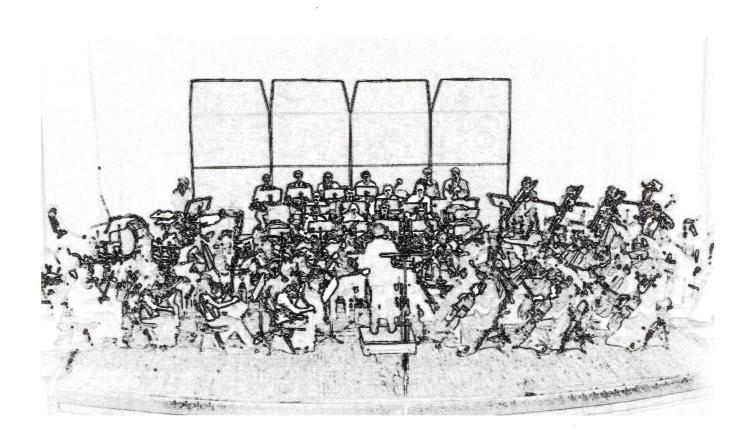
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Michael Morgan, Artistic Director Bryan Nies, Resident Conductor

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# Concert Program Guide

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### Oakland Youth Orchestra

Alice Arts Center, 1428 Alice Street, Room 202 M, Oakland, CA 94612 510.832.7710 manager@oyo.org

## www.oyo.org

cover: OYO in concert at Calvin Simmons Theatre, May 19, 2002. photo by Jay Levine, reorchestration by B. Stack

### Oakland Youth Orchestra 2002-2003

### - History -

Oakland Youth Orchestra, founded in 1964 as the educational arm of the Oakland Symphony, is recognized as an important musical organization in Oakland and the San Francisco Bay area. An independent non-profit organization since 1986, the orchestra has a history of commissioning, premiering and recording the works of American composers. Consequently, the orchestra has been recipient of numerous awards from the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers for service to contemporary music.

Today, in our 39th season, the Oakland Youth Orchestra consists of eighty-three talented young music students aged 12-21 years. These young people represent forty-six different schools, and over 30 cities in the San Francisco Bay Area. We rehearse a wide range of serious and challenging works and present several classical, pops and youth outreach concerts each season. The orchestra is coached by professional orchestral musicians and is open by audition to all qualified young people. No young musician is excluded for reasons of financial need. OYO is supported by tuition, corporate, foundation and government grants, and individual contributions.

OYO maintains a commitment to cultural exchange, and has toured extensively in England, Europe, Asia, the Middle East, the Caribbean Islands, Costa Rica, Mexico, and Cuba. We host visiting youth orchestras as well.

### - Awards -

1976, 1980, 1982, 1995, 1996 ASCAP - for Adventurous Programming of Contemporary Music

### - Tours -

The Orchestra has toured widely, performing across the United States and:

Von Karajan Festival, 4th place Germany, 1972 Germany, 1974 Von Karajan Festival, 2<sup>nd</sup> place Scotland, 1976 International Festival, 1st place Tour with Mainz Youth Orchestra Germany, 1978 Tour of European Festivals

Italy & Switzerland, 1980

Caribbean Cruise, 1982 Toured 8 Islands

Scotland/England, 1984 International Festival, 1st place Amman, Jordan, 1988 Jerash Festival of Culture and Art Austria/Germany, 1990 Vienna Youth & Music Festival

**Europe**, 1993 Czech Republic, Poland, Germany, Austria

China, Hong Kong, Taiwan Asia, 1995 Latin America, 1998 Costa Rica, Mexico, Cuba

Italy, 2001 Montepulciano, Montecatini, Pistoia, Carpi, Crema

### - Conductors -

Robert Hughes 1964–1970 & 1980: Composer, teacher and lecturer

Denis de Coteau 1971-1979: Music Director of the San Francisco Ballet

Kent Nagano 1981–1985: Music Director of the Berkeley Symphony; Conductor, Opera de Lyon

Stewart Robertson 1985–1986: Music Director of the Long Beach Symphony Samuel Cristler 1986–1991: Assistant Conductor at the Metropolitan Opera Wes Kenney 1991–1996: Associate Conductor of the Virginia Symphony

Michael Morgan 1996-Present: Conductor of Oakland East Bay Symphony

## **Artistic Director**

ichael Morgan was born in Washington DC where he at tended public schools and began conducting at the age of 12. While a student at the Oberlin College Conservatory of Music, he spent a summer at the Berkshire Music Center at Tanglewood. There he was a student of Gunther Schuller and Seiji Ozawa, and it was during that summer that he worked with Leonard Bernstein.

In 1980 he was the 1st prize winner in the Hans Swarowsky International Conductors Competition in Vienna, Austria and became the Assistant Conductor of the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra, under Leonard Slatkin. His operatic debut was in 1982 at the Vienna State Opera in Mozart's *The Abduction from the Seraglio*.

In 1986 Sir Georg Solti chose him to become the Assistant Conductor of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, a position he held for seven years. His Chicago Symphony debut came in 1987 when he replaced the ailing Solti in a program that included Strauss' *Ein* 



Heldenleben and Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring*. He stepped into this performance without rehearsal and to critical acclaim. During his tenure in Chicago he was also conductor of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago and the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra.

Other guest appearances have included the Berlin State Opera, Saint Louis Opera Theater, Washington Opera, and New York City Opera. He has conducted the National, Baltimore, Houston, Seattle, Vancouver, Detroit, and Oregon Symphony Orchestra's as well as the Los Angeles and Warsaw Philharmonics and the Philadelphia Orchestra. He is presently Music Director of the Oakland East Bay Symphony, the Festival Opera in Walnut Creek, and the Sacramento Philharmonic. Next summer Maestro Morgan returns to Tanglewood to teach conducting.

Michael Morgan is a noted advocate for music education in Oakland and around the world. Not long ago he visited the Congo where he worked with a youth orchestra in Kinshasa.





**B** ryan J. Nies enjoys a rapidly growing career as a conductor of musically diverse ensembles and opera. He is the Resident Conductor of the Oakland Youth Orchestra and Festival Opera (Walnut Creek, CA) where he is also the Chorus Master. Pursuing an avid interest in all musical genres, Bryan is the associate musical director with the American Musical Theater of San Jose and music director with the New Conservatory Theater Center in San Francisco. He will also be the assistant conductor of Opera San Jose's production of *Die Zauberflote* in the spring of 2003.

During the summer of 2002 Bryan was honored with a Leonard Bernstein fellowship to participate as a conductor at the Tanglewood Music Center. There he conducted performances to rave reviews in the *Boston Globe*. In addition, he received personal instruction with many leading professional conductors, including, Roberto Abbado, Jeffery Tate, Hans Vonk, Michael Morgan, Rafael Fruhbeck de Burgos, and Grant Llewellyn.

As one of the conducting class' youngest graduates, Bryan received a M.M. in Orchestral Conducting from the Peabody Conservatory where he studied under the tutelage of Gustav Meier and Markand Thakar. He received a full assistantship in opera coaching and was the assistant conductor of the Peabody Camerata, the contemporary ensemble. While at Peabody, He was asked to be the Assistant Conductor of the National Chamber Orchestra (Washington D.C.) and a conductor at the National String Institute in Rockville, MD. Bryan also initiated and conducted the Children's Choir as part of the Handel Choir of Baltimore, where he was also the director of the Outreach Program.

A native of Chicago, IL, Mr. Nies also holds a B.M. in Piano Performance and a B.A. in Psychology from Northwestern University in Evanston, IL. He has won numerous piano competitions in the Chicago area including a Gramma Fisher Scholarship to study with the American Institute of Musical Studies in Graz, Austria. In addition, he has performed with William Warfield for the Lyric Opera of Chicago, and the Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra, as their Assistant Conductor. In addition, Bryan was on the staff of Northwestern University's Theater Department, where he served as vocal coach and piano accompanist.



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## Guest Conductor Zachary Carrettin

Zachary Carrettin completed Bachelor and Master of Music degrees at the Rice University Shepherd School of Music, where he studied classical violin with Kenneth Goldsmith and Sergiu Luca. While a graduate student, Zachary was concertmaster of Houston's Orchestra X and taught advanced violin students in the Preparatory Program at the Shepherd School. In 1999, he joined the first violin section of the Bergen Philharmonic, Norway, returning to the U.S. for solo performances as well as the Houston Grand Opera's first in-house period instrument production, Monteverdi's *Orfeo*. In 2000 Zachary and colleagues formed two ensembles: Magnolia, a Portland-based chamber series, and Los Peregrinos, specializing in urban tango music. Zachary performs with the American Bach Soloists, Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra and Portland Baroque Orchestra. He plays contemporary music recitals in the U.S., Europe and South America with pianist-composer Ray Granlund. Additionally, Zachary has been commissioned to write and record new music for two San Francisco Bay area dance companies, Zaccho Dance Theatre and Project Bandaloop, with whom he has toured extensively.



ZC rehearsing OYO on 11/3/02. B. Stack photo

### OYO Concerto Competition Winner and Soloist Anna-Louise Burdett

A nna-Louise Burdett is seventeen and a senior at Bentley School. Born in London, England, she moved to the Bay Area four years ago. She has played the clarinet for six years and thoroughly enjoys her studies with Tony Striplen, of San Francisco Opera. She is a former student of Karen Wells and, during her time in England, of Neale Halling.

Anna-Louise has been a member of OYO for two years. She has also played chamber music at the Crowden Center



David Burdett photo

for Music in the Community. She spent last summer at the National High School Music Institute at Northwestern University where she studied primarily with Leslie Grimm but also with J. Lawrie Bloom and Russell Dagon. Last year she won second place in the Pacific Chamber Symphony's Annual Concerto Competition.

The music department at Bentley has offered Anna-Louise both encouragement and practical help. The guidance of Susan Bogas, her music teacher, has been especially valuable. At school, Anna-Louise has taken part in everything from Jazz ensemble to the annual musicals. She was a founding member of the Bentley Trio, a classical ensemble. Last year the school awarded her an Arts Scholarship to help fund her music studies.

Aside from music, Anna-Louise is a keen supporter of Guide Dogs for the Blind, for whom she has Puppy-Raised and is currently a Foster-Carer. She also enjoys Acting, French, Badminton, Travel and Public speaking, for which she has won awards.

Next year, Anna-Louise will be majoring in Clarinet Performance at Northwestern University. However, in the near future, her main priority is getting round to learning to drive!

Oakland Youth Orchestra 2002-2003 Season

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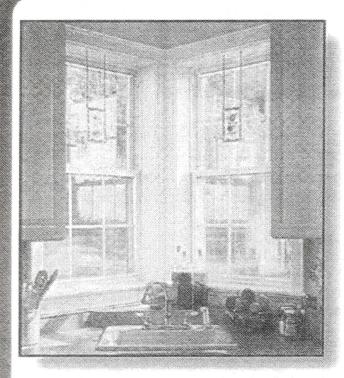
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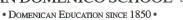
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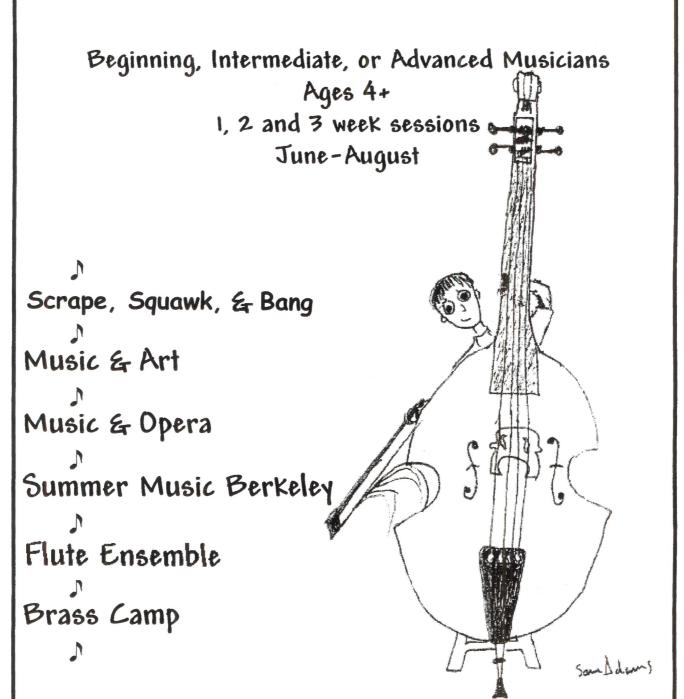
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Danielle Chiavetta David Chiba Veronica Chin Benjamin Gan

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Jimmy Hahn Jessica Karadi Raymond Kim Sarah Lee

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Thomas Logan Brian Luu Vidya Pai Jennifer Purdy Emily Salmon Katie Schenkkan Alicia Tan

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Danielle Taylor
Rachel Taylor
Carol Tsang
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Alessandra Aquilanti\* Amanda Sims§ Katherine Kim Dennis Lam Yennie Lee Abraham Liao Amanda Powell 'Cello

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Samuel Cristler
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**Bass** 

Shavon Hutchison\* Catherine Steele

Flute

Courtney Nippa Erika Oba Pénélope Turgeon

Oboe

Jesse Barrett Carolyn Kwok Shad Small Lisa Sommerauer

English Horn

Lisa Sommerauer

Clarinet

DeMarus Allen Anna-Louise Burdett Yongeun Lee

Bass Clarinet

Joanna Hansen

Bassoon

Kyle Chin Jessica Peterson

Trumpet

Anthony Anderson Deborah Munro Graham Patzner Noel Swanson

Horn

Andrew Reiter Sean Sevilla Jay Sinha Sarah Yow

Trombone

Homer Chiang\* Robin Lassonde Victor Lee

Tuba

Chris McGaw

Timpani

Chris Kong\* Michael Kizzar

‡ associate concertmaster

\* principal

§ assistant principal

# Subscription Concert III Dean Lesher Regional Center for the Arts, Walnut Creek 2 PM, May 18, 2003

## Michael Morgan, Artistic Director Bryan Nies, Resident Conductor

# Program

Overture to Der Freischütz

Carl Maria von Weber

(1786-1826)

Clarinet Concerto No. 1 in F minor, Opus 73

Carl Maria von Weber

I. Allegro

Anna-Louise Burdett, clarinet

Suite from Pelléas and Mélisande, Opus 80

Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

- I. Prelude
- II. Fileuse
- III. Sicilienne
- IV. Death of Mélisande

conducted by Zachary Carrettin

—INTERMISSION—

Symphony in D minor

César Franck (1822-1890)

- I. Lento; Allegro ma non troppo
- II. Allegretto
- III. Allegro non troppo

The Oakland Youth Orchestra acknowledges the support of the Clorox Company Foundation, the Bernard Osher Foundation, the Ann and Gordon Getty Foundation, the Margaret Graupner Living Trust, Robert A.D. and Debbra Wood Schwartz Foundation, The East Bay Community Foundation's Calvin Simmons Memorial Fund and Ethel London Scholarship Fund, and Liftech. Additional Funding provided by the City of Oakland Craft and Cultural Arts Department and the California Arts Council. The Oakland Youth Orchestra's media sponsor is Hills Publications.

Please silence all cellular phones and paging devices.

# Program Notes

by Charley Samson, copyright 2003

Carl Maria von Weber (1786-1826): Overture to Der Freischütz

In 1810 Weber read an anthology of ghost stories. It contained a tale of marksmen, magic bullets and an evil huntsman. Seven years later, in the space of just seven days, Weber and Friedrich Kind wrote an opera libretto on the subject, eventually titled *Der Freischütz*.

Work on the music was slower. For three years, with numerous interruptions, Weber toiled away. Finally, on May 13, 1820, he noted, "Overture finished and with it the whole opera. God be praised and to Him all the honor."

Der Freischütz was introduced in Berlin on June 18, 1821. It was a sensation. Weber confided in his diary, "It was welcomed with enthusiasm. Da capo cries for the overture and the folk song; after all, from the seventeen numbers, fourteen had a yelling applause, but, it is all true, all things ran really marvelously, the whole work was performed with love—finally the audience threw down poems and wreathes." Richard Wagner reported: "From one part of Germany to the other one they all listened to Der Freischütz, danced on Der Freischütz, sang the melodies of Der Freischütz."

The Overture was first played—apart from the rest of the opera—in Copenhagen on October 8, 1820. Biographer John Warrack writes that "Weber took the art of symphonic synthesis of a drama to a new pitch of mastery" in the Overture. It begins with a slow introduction suggesting the forest and the horn calls of the huntsmen. Melodies associated with the evil huntsman, the Wolf's Glen scene and the hero's sweetheart contend. The latter prevails.

Carl Maria von Weber: Clarinet Concerto No. 1 in F minor, Opus 73, Allegro

"A truly great artist and splendid fellow" was Weber's description of Heinrich Joseph Bärmann, the clarinetist of the Munich Orchestra. They had met briefly in Darmstadt in 1811 and became friends later that year in Munich.

Weber had come to Munich in March to supervise the production of his opera *Abu Hassan*. A month later he wrote a Concertino for clarinet and orchestra (Op.26). When King Maximillian I of Bavaria heard Bärmann play, he immediately commissioned Weber to write two big clarinet concertos, which Weber supplied within just four months.

"Since I composed the concertino for Bärmann," Weber complained, "the whole orchestra has been the very devil about demanding concertos from me...two clarinet concertos, two large arias, a cello concerto, and a bassoon concerto. You see I'm not doing at all badly, and very probably I'll be spending the summer here, where I'm earning so much that I must have something left over to pay my keep. Besides, the orchestra and everybody would like to see me appointed Kapellmeister."

The First Clarinet Concerto was finished on May 17, 1811. Bärmann introduced the work on June 13 in Munich. According to Weber, he played it "celestially."

### Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924): Suite from Pelléas and Mélisande, Opus 80

"Why do you reject proposals to write a symphonic suite for *Pelléas* in London?" a friend inquired of Debussy. "I know it's none of my business, but do you think it such a bad idea?" Less than four months after the premiere of Maurice Maeterlinck's play *Pelléas and Mélisande* in 1893, Debussy had begun setting it to music not as incidental music but as an opera. The task of writing music to a stage production would fall to Fauré. Later Sibelius and Schoenberg would write symphonic poems on the subject.

In the spring of 1899, Fauré met the celebrated actress Mrs. Patrick Campbell, who commissioned the incidental music. She read aloud "those parts of the play...which to me most called for music. Dear M. Fauré, how sympathetically he listened, and how humbly he said he would do his best!"

Fauré reported to his wife: "I only know that it will be necessary to work flat out....I shall have scarcely a month and a half to write all this music though it is true that part of it is done already in my big head." Pressed for time, he enlisted his pupil Charles Koechlin to do the orchestration, and added the *Sicilienne* for cello and piano that he'd written five years before. Fauré conducted the first peformance at the Prince of Wales Theatre in London on June 21, 1899.

A year later, Faure made a three-movement suite from the 17 numbers of incidental music. It was introduced on February 3, 1901 by the Lamoureux Orchestra conducted by Camille Chevillard. The *Sicilienne* was added to the Suite in 1909.

Maeterlinck's drama concerns the king's grandson Golaud, who is out hunting and happens upon Mélisande. He falls in love and marries her, but his brother Pelléas also falls in love with her. Golaud slays Pelléas. Mélisande dies, but not before pardoning Golaud.

In the Suite, the opening Prelude presents themes representing Mélisande and the inevitable tragedy, as well as Golaud's distant horn call. "Fileuse" shows Mélisande spinning, in what biographer Robert Orledge calls "a ravishing, expansive melody for oboe with a pictorial accompaniment on muted strings." The famous *Sicilienne* is used to accompany Pelléas and Mélisande playing with a ring by the fountain. Orledge says the concluding "Death of Mélisande" begins with "a sombre funereal introduction leading to a simple rising theme representing Mélisande....The grief-laden atmosphere gains in intensity, reaching an overwhelming climax just before the end when the upper strings suddenly descend with devastating effect. Mélisande's theme returns in a coda of poignant beauty."



Carl Maria von Weber





Gabriel Fauré

### César Franck (1822-1890): Symphony in D minor



Franck worked on his D minor Symphony for two years, finishing it during February, 1888. He then sent the score to conductor Charles Lamoureux, who refused to perform it.

The work was finally introduced at the Paris Conservatory on February 17, 1889. According to Franck's pupil Vincent d'Indy, "the performance was quite against the wishes of most members of the famous orchestra, and was only pushed through thanks to the benevolent obstinacy of the conductor, Jules Garcin. The subscribers could make neither head nor tail of it, and the musical authorities were much in the same position."

The critics were virtually unanimous, one accusing the Symphony of "a lack of fire of genius, lack of inspiration." Another wrote: "Oh! What dreary, arid and unsmiling music, devoid of any grace or charm." Charles Gounod called the work "the expression of impotence pushed to dogmatic lengths." But Camille Benoit found it "wide awake, young, burning with vitality."

For his part, Franck was undaunted. When asked for his opinion of the performance, he replied, "Oh, it sounded well, just as I thought it would!"

There is no program for the Symphony, although Franck admitted that, in the second movement, "I did think—oh so vaguely—of a procession in the olden times." Nevertheless, "it is just music—nothing but pure music," said the composer. "It is a classical symphony. At the beginning of the first movement there is a repeat, in accordance with past practice, in order to allow the themes to sink in deeper; however, I have chosen a different key for the repeat. An Andante and Scherzo which follow are closely linked....As in Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, the Finale brings all the themes together again; however, they do not appear as mere quotations, but on the contrary they play a new role." D'Indy spoke of Franck's use of the same unifying idea or ideas throughout the Symphony as "cyclic form."

Perhaps the most absurd criticism of the D minor Symphony came from a professor at the Paris Conservatory. "That, a symphony?" he exclaimed after the first performance. "But, my dear sir, who ever heard of writing for the English horn in a symphony? Just mention a single symphony by Haydn or Beethoven introducing the English horn." The professor apparently needed a refresher course in the history of orchestration. Haydn included two English horns in his Symphony No. 22, the *Philosopher*. And the Berlioz *Symphonie Fantastique* contains an extensive solo for English horn.

"But, my dear sir, who ever heard of writing for the English horn in a symphony?"

## What is an English Horn?

Orchestral woodwind instruments are of three types: the flutes, which produce sound by blowing across a hole; the single reed, like clarinets; and the double reeds, like oboe, bassoon, and English horn, where the sound is generated by blowing through two reeds that are tightly wrapped together.

Each of the woodwind instruments in the orchestra has several forms. The Flute has a smaller relative, the piccolo, and this plays higher notes. The bassoon has a larger version that plays some of the lowest notes in the orchestra, the contra bassoon, or just Contra. Likewise, the clarinet has the bass clarinet, and variants in several keys.

The oboe has a variant form called *Cor Anglais*, which means English Horn. It is not a horn, but a larger oboe, and it was invented by the French in the mid-eighteenth century. Note the bulbous bell at the bottom. This helps to make the very special sound that is considered to be among the loveliest of all wind instruments. Most people learn to play the oboe before they study the English Horn.

Pictured at right are (left to right) a clarinet, oboe, and English horn.



## What is a Symphony?

symphony [SYM fuh nee] noun

plural: symphonies adjective: symphonic adverb: symphonically

ETYMOLOGY (derivation): 13th Century: from Old French *symphonie*, from Latin *symphonia* concord, concert, from Greek *sumphonia* 

- 1. Consonance of sounds, sounds which sound good together. By extension, harmony in other media, like color, or anything else showing harmonious complexity.
- 2. A long and complex piece written for symphony orchestra, usually with several movements, at least one of which is in sonata form.
- 3. An orchestral movement within a vocal work, such as a cantata or oratorio.
- 4. Shorter term for Symphony Orchestra.
- 5. The interval of unison.

Did you know that symphony comes from the Greek sumphonia?

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Over the last two months Michael Morgan has been rehearsing the orchestra and soloist as well as coaching the young conductors. B. Stack photos

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## OYO Pops Concert and Auction at The Crowden School, March 9, 2003

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### Rick Kong photos



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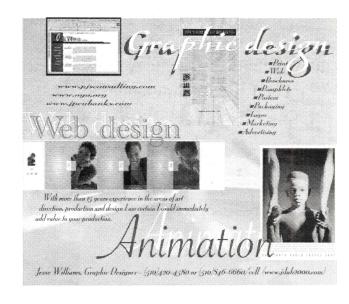


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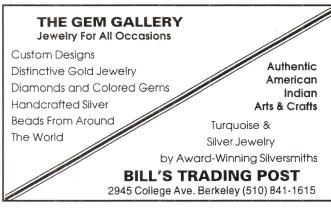
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