 | April 13-14, 2018

David Danzmayr, known for drawing the best out of the musicians he conducts, takes the podium for a program rooted in the theme of darkness and light. Brahms' powerful final symphony exudes a sense of deep yearning, punctuated with moments of intense energy. Prokofiev's Violin Concerto No. 2 finds an elegant mix of melancholy and brightness, and is performed by Angelo Xiang Yu—winner of the Yehudi Menuhin International Violin Competition. Known to many local audiences for her work *Hiraeth*—which was inspired by childhood memories of Salisbury, North Carolina—composer Sarah Kirkland Snider describes *Something for the Dark* as a "mediation on renewal."

Schumann Cello Concerto | April 20, 2018 *

(Friday Favorites only)

Audiences at this concert will be the first to preview NCS's next recording with cellist Zuill Bailey. The renowned cellist—who has recorded two acclaimed albums with NCS, including a Billboard Classical Chart topper—will perform the Schumann Cello Concerto and it will be recorded live for CD release. This thoroughly Romantic program also includes Mendelssohn's "Scottish" symphony, inspired by the composer's view of castle ruins while on a tour of Scotland.

A Hero's Life | April 27-28, 2018

Grant Llewellyn leads NCS in Strauss' monumental tone poem *Ein Heldenleben* ("A Hero's Life"). Showcasing the technical prowess of many of the orchestra's musicians—in addition to an extensive violin solo, to be performed by Concertmaster Brian Reagin—this work is considered a pinnacle of the repertoire. It is contrasted with Schoenberg's *Verklärte Nacht* ("Transfigured Night"), an intimate work for chamber orchestra in the composer's early Romantic style, inspired by Richard Dehmel's poem about a woman who reveals to her lover that she is carrying another man's child.

Romeo & Juliet | May 18-19, 2018

Continuing an exciting partnership that first brought North Carolina audiences *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in 2015, NCS is joined by actors from the UNC School of the Arts for a semi-staged production of the greatest love story ever told. Conducted by Grant Llewellyn and directed by Carl

Forsman, this unique production of *Romeo and Juliet* will draw on music from the ballet by Prokofiev and fantasy overture by Tchaikovsky.

POPS SERIES at Meymandi Concert Hall

** indicates that a version of this program is also included on the Friday Favorites noontime concerts; see Concerts by Date section for further details*

Classic Pops | October 13-14, 2017 *

Grant Llewellyn creates an evening of classic pops favorites in the style of the acclaimed Boston Pops—which he conducted in the early 1990s. This program reveals the timeless appeal of light classical gems and feel-good show-tune arrangements.

Christmas with the Callaways | December 15-16, 2017

Tony-nominated Broadway stars and sisters Liz Callaway and Ann Hampton Callaway put family spirit into this joyous holiday celebration. Selections include “The Christmas Song,” “Joy to the World,” “Silent Night,” “Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas,” and much more.

The Music of The Rolling Stones | January 19-20, 2018

NCS celebrates one of the most iconic rock groups in history, collaborating with a full rock band and singer Brody Dolyniuk to deliver symphonic arrangements of The Rolling Stones’ greatest hits—“Satisfaction,” “Paint It, Black,” “Ruby Tuesday,” “Honky Tonk Women,” “Angie,” and many more legendary songs.

“My Fair Lady” in Concert | February 16-17, 2018

On Valentine’s weekend, NCS presents a semi-staged version of one of America’s favorite musicals, *My Fair Lady*. A seven-person cast of Broadway singers takes the stage in costume, with NCS performing Andre Previn’s rich symphonic orchestration of Frederick Loewe’s beloved score.

A Celtic Celebration | March 16-17, 2018

Joined by Irish step dancers, a traditional Irish instrumentalist, two vocalists, and an actor, NCS will traverse a wide range of Irish and Celtic repertoire with elegance and dramatic flair.

Kruger Brothers | May 11-12, 2018

The Kruger Brothers, based in Wilkesboro, North Carolina, represent the spirit of exploration at the core of the American musical tradition. Trained in classical and jazz—and having traveled the world with their unique fusion of folk and classical—The Kruger Brothers make their NCS subscription debut with their home-state Symphony.

YOUNG PEOPLE’S CONCERTS at Meymandi Concert Hall

Young People’s Concerts are preceded by family-fun activities such as the Instrument Zoo, professional face-painting, photos with characters, and hands-on activities that meld music in science in partnership with Marbles Kids Museum.

Peter and the Wolf | October 28-29, 2017

NCS and the Triangle Youth Ballet bring Prokofiev’s timeless story of bravery and teamwork to life through playful music, colorful costumes, and beautiful dance. Children will be enchanted as Peter

and his animal friends—each represented by a different instrument of the orchestra—work together to catch the wolf and march him triumphantly to the zoo. Taking place just before Halloween, this concert also features fun, spooky works, and concludes with young audience members marching in the Symphony’s costume parade. NCS musicians are sure to dress up as well!

The Listener | January 6, 2018

This hilarious show explores the antics that ensue when two audience members decide to join a performance on stage: a musical face-off between a bugle and trumpet, tap-dancing to ballet, and more. With humor, drama, and dance, children will learn about the orchestra and its music, plus the important part that the audience plays through the art of listening.

The Firebird | April 7, 2018

Complete with puppetry, masks, shadow play, and magic, this imaginative adaptation of Russian folklore tells of a prince, a beautiful princess and her magical unicorn, and the mystical, majestic Firebird. Young audiences will witness Prince Ivan defeat the evil magician who has conjured a terrible storm, while they discover the evocative music composed by Igor Stravinsky for his cherished ballet *The Firebird*.

SPECIAL CONCERTS

Special Concerts are some of the **NCS’s most anticipated performances of the season**. These shows, taking place at Meymandi Concert Hall, are **available to subscribers for purchase now**; they go on sale to the general public August 7 at 10 AM.

How the Grinch Stole Christmas | November 22, 2017

Hearts will grow three sizes the day before Thanksgiving! Every Who in Who-ville, tall and small, is invited as actors and singers join the Symphony for the story of *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*—together with more holiday favorites. Santa will make an appearance in the lobby—perfect for holiday card photos—and kids will also enjoy activities presented by Marbles Kids Museum, face painting, and the popular Instrument Zoo, beginning one hour before the concert.

“Home Alone” in Concert | November 24-25, 2017

NCS performs the *Home Alone* soundtrack live alongside a screening of this hilarious and heart-warming holiday movie. Experience the 1990 classic starring Macaulay Culkin—and its delightful score by renowned film composer John Williams—like never before.

A Candlelight Christmas | December 17, 2017

The Symphony’s tremendously popular *Candlelight Christmas* returns for a second year. Meymandi Concert Hall will be aglow with hand-held lights and luminaries as NCS and the Raleigh Children’s Christmas Chorus perform traditional hymns, carols, and classical selections.

New Year’s Eve Celebration Concert | December 31, 2017

NCS introduces a brand new show to welcome 2018. Raise a glass and ring in the new year in style, with the unparalleled sound of a full symphony orchestra.

The Music of Michael Jackson | March 8, 2018

From his early years with the Jackson 5, to his mega-hit album *Thriller* and beyond, Michael Jackson stormed the music industry with hit after hit. *The Music of Michael Jackson* takes audiences through each era of his remarkable career. Joined by a singer, NCS performs orchestrations of favorite songs, from “ABC” and “I’ll Be There,” to “Beat It,” “Thriller,” “Rock with You,” “The Way You Make Me Feel,” and many more.

CONCERTS BY DATE

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| FRI/SAT, SEP 22-23, 2017 8PM | AN EVENING OF RACHMANINOFF Grant Llewellyn, <i>conductor</i> Natasha Paremski, <i>piano</i> Rachmaninoff: <i>The Rock</i> Rachmaninoff: Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini Rachmaninoff: Symphonic Dances |
| FRI, OCT 6, 2017 8PM | NORTHERN LIGHTS Grant Llewellyn, <i>conductor</i> Sibelius: <i>En Saga</i> Rautavaara: <i>Apotheosis</i> Sibelius: Symphony No. 2 |
| FRI, OCT 13, 2017 NOON & 8PM SAT, OCT 14, 2017 8PM | CLASSIC POPS Grant Llewellyn, <i>conductor</i> |
| THUR, OCT 19, 2017 7:30PM FRI/SAT, OCT 20-21, 2017 8PM | BEETHOVEN & MENDELSSOHN Grant Llewellyn, <i>conductor</i> Benjamin Beilman, <i>violin</i> Kilar: <i>Orawa</i> Mendelssohn: Violin Concerto Beethoven: Symphony No. 6 “Pastoral” |
| SAT, OCT 28, 2017 1PM & 4PM | YOUNG PEOPLE’S CONCERT: PETER AND THE WOLF Triangle Youth Ballet |
| FRI, NOV 3, 2017 8PM SAT, NOV 4, 2017 8PM | TCHAIKOVSKY PIANO CONCERTO NO. 1 Marcelo Lehninger, <i>conductor</i> Simon Trpčeski, <i>piano</i> |

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| <p>FRI, NOV 3, 2017 NOON</p> | <p>Kristin Kuster: <i>MOXIE</i> Tchaikovsky: Piano Concerto No. 1 Dvořák: Symphony No. 8</p> <p>TCHAIKOVSKY PIANO CONCERTO NO. 1 Marcelo Lehninger, <i>conductor</i> Simon Trpčeski, <i>piano</i></p> <p>Tchaikovsky: Piano Concerto No. 1 Dvořák: Symphony No. 8</p> |
| <p>FRI/SAT, NOV 17-18, 2017 8PM</p> | <p>MOZART REQUIEM Douglas Boyd, <i>conductor</i> Mireille Asselin, <i>soprano</i> Sofia Selowsky, <i>mezzo-soprano</i> Thomas Cooley, <i>tenor</i> Phil Cutlip, <i>baritone</i> North Carolina Master Chorale</p> <p>Vaughan Williams: Symphony No. 3 “Pastoral” Mozart: Requiem</p> |
| <p>WED, NOV 22, 2017 3PM</p> | <p>HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS</p> |
| <p>FRI, NOV 24, 2017 7:30PM SAT, NOV 25, 2017 3PM</p> | <p>“HOME ALONE” IN CONCERT David Glover, <i>conductor</i></p> |
| <p>FRI, DEC 1, 2017 8PM SAT, DEC 2, 2017 8PM</p> | <p>BAROQUE MASTERS Grant Llewellyn, <i>conductor</i> North Carolina Master Chorale</p> <p>Bach: Brandenburg Concerto No. 1 Bach: Selections from Christmas Oratorio Bach: Choruses from Christmas Cantatas Buxtehude: <i>In dulci jubilo</i> (“In Quiet Joy”) Vivaldi: Concerto for Two Horns Vivaldi: Selections from <i>Gloria</i></p> |
| <p>FRI, DEC 1, 2017 NOON</p> | <p>BAROQUE MASTERS Grant Llewellyn, <i>conductor</i> North Carolina Master Chorale</p> <p>Bach: Brandenburg Concerto No. 1 Bach: Choruses from Christmas Cantatas</p> |

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| <p>FRI, DEC 15, 2017 8PM SAT, DEC 16, 2017 3PM & 8PM</p> <p>SUN, DEC 17, 2017 7PM</p> <p>SUN, DEC 31, 2017 8PM</p> <p>SAT, JAN 6, 2018 1PM & 4PM</p> <p>FRI/SAT, JAN 12-13, 2018 8PM</p> <p>FRI/SAT, JAN 19-20, 2018 8PM</p> <p>FRI/SAT, JAN 26-27, 2018 8PM</p> <p>FRI FEB 2, 2018 NOON</p> | <p>Buxtehude: <i>In dulci jubilo</i> ("In Quiet Joy") Vivaldi: Selections from <i>Gloria</i></p> <p>CHRISTMAS WITH THE CALLAWAYS Ann Hampton Callaway, <i>vocalist</i> Liz Callaway, <i>vocalist</i></p> <p>A CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS David Glover, <i>conductor</i> Raleigh Children's Christmas Chorus</p> <p>NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION CONCERT</p> <p>YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERT: THE LISTENER</p> <p>PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION Rune Bergmann, <i>conductor</i></p> <p>Beethoven: <i>Symphony No. 4</i> Mussorgsky: <i>Pictures at an Exhibition</i></p> <p>THE MUSIC OF THE ROLLING STONES Brent Havens, <i>conductor</i> Brody Dolyniuk, <i>vocalist</i></p> <p>SCHUBERT UNFINISHED Grant Llewellyn, <i>conductor</i> Philippe Quint, <i>violin</i></p> <p>Bernstein: <i>Fancy Free</i> Bernstein: <i>Serenade</i> Schubert: <i>Symphony No. 8 "Unfinished"</i></p> <p>DVOŘÁK: SERENADE FOR STRINGS Grant Llewellyn, <i>conductor</i> Leonid Finkelshteyn, <i>bass</i></p> <p>Dvořák: <i>Serenade for Strings</i> Kilar: <i>Orawa</i> Terry Mizesko: <i>Concerto for Bass and Strings</i> Higdon: <i>To the Point</i></p> |
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| <p>FRI/SAT, FEB 9-10, 2018 8PM</p> | <p>DAPHNIS & CHLOÉ Grant Llewellyn, <i>conductor</i> North Carolina Master Chorale</p> <p>Bernstein: <i>Chichester Psalms</i> Ravel: <i>Daphnis et Chloé</i></p> |
| <p>FRI, FEB 16, 2017 8PM SAT, FEB 17, 2018 3PM & 8PM</p> | <p>“MY FAIR LADY” IN CONCERT</p> |
| <p>FRI/SAT, MAR 2-3, 2018 8PM</p> | <p>DVOŘÁK CELLO CONCERTO Domingo Hindoyan, <i>conductor</i> Johannes Moser, <i>cello</i></p> <p>Dvořák: Cello Concerto Prokofiev: Symphony No. 5</p> |
| <p>THUR, MAR 8, 2018 8PM</p> | <p>THE MUSIC OF MICHAEL JACKSON Brent Havens, <i>conductor</i></p> |
| <p>SAT, MAR 10, 2018 8PM</p> | <p>MENDELSSOHN SCOTTISH Elim Chan, <i>conductor</i> Alessio Bax, <i>piano</i></p> <p>Missy Mazzoli: <i>River Rouge Transfiguration</i> Saint Saens: Piano Concerto No. 5 “Egyptian” Mendelssohn: Symphony No. 3 “Scottish”</p> |
| <p>FRI, MAR 16, 2018 8PM SAT, MAR 17, 2018 3PM & 8PM</p> | <p>A CELTIC CELEBRATION Stuart Chafetz, <i>conductor</i> Ben Brecher, <i>tenor</i> Patricia Noonan, <i>soprano</i> Christopher Layer, <i>piper</i> Will Ray, <i>actor</i> O’Hare Irish Dancers</p> |
| <p>FRI, MAR 23, 2018 8PM SAT, MAR 24, 2018 8PM</p> | <p>PINES & FOUNTAINS OF ROME Ben Gernon, <i>conductor</i> Brian Reagin, <i>violin</i></p> <p>Nico Muhly: <i>Mixed Messages</i> Bruch: Violin Concerto No. 1 Respighi: <i>Fountains of Rome</i> Respighi: <i>Pines of Rome</i></p> |

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| <p>FRI, MAR 23, 2018 NOON</p> | <p>PINES OF ROME Ben Gernon, <i>conductor</i> Brian Reagin, <i>violin</i></p> <p>Nico Muhly: <i>Mixed Messages</i> Bruch: Violin Concerto No. 1 Respighi: Selections from <i>Pines of Rome</i></p> |
| <p>SAT, APR 7, 2018 1PM & 4PM</p> | <p>YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERT: THE FIREBIRD</p> |
| <p>FRI/SAT, APR 13-14, 2018 8PM</p> | <p>BRAHMS SYMPHONY NO. 4 David Danzmayr, <i>conductor</i> Angelo Xiang Yu, <i>violin</i></p> <p>Sarah Kirkland Snider: <i>Something for the Dark</i> Prokofiev: Violin Concerto No. 2 Brahms: Symphony No. 4</p> |
| <p>FRI, APR 20, 2018 NOON</p> | <p>SCHUMANN CELLO CONCERTO Grant Llewellyn, <i>conductor</i> Zuill Bailey, <i>cello</i></p> <p>Schumann: Cello Concerto Mendelssohn: Symphony No. 3 "Scottish"</p> |
| <p>FRI/SAT, APR 27-28, 2018 8PM</p> | <p>STRAUSS A HERO'S LIFE Grant Llewellyn, <i>conductor</i></p> <p>Schoenberg: <i>Verklärte Nacht</i> "Transfigured Night" Strauss: <i>Ein Heldenleben</i> "A Hero's Life"</p> |
| <p>FRI/SAT, MAY 11-12, 2018 8PM</p> | <p>THE KRUGER BROTHERS Grant Llewellyn, <i>conductor</i> The Kruger Brothers</p> |
| <p>FRI/SAT, MAY 18-19, 2018 8PM</p> | <p>ROMEO & JULIET Grant Llewellyn, <i>conductor</i> Carl Forsman, <i>director</i> UNC School of the Arts</p> |

About the North Carolina Symphony

Celebrating its 85th Anniversary in the 2017/18 season, the North Carolina Symphony (NCS) is a vital and honored component of North Carolina's cultural life. Its 175 concerts and events annually are greeted with enthusiasm by adults and schoolchildren in more than 90 North Carolina counties—in communities large and small, and in concert halls, auditoriums, gymnasiums, restaurants, clubs, and outdoor settings. The Symphony's 66 full-time musicians perform under the artistic leadership of Music Director Grant Llewellyn.

NCS's state headquarters venue is the spectacular Meymandi Concert Hall at the Duke Energy Center for the Performing Arts in downtown Raleigh. The Symphony's service across the state includes series in Chapel Hill, Fayetteville, New Bern, Southern Pines, and Wilmington, as well as Summerfest concerts at the outdoor Koka Booth Amphitheatre in Cary. Collaborating with performers that range from classical artists, to banjo players, to jazz bands, NCS brings some of the world's greatest talents to North Carolina.

Committed to engaging students of all ages across North Carolina, NCS leads the most extensive education program of any U.S. orchestra. In alignment with the curriculum set by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, the Symphony provides training and resources for teachers, sends small ensembles into classrooms, and presents full-orchestra Education Concerts experienced by more than 52,000 4th and 5th graders each year. *Music Discovery* for preschoolers combines music with storytelling, and at the middle and high school levels, students have opportunities to work directly with NCS artists and perform for NCS audiences.

NCS is dedicated to giving voice to new art, and has given 47 U.S. or world premieres in its history. In March 2017, NCS will appear at The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., as one of four orchestras chosen for the inaugural year of *SHIFT: A Festival of American Orchestras*—an honor that recognizes the Symphony's innovative community partnerships and creative programming that inspires increased interest in new music. The Symphony will present works by composers with ties to North Carolina, including Sarah Kirkland Snider, Caroline Shaw, Mason Bates, and Robert Ward.

The first state-supported symphony in the country, NCS performs under the auspices of the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

About Grant Llewellyn

Music Director of the North Carolina Symphony and Orchestre Symphonique de Bretagne, Grant Llewellyn is renowned for his exceptional charisma, energy, and easy authority in music of all styles and periods. Born in Tenby, South Wales, Llewellyn won a Conducting Fellowship to the Tanglewood Music Center in Massachusetts in 1985 where he worked with Bernstein, Ozawa, Masur, and Previn. As Assistant Conductor of the Boston Symphony Orchestra in the early 1990s, he conducted at the Tanglewood Festival, and on subscription series and Boston Pops concerts.

Grant Llewellyn has conducted many orchestras in North America, most notably the symphonies of Atlanta, Boston, Houston, Milwaukee, Montreal, Philadelphia, St. Louis, and Toronto. As Music Director of the Handel and Haydn Society, America's leading period orchestra, Llewellyn gained a reputation as a formidable interpreter of music of the Baroque and Classical periods.

Llewellyn is in his second season as Music Director of the Orchestre Symphonique de Bretagne. Other positions he has held with European orchestras include Principal Conductor of the Royal Flanders Philharmonic, Principal Guest Conductor of the Stavanger Symphony Orchestra, and Associate Guest Conductor with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales. Recent guest engagements include the BBC Symphony Orchestra, Helsinki Philharmonic, Orquestra Sinfónica do Porto Casa da Música, Philharmonia Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, and Royal Scottish National Orchestra, among others. Last season, he toured Patagonia and South America with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales.

An accomplished opera conductor, Mr. Llewellyn has appeared at the English National Opera, Spoleto Festival USA, Opera North, and the Opera Theatre of Saint Louis, where his repertoire has ranged from Handel's *Radamisto* to contemporary composer Alexander Goehr's *Arianna*. In 2005, he conducted the final of the BBC Cardiff Singer of the World, one of the world's most prestigious singing competitions.

Mr. Llewellyn has conducted the North Carolina Symphony in four critically acclaimed recordings: *American Spectrum* with superstar saxophonist Branford Marsalis; an album of Rachmaninoff works with pianist Yevgeny Sudbin; and two albums with the Grammy-nominated cellist Zuill Bailey—the first, featuring Britten's Cello Symphony and Cello Sonata, reached No. 1 on the Billboard Classical Chart.

Deeply committed and passionate about engaging young people with music, Llewellyn regularly leads education and communication engagement projects, with the North Carolina Symphony and around the world.