

Letter to the Audience

- about *iPalpiti* and the program at

Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Theater July 17, and Walt Disney Concert Hall July 23

Dear Friends,

Music is a gift that enables us to muse without words.

"Music is my life and my life is music." – Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

The name of the orchestral ensemble, ***iPalpiti*** - THE HEARTBEATS - is a spiritual child of my belief in music as a reflection of the psyche and the soul, as a manifestation of the divine. Genuine music comes from within; it comes from the heart. I perceive the art of music-making as a poetic idiom, a fascinating inspiration, and a cultural component to express a broader spectrum of emotional, intellectual, and philosophical experience.

I impart these principles in my interaction with *iPalpiti*.

An ancient Jewish work of mystical lore identifies three dimensions of human experience that the Divine reveals in the world: space, time, and soul. All of these elements are essential to music.

True music contains multiple levels of meaning, a potential of a greater dimension. A composer is a vessel who absorbs and translates the highest impulses into music, often with a more complex meaning than at first appearance. Nowadays, we are admonished repeatedly to find a fixed and certain meaning in a work of art. And yet, all interpretation is relative, no matter how impartial the artist may try to be. There is no art in absolute exactness; it survives poorly in a changing world.

"Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and life to everything" - Plato

"Imagination is greater than knowledge because knowledge is limited..." - Albert Einstein

If a "correct" interpretation were to be found, only one performer and no critics would be needed. The opportunity to experience a new view of a familiar work should be cause for celebration. At a time when the spiritual dimension of the creation and re-creation of music is evaporating, it is our intention to replenish souls with loving energy, beliefs, and ideas by infusing music with positive spirit.

"To love alone can music ever yield, and love is melody" – A.S. Pushkin

We have selected the compositions to be performed in the hope of inspiring you, the listener, to explore the interconnections among the pieces as you discover the immeasurable potential of these beautiful works of art.

“Beauty in music is not a heap of effects, but simplicity and naturalness” – P.I.Tchaikovsky

THE THEME OF THIS FESTIVAL IS DEDICATED TO WORLD PEACE.

“I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you. I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.” – Ezekiel 36.26

RAGE IS FUELED BY ITS ATTENDANT SHADES OF ANGUISH, GRIEF, AND HEARTBREAK AT SENSELESS CRUELTY AND LOSS OF LIFE, AT THE UGLY SIDE OF HUMAN NATURE, WHICH MANIFESTS IN WAR.

Con Furia:

Charles Avison (1709-1770), Newcastle-born composer and organist, “the most important English concerto composer of the 18th Century” (New Grove), achieved acclaim for a total of 60 *concerti grossi* for strings and for establishing and directing the subscription concert series of the Newcastle Musical Society. Known as a man of great charm, he was able to attract those around him, inspire loyalty and achieve results of a high caliber. Avison arranged *12 Concertos in Seven Parts* (1744), based on the solo harpsichord sonatas in the *concerti grossi* style by Domenico Scarlatti, a highly popular composer in England during his lifetime (1685-1757). These works were presented in aristocratic courts, in homes in the typical English consort music tradition, and performed in the newly conceived Public Concerts, which gained popularity under Avison’s direction. “Con Furia” is a 2nd movement from Concerto Grosso No 6.

AND AFTER THE TEMPEST IS SPENT COMES A TIME THAT SOME MIGHT CALL THE CALMNESS OF DESPAIR, BUT IT IS ALSO A SEASON OF REST AND REFLECTION AND THE DAWN OF A SEARCH FOR ANSWERS.

Quiet Music:

Born in Kiev, Ukraine in 1937, Valentin Silvestrov was considered one of the leading representatives of the "Kiev avant-garde" around 1960 and was violently criticized by the proponents of the conservative Soviet musical aesthetic. His music was ignored in his own country on the official level; premieres, if given at all, were heard only in Russia, primarily in Leningrad (now St. Petersburg), or in the West. Silvestrov's international acclaim began in the 1980s, being performed in festivals by prominent musicians around the world. Always maintaining his independence, he believes that melody is an important precondition for the survival of music; a view that reveals the lyric basis of his art regardless of the period in his career - his music often sorrowful, nostalgic, poetic and exquisitely beautiful.

Silvestrov says, "Poetry ... is the salvation of all that is most essential, namely, melody as a holistic and indispensable organism. Either this organism is there, or it is not. I believe that Music – even if it cannot be 'sung' – is song nevertheless; it is neither philosophy nor a world view, it is the song of the world about itself, as it were a musical testimony to existence." This approach governs his instrumental music, which is always richly infused with both logical and melodic tension.

Minimax:

Paul Hindemith (1895-1963), champion and master of modern music of his time, composed in a variety of styles: from neo-classic to impressionistic. His other side was an inclination for jokes, for making parodies and fun. *Minimax* is a parody on military music. Mockery of tyranny robs it of its power. As an American comedian once observed, "the only way...is to ridicule them...bring them down with laughter." And so it is with tyrants of every kind. Hindemith's colleagues and friends remember his tendency to play the "clown." These clown-like spirits held a serious side, however; Hindemith later described them as a means of overcoming the inevitable frustrations, the sterility and even what he called the "treadmill" of musical life: "*routine takes the place of earlier enthusiasm. Feelings lose their genuineness; continual repetition of a limited number of facts creates an atmosphere which is merely an illusion. Among all the hundreds of professional musicians I have met, there are only a few who have found their way back to genuine musical communication, and those who, despite all progress, have retained the musical freshness and naturalness of youth can be counted on my fingers.*" Paul Hindemith's observation is no less true today, and is in full harmony with the *iPalpiti credo*.

ULTIMATELY A PART OF HUMAN NATURE, TOO, IS TRANSCENDING ALL PARTISAN PASSIONS, THE STRIVING FOR THE FIRST TENDRIL OF HOPE OF THOSE HIGHEST OF HUMAN ASPIRATIONS: LOVE AND PEACE. "*Earth is the right place for love*" – Robert Frost

Langsamer Satz:

Anton Webern's *Langsamer Satz* (Slow Movement) is a miniature masterpiece inspired by love. This rare composition, dating from 1905, is rooted in Brahmsian Romanticism and tonality. It expresses strong emotions from yearnings to dramatic turmoil to a tranquil, peaceful resolution. Anton Webern, a protégé student and significant follower of Arnold Schoenberg's 12-tone system, is well known as one of the founding fathers of the Second Viennese School. This composition reveals that Webern, like his teacher, Schoenberg, was capable of writing very fine music in a tonal idiom if he chose.

AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT OF HUMAN NEEDS IS PLEASURE, SO WE CONCLUDE OUR PROGRAM WITH

Romanian Rhapsody No. 1, Op 11, by Georges Enescu, his best-known composition for orchestra. Written in 1901 and first performed in 1903, this masterpiece has long held a

permanent place in the repertory of major orchestras. It employs lăutărească folk music with vivid Romanian rhythms, elements of Romano and Jewish-klezmer, and an air of spontaneity. The arrangement that you will hear tonight for solo violin and string orchestra, by contemporary Romanian composer Cristian Lolea, demands brilliant virtuosity.

AT A TIME WHEN THE SPIRITUAL DIMENSION OF THE CREATION AND RE-CREATION OF MUSIC IS EVAPORATING, IT IS OUR INTENTION TO REPLENISH PEOPLE'S SOULS WITH LOVING ENERGY, BELIEFS, AND IDEAS BY INFUSING MUSIC WITH POSITIVE EMOTIONAL ENERGY.

Follow us, Dear Listener. Talent is a mission and must be repaid to the Creator through people. The most beautiful things in the world can only be felt with the heart.

"It is only with the heart one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible for the eye."

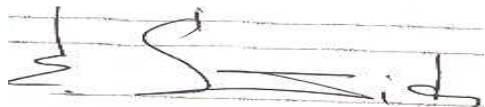
- Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

We are in accord with Jean-Jacques Rousseau, who said, *"it is the union of hearts which constitutes their felicity."*

The inspired young musicians of *iPalpiti*, from 18 countries, are united in their hope of bringing beauty into your life through celestial sound, vital rhythm, and eternal emotional energy. May we all be blessed by the touch of higher harmony!

*And long will people fondly call to mind my story
About the kindly feelings which my lyre awoke
That in my cruel age, I sang of Freedom's glory
And mercy for the fallen spoke.*

- From a poem by Alexander Pushkin

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eduard Schmieder', written over a set of five horizontal lines representing a musical staff.

Eduard Schmieder

Founder of *iPalpiti*

Laura H. Carnell Professor of Violin

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