Lawrence University Symphony Orchestra, Peter and The Wolf, April 23, 2017

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Lawrence University Symphony Orchestra
Matthew Arau, guest conductor

Peter and the Wolf

Sunday, April 23, 2017
3:00 p.m.
Lawrence Memorial Chapel
Curiously Deliberate

Stephanie Sundberg '16
(b. 1993)

World Premiere

*Peter and the Wolf*, op. 67

Sergei Prokofiev
(1891-1953)

**Storytellers**

Justin Coyne, Narrator and the Huntsmen
Liam McDonald, Peter
Katie Weers, the Bird
Trace Hybertson, the Duck
Rehanna Rexroat, the Cat
Adam Korber, Peter’s Grandfather
Sarah Ogden, the Wolf

Thank you to Larry Darling and Alvina Tan for all their help with sound engineering.
Many thanks, too, to Copeland Woodruff for coaching our storytellers.
PROGRAM NOTES

This world premiere of “Curiously Deliberate” is the culmination of a two-year collaboration with the music composition faculty and the Lawrence Symphony Orchestra. When I was considering titles for this piece, I wanted something that was evocative without being programmatic: with a defined story. “Curiously Deliberate” reflects both a solid, emphatic first theme and a dance-like second theme with an alternating time signature. The two themes are presented on their own at first, until the solo trumpet layers the first over the second, out of time with the rest of the ensemble. After focusing most of my undergraduate career on post tonal music, it was refreshing to return to tonality with “Curiously Deliberate,” albeit informed by my studies. I am honored to have worked with the Lawrence Symphony Orchestra on this performance.

-Stephanie Sundberg ’16, composer

Stephanie Sundberg ’16 (b. 1993) was born in Libertyville, Illinois and graduated from Lawrence University in 2016 with a Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Bachelor of Music in Theory and Composition, which she studied with Dr. Metcalf. Sundberg currently lives in West Bend, Wisconsin. She is arranging for jazz musicians in the Chicago area, and future projects include choral and instrumental arranging and an original score for a video game that is currently in production.
Peter and the Wolf by Sergei Prokofiev
Born: April 23, 1891 • Died: March 5, 1953
Composed: April 15-24, 1936
Premiered: May 2, 1936

Peter and the Wolf owes its inception and creative spur not just to its composer, Sergei Prokofiev, but to Natalia Sats of the Moscow Central Children’s Theater. Prokofiev and Sats met during a production at Sats’ theater, as Prokofiev, joined by his wife and young sons, frequented the theater for its elaborate and enjoyable performances. The two eventually dreamt up a project that would introduce children to the world of storytelling and the instruments of the symphony orchestra.

The piece took Prokofiev only two weeks to compose. Only two weeks. It tells the story of Peter, a Young Pioneer (Russian Boy Scout), who challenges his grandfather's authority (representing a pre-revolution, anti-Bolshevik elder) and faces off against a wolf (man conquering nature). Additionally detesting the initial script, one that incorporated a rhyme scheme, Prokofiev elected to write the script himself.

However, the energy of the premiere did not match the enthusiasm of Sats and Prokofiev. Sats fell ill the night of the premiere, and a substitute narrator was selected in haste. Inexperienced with the piece though, the Peter and the Wolf was met with limited enthusiasm. A second performance was given later that month, at the Moscow Pioneer's Theater, which Sats narrated, and was met with tremendous applause and joy. The American premiere was also a roaring success, with Prokofiev himself conducting the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Sadly, Natalia Sats, accused of corrupting the youth of the Soviet Union, was incarcerated in a gulag.

Across its lifetime, Peter and the Wolf has been recorded by world famous ensembles, including The Boston Pops, The London Symphony Orchestra (four different recordings!), and the New York Philharmonic, with narrators including Sir David Attenborough, Leonard Bernstein, Sean Connery, Mikhail Gorbachev with Bill Clinton and Sophia Loren, and many more.

The piece begins with an introduction from the narrator, who explains the various instruments and melodies that represent each of the story's characters. They are as follows:

- Strings: Peter
- Flute: Bird
- Oboe: Duck
- Clarinet: Cat
- Bassoon: Grandfather
- Horns: Wolf
- Orchestra: The Hunters
- Timpani: Hunter's Guns
Each instrument's line is equally colorful, either grumbly or tweeting, ambling or sneaking, helping even the youngest audience member envision the instrument's specific character.

The piece begins by outlining the various characters - Peter watching the duck and bird play and bicker, the cat strolling in looking to snatch up the bird, but missing the mark thanks to Peter's intervention. Peter's brief adventure outside the gate is quickly cut short, when his Grandfather appears, grumbling away, scolding Peter for his antics and warning of wolves. Despite being unafraid, Peter's grandfather leads him home. As soon as he's gone though, a wolf appears, causing trouble for the other wildlife. Peter isn't finished though, and he hatches a plan to capture the wolf.

In contrast to standard performances of the Fairy Tale, this production breaks the narration into the various characters. At the behest of Dr. Matthew Arau and Professor Mark Dupere, members of the orchestra volunteered and were selected for roles. This was done as a way of further engaging the members of the orchestra with the music and the outreach aims of Peter and the Wolf.
Lawrence University Symphony Orchestra
Matthew Arau, guest conductor

Violin I
Margaret Norby
Alex Quinn
Joanie Shalit
Rachael Teller, concertmaster
Katie Weers

Violin II
Jessica Gehring*
Trace Hybertson
Clancy Loebel
Rehanna Rexroat
Winifred Waters

Viola
Gabriel Hartmark
Julia Tibbetts
Gawain Usher*
Matthew Wronski

Violoncello
Rosie Bauer
Julian Bennett
Julia Johnson
Adam Korber*
Henry McEwen
Sarah Ogden
Logan Robison
David Sieracki
Evan Stroud
Noah Whiteman

Bass
Jessica Cable
David De Stasio*
Clay Knoll
Zoe Markle
Steven Traeger

Flute
Sara Larsen*
Jordan Peterson (picc)
Erec VonSeggern

Oboe
Ellie Coale (EH)
Manuel Ferreira
Delaney Olsen*

Clarinet
Abbey Atwater
Nathan Gornick* (bass)
Kate Kilgus

Bassoon
Phillip Knisely (contra)
Renae Tuschner*
Stuart Young

Horn
Emma Jensen
John O'Neill
Nicoletta Pignatello*
Zach Prior
Nick Suminski

Trumpet
Dean Chen
Josie Harris
Isaac Mayhew

Trombone
Justin Coyne*
Dominic Ellis
Tanner Stegink

Tuba
Tim Platt

Percussion
Koby Brown*
Brian Mironer
Dylan Senderling

*Denotes principal or section leader
We gratefully acknowledge the important role all of the Lawrence faculty play in preparing our students academically and musically, from our colleagues in music history and theory, to our colleagues in sight-singing, aural skills and keyboard skills, and to our colleagues in the liberal arts. We give special thanks to the studio instrumental faculty.

**Instrumental Faculty**

Samantha George, violin  
Wen-Lei Gu, violin  
Matthew Michelic, viola  
Janet Anthony, cello  
Mark Urness, bass  
Nathan Wysock, guitar  
Suzanne Jordheim, flute  
Erin Lesser, flute  
David Bell, clarinet  
Howard Niblock, oboe  
Sumner Truax, saxophone

Steve Jordheim, saxophone  
Carl Ruth, bassoon  
James DeCorsey, horn  
Jeffrey Stannard, trumpet  
John Daniel, trumpet  
Nick Keelan, trombone  
Tim Albright, trombone  
Marty Erickson, tuba and euphonium  
Dane Richeson, percussion

**Keyboard Faculty**

Catherine Kautsky, piano  
Michael Mizrahi, piano  
Anthony Padilla, piano  
Kathrine Handford, organ

**Upcoming Performances**

Friday, June 2, 8:00 p.m. Lawrence Symphony Orchestra

As a courtesy to the artists and to those in attendance, please be aware that sounds such as whispering and the rustling of programs and cellophane wrappers are magnified in the hall. Please turn off all watch alarms, pagers, and cellular telephones. And please, no flash photography.