

# Silicon Valley Symphony

Michael Paul Gibson, Music Director and Conductor

## Violin 1

Julian Brown,  
*Acting Concertmaster\**  
Shannon Delaney  
Diane Egli  
Carolyn Lowenthal  
Courtney Onodera  
Eriola Pengo

## Violin 2

Svetlana Terekhina\*  
Thomas Alexander,  
*Concertmaster*  
Katja Battarbee  
Hilda Hodges  
Charlotte Leary

## Viola

Norin Saxe\*  
Anton Petrenko

## Cello

Peter Gelflund\*  
Hannah Beckham  
Debra Fenzel-Alexander  
Susan Williams-Gibson

## Bass

Robert Woodcock\*  
Aaron Shual

## Flute

Brian Bensing\*  
Amy Streeper  
Christine Page

## Piccolo

Christine Page

## Oboe

Claudia Engel\*  
David Bloom  
Donald Pender

## Clarinet

Laura Vandenbogaart\*  
Jerry McBride  
Doug Zuehlke

## Bassoon

Lettie Smith\*  
Ron Bobb  
Matthew Thornton

## Contra Bassoon

Ron Bobb

## Horn

Christophe Gillet\*  
Brian Anderson  
Nathan Huie  
Gary France

## Trumpet

Ariel Jessup\*  
Nora Smith  
Walker Beard

## Trombone

Erik Dabel\*  
Steve Harreld

## Bass Trombone

Israel Santiago

## Tuba

Jay Perry\*

## Timpani

Kenny Lavoie\*

## Percussion

Kenny Lavoie\*  
Bart Raynaud  
Poh Teng  
Doreen Hoang

## Harp

Celeste Everson Misfeldt

\* denotes principal player. String players thereafter are listed alphabetically.

Join the Silicon Valley Symphony!

We are auditioning players.

[maestro@bamusic.org](mailto:maestro@bamusic.org) tel. (408) 873 9000

[www.siliconvalleymusic.org](http://www.siliconvalleymusic.org)

**Special Thanks** to the Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos and Rev. Mark Burnham for allowing SVS to rehearse and give concerts in the Sanctuary and for ads in PCLG publications. Marketing, Advertising, Tickets, and Recording by BACH to Music; Door: Loretta Faulkner; Ushers: Philip Kurokawa and others. Thank You to Katja Battarbee for her original artwork for the concert, and creation of flyers and program.

Thanks to Larry Granger, cellist of the San Francisco Symphony, for his gracious help.



## prodigy & pops

Saturday  
15 November 2008  
7:30 p.m.

Stephen Waarts, violin soloist

# Silicon Valley Symphony

Michael Paul Gibson  
Musical director and conductor

Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos  
Ticket Donation \$20/\$15/Children 12 and under free with adult

## PROGRAM

### **Festival Overture**

Dmitri Shostakovich

### **Violin Concerto in D, Op. 35**

Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

**Stephen Waarts**, Violin Soloist (12 years old)

*intermission*

### **The Moldau from Má vlast (My Fatherland)**

Bedrich Smetana

### **Bugler's Holiday**

### **Blue Tango**

Leroy Anderson

### **Light Cavalry Overture**

Franz von Suppé

*FREE Champagne Reception with food*

## **Festival Overture, Op. 96 (1954)**

by Dimitri Shostakovich



The Russian composer Dmitri Shostakovich wrote his popular piece of music, the Festive Overture in A major, in 1954 for a concert held at the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow to commemorate the 37th anniversary of the October Revolution (which took place in 1917).

The overture featured in the 1980 Summer Olympics in Moscow. Disneyland Resort Paris uses the Festive Overture during the special fireworks-display over Le Château de la Belle au Bois Dormant on Bastille Day. Many orchestras — such as the Boston Pops Orchestra and the

In piano, Stephen was awarded Honorable Mention in the 2007-2008 CAPMT Bartok and Contemporary Music Festival in the San Francisco Bay Area District, Intermediate A (ages 6-13), and was also selected to perform on piano in the Piano Theme Recital in the 2007 MTAC Convention.

Other honors include a 2007 Honor Roll of Distinction Award (for students who score in approximately the top 1%) in the American Mathematics Contest 8 (AMC 8, for grades 8th and younger), a 2007 Gold Olympiad Logo Pin (for top 2%) in the Math Olympiads for grades 7th and 8th, and being selected as 2008 January Student Master Artist of the month in KidsArt, Los Altos.

In his free time Stephen likes reading, math, biking, drawing and playing with his younger sister and twin brother. Stephen's web site is at [www.stephenwaarts.com](http://www.stephenwaarts.com)



**Michael Paul Gibson** is the Music Director, Conductor and founder of the Silicon Valley Symphony. He is the Director of Music Ministry for the Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos. He is the founding Music Director of the Menlo Park Chorus, and conducted the group from 1998 - 2005. He is the Music Director of the Bay Area Little Symphony, and Bay Area Music Foundation, and past Music Director of the Foothill Orchestra. While serving in the United States Air Force, Gibson played in the Norad Band and Air Force Academy Band. He

founded and was Music Director for the Colorado Springs Chamber Music Society from 1971 - 1974, which received tremendous local recognition, attracted audiences of 1200, appeared in a 30 minute TV show on KRDO Television, and did numerous radio broadcasts on KRDO Radio. Gibson has created many electronic music compositions and arrangements.

Maestro Gibson has had master classes with Georg Solti and Carlo Maria Giulini working with the Chicago Symphony, Neville Marriner with the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, Pinchas Zukerman at San Francisco State University, and Peter Schickele (PDQ Bach) with the Denver Symphony. He studied orchestral conducting with Bernard Rubenstein (NU), John Miller (Denver Sym.), and Lazlo Varga (SFSU); instrumental conducting from John Paynter(NU); and choral conducting with Margaret Hillis (Chicago Symphony Chorus) at Northwestern University from which he holds Bachelor of Music Education and Master of Music in Orchestral Conducting degrees. He played trombone in the Denver Symphony, Bohemian Club Orchestra, and the San Francisco 49ers Band. He also offers expertise in business, operating his own company, BACH to Music. Please visit his web site, [www.bach2music.com/mpg](http://www.bach2music.com/mpg) for details and resume.

## ARTISTS



**Stephen Waarts**, age 12, is a seventh grader at the School for Independent Learners in Los Altos. His musical interests include violin, piano and chamber music. He began his violin studies at age 5 and piano studies at age 8. Since May 2005 his violin teacher is Li Lin, a faculty member of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, Preparatory Division. His previous violin teachers include Krishnabai Lewis and Jenny Rudin of Notre Dame de Namur University. His current piano teacher is Irina Sharogradski, a former professor at Rimsky-Korsakov Music College in St. Petersburg. His previous piano teacher is Steven Lightburn.

Recent 2008/2007 violin awards include the grand prize in the 2008 Mondavi Center Third Annual Young Artists Competition, grades 4-8, first place in the 2008 Young Artist Competition of Diablo Symphony Orchestra, ages until 22, winner of Margaret Brady Study Grant in the 2008 Stewart Brady Competition for strings, ages 10-20, first place winner in the Junior Strings Category of the 2007 MTAC VOCE California State Competition, ages 12 and under, winner of the Taghiolf Prize (first place) of 2007 Fremont Symphony Young Artist Competition, ages under 16, winner (first place) of the 2007 Menuhin - Dowling Young Musicians' String Competition, ages 9-11, and first place violin winner of the 2007 CMTANC Youth Music Competition, ages 8-10.

In May 9, 11, 2008, Stephen performed Wieniawski Concerto No. 1 with Diablo Symphony Orchestra, with their Music Director Joyce Johnson Hamilton conducting. In April 20, 2008, Stephen performed Paganini Concerto No. 1 with Saratoga Symphony, with their Music Director Dr. Jason Klein conducting. Stephen performed and was interviewed in Capital Public Radio "Insight" in March 2008, and has had two TV solo appearances in "Focus on the Arts" on Peninsula Television in 2006 and 2007. He was also selected to perform in the 2007 Junior Bach Festival and played in the master class given by Baroque Violinist Elizabeth Blumenstock as part of the 2008 Festival.

Stephen participated as violinist in Music at Menlo 2006 and 2007 Summer Institutes, and is looking forward to participating in the 2008 Institute. In 2004 he participated in Soesterberg International Music Festival in Soesterberg, Netherlands and was chosen to play in the Festival Showcase recital. Stephen recently won the first place for strings in the international competition for AFAF's (American Fine Arts Festival's) special 5th Anniversary Celebration Concert, ages 11-14. Consequently he will be performing Carmen Fantasie by Waxman at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, on November 22, 2008.

London Symphony Orchestra — have performed the Festive Overture. It has become a standard piece of the orchestral repertoire. The work was used as the opener for the 1985 and 1986 Santa Clara Vanguard Drum and Bugle Corps, which included a famous sequence where the horn line marched through a fabric tunnel single file wearing green pants and exited wearing white ones, and as a closer for the 2001 Phantom Regiment Drum and Bugle Corps. In addition, the 2007 combined Blue Devils/Santa Clara Vanguard Alumni Drum and Bugle Corps used the opening fanfare section in one of the pieces they played ("Vanguardian Sketches")

### **Concerto for Violin and Orchestra in D Major, Op. 35 (1878)** by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

#### ***Stephen Waarts, Violin Soloist***

1. Allegro moderato (D major)
2. Canzonetta: Andante (G minor)
3. Finale: Allegro vivacissimo (D major)



The Violin Concerto in D major, Op. 35 by Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840 - 1893) is one of the best known of all violin concertos. It is also considered to be among the most technically difficult works for violin. As with most concerti, the piece is in three movements, the first and last quick, the second slow. There is no break or pause between the second and third movements. Tchaikovsky wrote only one concerto for violin, but wrote three other concertos, all for piano (the first concerto being the best known).

The piece was written in 1878 in Clarens, a Swiss resort on the shores of Lake Geneva where Tchaikovsky had gone to recover from the depression brought on by his disastrous marriage to Antonina Miliukova. Tchaikovsky was not a violinist, and he sought the advice of Yosif Kotek on the completion of the solo part. Swift progress was made, and the work was completed within a month.

Kotek did not have a strong enough reputation to premiere the work, so Tchaikovsky instead intended the first performance to be given by Leopold Auer, and accordingly dedicated the work to him. Auer refused, however, saying the work was unplayable (he did play the work later in his life,

however), meaning that the planned premiere for March 1879 had to be cancelled and a new soloist found. The first performance was eventually given by Adolph Brodsky on December 4, 1881 in Vienna, under the baton of Hans Richter. Tchaikovsky changed the dedication to Brodsky. Critical reaction was mixed, and the piece was certainly not received as the masterpiece it is taken to be today.

### **The Moldau from Má Vlast (1874)**

by Bedrich Smetana



Bedrich Smetana (1824 -- 1884), "a composer with a genuine Czech heart" according to Franz Liszt, was one of the seminal figures in the music of his native country. Early in 1874, Smetana began to suffer from severe headaches. This symptom came and went, and he noted no other physical problems until October. "One night I listened with great pleasure to Leo Delibes' *Le Roi l'a dit*," he reported. "When I returned home after the last act, I sat at the

piano and improvised for an hour on whatever came into my head. The following morning I was stone deaf."

It is one of the great ironies of the 19th century music that Smetana conceived the first melody for *Má Vlast* (My Country), the splendid cycle of six tone poems inspired by the land and lore of his native Bohemia, at the same time that he lost his hearing. Had he not been able to look to the example of the deaf Beethoven, he might well have abandoned his work, but he pressed on, and completed *Vysehrad* by November 1874 and immediately began *The Moldau*, which was finished in less than three weeks, on December 8.

The first complete performance of *Má Vlast*, on November 2, 1882 in Prague (the cycle is dedicated to the city of Prague), was the occasion for a patriotic rally, and like Sibelius' great national hymn *Finlandia*, this music has since become an emblem of his country's national pride. *Má Vlast* is the traditional music played every year on May 12, the anniversary of Smetana's death, to open the Prague Spring Festival.

### **Bugler's Holiday (1958) and Blue Tango (1952)**

by Leroy Anderson



Born in Cambridge, Massachusetts to Swedish parents, Leroy Anderson (1908-1975) was given his first piano lessons by his mother, who was an organist. In 1926 Anderson entered Harvard University, where he studied theory with Walter Spalding, counterpoint with Edward Ballantine, harmony with George Enescu and composition with Walter Piston. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1929 and Master of Arts in 1930.

In 1951 Anderson wrote his first hit, "Blue Tango", earning a Golden Disc and the No. 1 spot on the Billboard charts. His pieces and his recordings during the fifties conducting a studio orchestra were immense commercial successes. "Blue Tango" was the first instrumental recording ever to sell one million copies.

### **Time for Young Musicians**

Conducting Lesson: Maestro Gibson gives a 'mini' conducting lesson to members of the audience. A few children from the audience will be chosen to conduct the orchestra, playing excerpt from "Light Cavalry Overture"

### **Light Cavalry Overture (1866)**

by Franz von Suppé



*Leichte Kavallerie* (Light Cavalry) is an operetta in three acts by Franz von Suppé, with a libretto by Hans Bodenstedt. It was first performed in Carlstheater, Vienna on 21st March 1866. While much of the operetta lies in relative obscurity, the overture is one of von Suppé's most well-known pieces.

Many orchestral groups have the piece in their repertoire (including the Boston Pops Orchestra, which made a popular recording of it), and the main theme of the overture has been quoted numerous times by musicians, cartoons and other media.