

Saturday, December 11, 2021 at 4:00 PM The Clemens Center, Elmira, NY

Holiday Concert With a Twist

Program

Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov (1844-1908)			
Polonaise from Christmas Eve Suite			
Polina Nazaykinskaya (b. 1987)			
The Tales of Sorrow (World Premiere)	[6']		
Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741)			
"Winter" from Concerto No. 4 in F Minor, RV 297, Op. 8 I. Allegro non molto III. Allegro	[7']		
Janice Martin, violin			
Robert Wendel (b. 1951)			
Fantasia on Yeroushalaim Shel Zahav "Jerusalem of Gold"	[6']		
Pablo de Sarasate (1844-1908)			
Carmen Fantasy, Op. 25	[12']		
Janice Martin, violin			
Intermission			
Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840-1893)			
Polonaise from Eugene Onegin, Op. 24	[5']		
Tchaikovsky, arr. Martin			
Nutcracker Suite for Electric Aerial Violin	[6']		
Janice Martin, violin			

Arr	· I	Hа	ırris

Holiday Medley [8']
Good King Wenceslas, Silent Night, Joy to the World, First Noel,
Deck the Halls, What Child Is This, We Wish You a Merry Christmas

Arr. Butler, Holmes, Martin

Christmas Violin Medley

[7']

Angels We Have Heard on High God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen Hallelujah Chorus

Janice Martin, violin

Arr. Harris

Adeste Fidelis [3']

Leroy Anderson (1908-1975)

Sleigh Ride [3']



Janice Martin



Polina Nazaykinskaya

Janice Martin is a multi-talent on violin, piano, voice, and most uniquely, a Unique Aerial Acrobatic Violinist. Martin has performed in some of the most celebrated concert halls in the world such as New York City's Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall, Tokyo's Suntory Hall, and Prague's Rudolfinum and as soloist with orchestras such as the Philadelphia Orchestra, the San Francisco Symphony, the Boston Pops, the Baltimore Symphony, the Minnesota Orchestra, the Seattle Symphony, Houston Symphony, National Symphony, and Atlanta Symphony. She has won top prizes in such competitions as the Washington International Competition and Lena Na International Competition, as well as career grants from the National Endowment for the Arts. She was also awarded use of the Golden Period 1720 Bagshawe-Burstein Stradivarius Violin as a recipient of the Stradivarius Society of Chicago.

Her unusual combination of abilities, along with her passion for all genres of music, led her to create aerial and musical crossover concerts that pull from both standard Classical and Popular music—with her unique twist of comedy, entertainment, and artistry. She wowed millions of viewers on NBC's *America's Got Talent*, the CW's *The Big Stage* and other television shows. Martin has toured the world over as featured guest soloist with orchestras, with her 5-piece band, and with the internationally acclaimed troupe, Cirque de la Symphonie. She was in residence with her own show for 4 years in Branson, MO, performing *A Janice Martin Cirque Show*, for which she won numerous awards, both as performer and creator/producer. Martin has recorded several albums and written a children's book, *How I Learned to Fly*, all available through her website: www.janicemartin.com.

Martin is a graduate of the Juilliard School of Music and Indiana University in Bloomington, IN.

The music of an award-winning composer, **Polina Nazaykinskaya**, a native of Togliatti, Russia, has become a staple of orchestral, chamber, and solo repertory in the United States, Russia, and Europe. Her first symphonic poem *Winter Bells* is in high demand every season by orchestras such as The Minnesota Orchestra and The Russian National Orchestra, among others. Her latest symphonic poem *Fenix*, commissioned by The Albany Symphony, is programmed for multiple performances in the 2021-22 concert season. This season, Polina's music will be performed by The Eastern Connecticut Symphony Orchestra, The Salina Symphony, The Florida Orchestra, Orchestra of the Southern Finger Lakes, and The Portland Youth Symphony.

With her larger chamber music works, Polina frequently turns to the tragedy of humanity's collective history, in particular the Holocaust. Her work *Haim* is performed annually around the world and has become an important ensemble composition of the second decade of the 21st century.

Polina's unique musical language embodies the diversity of multicultural education. She graduated from the Tchaikovsky Conservatory College in Moscow as a composition/violin double major, studying with Konstantin Batashov and Vladimir Ivanov, respectively. Polina earned her Master's and Artist Diploma in composition at the Yale School of Music with Christopher Theofanidis and Ezra Laderman. Currently, she is a Doctoral Candidate at The Graduate Center CUNY, under the mentorship of Tania León. Polina's many honors and awards include the Charles Ives Scholarship from The American Academy of Arts and Letters and the Paul & Daisy Soros Fellowship for New Americans.

Polina is an Adjunct Lecturer of Composition at Brooklyn College Conservatory and a Teaching Artist at the Educational Center for the Arts in New Haven, CT. Additionally, she was recently named the Philharmonic Conductor of the Greater Connecticut Youth Orchestra.

Polina visited the Elmira High School Orchestra and the Horseheads Middle School Band on Friday, December 10, to give a presentation and work with the students. This activity is made possible by the QuickARTS grant program administered by The ARTS Council of the Southern Finger Lakes and funded by the Community Foundation of Elmira-Corning and the Finger Lakes, Inc.





OF ELMIRA-CORNING AND THE FINGER LAKES, INC.

Orchestra of the Southern Finger Lakes

Toshiyuki Shimada, Music Director and Conductor

Violin I

Augusto Diemecke, concertmaster Debrah Devine, assistant concertmaster

Craig Evans
Yixuan Song
Meghan O'Keefe
Rei-Chi Liao
Chet Chang
Jenny Choi

Violin II

Denise Nosewicz, principal Margaret Matthews

Margaret Matthev Gary Chollet Don Webster Tracey Ingerick Michael Hahn Mateo Garza

Viola

Joanne Lowe, principal

Mark Lewis James Marshall Bill Makin Wednesday Hsu

Cello

Christine Lowe-Diemecke, principal

Shade Zajac Gilbert Antoine Eric Johnson Rintaro Wada Zac Fung

Bass

Patrick Dugan, principal Camilla Carvalho Andrew O'Connor

Flute

Jeanne Sperber, principal

Laura Campbell Melissa Moore

Oboe

Lesley McClelland, principal

Raelene Ford

Clarinet

Emily Dobmeier, principal

Diana Groll John Greenly

Bassoon

Heather Cole, principal

David Resig

Horn

Claire Tuxhill-McKenney, principal

Terry Martens Paula Kinev Linda Bergstrom

Trumpet

Jeff Stempien, principal

Scott Kelley Bill Arnts Abby Sams

Trombone

Norm Wilcox, principal

Duane Smith Craig Harrigan

Tuba

Dave Unland, principal

Timpani

Emily Ickes, principal

Percussion

Simon Bjarning, principal

Will Hope Ethan Cowburn

Harp

Catherine Oldfield, principal

Piano/Keyboard
David Peckham

Notes on the Program By Patrick Dugan

Polonaise from Christmas Eve Suite

Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov (1844-1908) Pvotr Ilvich Tchaikovsky

Polonaise from Eugene Onegin

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840-1893)

The Polonaise is a dance of moderate tempo which has its roots in rural 16th century Poland. It was developed by peasants in various locales and danced at weddings and celebratory functions. It is still danced in Poland today—Polish teenagers all learn it for their school dances. By the 18th century the Polish nobility had adopted it and, with some refinements and variations, it was soon exported to other European courts. It quickly became akin to other such national dances—the Allemande or Sarabande, for example—which grew so popular that they became established genres for composers centuries hence.

The two Polonaises the OSFL is presenting tonight are taken from 19th century Russian operas. The first is from Rimsky-Korsakov's *Christmas Eve*, the instrumental music of which was made into a suite which is widely performed today while the opera itself has fallen into relative obscurity. In the opera it is played as a large group of Cossacks are petitioning Tsarina and singing her praises—all while the devil himself lurks in the fireplace.

Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin* is still routinely heard in today's opera houses. It is a setting of Puskin's novel of the same name, written entirely in verse, which was considered a classic Russian text even in Tchaikovsky's time. The Polonaise occurs in Act 3, when Onegin is attending a lavish ball and encounters Tatyana, an old flame, for the first time in five years. Both pieces are sprightly and decadent, redolent of the old Russian aristocracy's unabashed extravagance.

The Tales of Sorrow

Polina Nazaykinskaya (b. 1987)

The Tales of Sorrow is my reflection on our collective emotional experience across borders, cultures, and generations. We, each of us, arrive into this world alone and, whether we like it or not, we depart from it likewise. In essence, we are transit passengers, traversing the globe in search of a place where we belong, where we can put down roots, even if just for a short while.

A poet once said: without sorrow, we can't know true happiness. While every human being strives to be happy, we all carry our tale of sorrow with us. Somewhere, deep inside we cherish it for it helps us comprehend the state of bliss. The inevitable chiaroscuro of the human soul. In the year 2020 we, the people of Earth, have begun a new tale of sorrow—from a blank page, handed to us by circumstance far beyond anyone's control. In a world separated by a multitude of inequities, opposing traditions, and cultural differences, we were given one common denominator—a sorrow of isolation. A sorrow of witnessing

something truly harrowing on a global scale. Loss. Confusion. Anger. And, finally, gratitude for being able to draw a breath, smell the sea air, or take a stroll in the park. In this moment of history, we all have become the same: just humans staying alive. In Moscow, in New Delhi, in a rural village or a tropical island—we have experienced the same kind of sorrow together. And it has bound us forever. All of us without exception.

Tales of Sorrow begins at a proverbial train station. Protagonist: we, the people. We are at an intersection of past and future, in motion, carried forward by time. The opening section is like an epigraph: the multiplicity of voices and counterpoint create a living, breathing texture that places us instantly in various locations around the globe.

The pre-recorded tape of Moscow's train station, interspersed with yodeling utterances off-stage, in a seemingly misfitted duet with the first violin imbues the narrative with dimension. Out of the sea of sounds of the opening, the A-section commences with violins zooming in on an individual voice; its tale of its sorrow. The sweeping, achingly somber melody unravels slowly, without end, as though saying: in this one line—there is a lifetime. Supported by cellos it grows, searching for a place of rest, unable to find it yet. The movement in the bassline replaces sustained notes, lending the narrative inner urgency. Finally, the primo violin breaks out from the rest of the strings with newfound desperation to reach for that elusive place of peaceful respite. With leaps, rhythmic hemiolas, and suspensions the protagonist musters every ounce of force to finally reach the pinnacle. The register expands, covering 5 octaves. Just as we think we got there, Section B plunges us into a new world of the enigmatic C# major. Are we at peace, at last? Something sinister oozes from the warmth of the strings sustaining the basses, with pulsating 3rd scale degree grinding the 'major' sonority into every fiber of our being. And then we hear it: the bell and the chorale. A chilling metaphor for the rush of our lives—where what we strive for is the inevitable end. The eerie calm of this requiem is punctuated by a tolling bell on a C#, played by the first violinist (our protagonist) as they slowly leave the stage. Like so many have left this world since the start of the pandemic.

—Polina Nazaykinskaya

Note: This work was commissioned by the OSFL for the occasion of our 25th anniversary and the 10th anniversary with Maestro Toshiyuki Shimada as Music Director and Conductor

Winter from The Four Seasons

Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741)

Vivaldi was 40 in 1718 when he started writing *The Four Seasons* and arguably at the height of his career. Though he was living in Mantua, where he held a position at the Hapsburg court and composed operas for the city's Carnaval seasons, he still had obligations in his native Venice. These mostly related to a position he maintained at Pio Ospedale della Pietà, an orphanage which trained its charges in music. He was contracted to write two concertos a month for this

institution, whether he happened to be in Venice or not. Besides this he also traveled several times to Rome for more opera engagements—while there he was invited to perform for the Pope on two occasions. Though these prestigious engagements speak to Vivaldi's immense fame and musical excellence they also imply many long, hazardous journeys by carriage between the various cities. It is easy to imagine the famously vain Vivaldi composing his now famous concertos during those bumpy carriage rides while being absolutely exhausted.

The Four Seasons originally appeared as part of a larger set of Vivaldi's concertos, Il cimento dell'armonia e dell'inventione (The Contest Between Harmony and Invention), which was published in 1725 by Michel-Charles Le Cène in Amsterdam. Vivaldi set the seasons apart from the other eight concertos in this volume by including four corresponding sonnets alongside them, presumably written by Vivaldi himself. Vivaldi took great care to depict the words in music, a skill he honed while working on his operas. This technique is called "text painting" and is a phenomenon closely associated with Italian music; Vivaldi's artistic forbearers spent much time considering how best to amplify text via purely musical means. The sonnet which accompanies Winter is reproduced below and is divided in the same manner as the concerto itself, which was Vivaldi's intention. Note the ways the music reflects Vivaldi's verse, and how the orchestra and the soloist take different roles in Vivaldi's short drama.

Allegro non molto

Agghiacciato tremar trà nevi algenti Al Severo Spirar d' orrido Vento, Correr battendo i piedi ogni momento; E pel Soverchio gel batter i denti;

Largo

Passar al foco i di guieti e contenti Mentre la pioggia fuor bagna ben cento

Allegro

Caminar Sopra il giaccio, e à passo lento Per timor di cader girsene intenti; Gir forte Sdruzziolar, cader à terra Di nuove ir Sopra 'I giaccio e corer forte Sin ch' il giaccio si rompe, e si disserra; Sentir uscir dale ferrate porte Sirocco, Borea, e tutti i Venti in Guerra Quest' é 'I verno, mà tal, che gioja apporte.

Allegro non molto

To tremble from cold in the icy snow, In the harsh breath of a horrid wind; To run, stamping one's feet every moment, Our teeth chattering in the extreme cold.

Largo

Before the fire to pass peaceful, Contented days while the rain outside pours down.

Allegro

We tread the icy path slowly and cautiously, For fear of tripping and falling. Then turn abruptly, slip, crash on the ground Rising, hasten on across the ice lest it cracks

up.

We feel the chill north winds course through the home despite the locked and bolted doors...

This is winter, which nonetheless Brings its own delights.

Translation by Armand D'Angour

Notes from the soloist: Vivaldi's *Winter* is a musical depiction of the beauty and misery of winter back in Venice, Italy from 1720. Vivaldi wrote the poems first and then captured their poetry in the music itself.

People ask why I chose to create aerial artistry for these works. Actually, it started as a practical consideration...I wanted to find a classical solo written for violin that had long enough breaks in between the music of the violin solo so I could do choreography in between playing. The solos from all the *Four Seasons* worked perfectly. Also, I have always loved the music and danced to it for my own pleasure since being a young girl. As I continued to develop my artistry, the work has continued to grow in meaning for me. In a way, this performance is a celebration of artistic freedom—the freedom we all have as artists to dream up things we find beautiful—and then recreate our dreams into existence!

Carmen Fantasy

Pablo de Sarasate (1844-1908)

The Carmen Fantasy is among the most widely played virtuoso pieces for the violin—it is considered to be one of the most technically difficult works in the instrument's repertoire. It was first published in 1882 and was written by Pablo de Sarasate, a violinist and conductor of the late 19th century and the composer of Zigeunerweisen, another widely played violin showpiece. At this time it was commonplace to virtuosi like Sarasate to adapt music by contemporaneous composers and use it to perform feats of technical brilliance. Audiences of the time were especially enamored of virtuosi and would attend concerts not merely to hear music but to witness hitherto unimaginable displays of musical prowess.

The piece does not disappoint in this regard. Each movement features famous melodies from the opera with fantastic virtuosic interpolations. Carmen's "Habanera" is embellished by bright chords and quick pizzicati while the opening "Aragonaise" is festooned with artificial harmonics. Demanding and delicate, fiery and gentle, ecstatic and pensive, it provides the listener with delightful variations on familiar tunes, and the performer with a formidable challenge.

Notes from the soloist: *Carmen Fantasy* is an extraordinary and technically demanding piece for violin and orchestra that Sarasate wrote to show off his technique and the beautiful music of Bizet's opera *Carmen*. It's an incredible piece and a tour de force for the violin.

Nutcracker Suite

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840-1893)

Notes from the soloist: Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker Suite* from 1892 almost needs no explanation because at Christmastime, this music has become synonymous with "dance." For this aerial dancer, why not bring Tchaikovsky to the skies? Aerial silks are my favorite aerial way to fly and I hope you enjoy this expression of music interwoven with aerial dance.

Christmas Violin Medley

Butler, Holmes, Martin

Notes from the soloist: My Christmas Medley for violin and orchestra combines my love for the sound of the solo violin all the way to the sound of a full orchestra. From Bach's solo violin *Partita in E Major* combined with the carol *Angels We Have Heard on High*, then an Irish reel combined with my all-time favorite Christmas carol *God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen*, to finish with Handel's awe-inspiring and famous *Messiah*, it is my desire to take the audience on a journey of emotions—ending in the joyous celebration of such glorious music.

This concert is sponsored in part by:



A World Leader in Motion Control & Filtration Technology

Since 1905

Elmira, NY



This concert is made possible in part by the Restart NY grant administered by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.

OSFL Annual Fund Contributors

A very special thank you is extended to recognize and appreciate all the donors who make it possible for the OSFL to preserve a strong tradition of artistic excellence in the community. Annual fund contributions are welcome year round and gifts of \$100 or more will be acknowledged in the program inserts for a full 12 months. The following individuals, organizations, and businesses have provided financial and/or in-kind support to the OSFL from July 1, 2020 through December 3, 2021.

Foundation and Government Support

The Anderson Foundation

The ARTS Council of the Southern Finger Lakes

Associated Chamber Music Players

Chemung County Chamber of Commerce

Community Foundation of Elmira-Corning

and the Finger Lakes

Corning Area Chamber of Commerce

Corning Incorporated Foundation

Douglas G. Anderson—Leigh R. Evans Foundation

Edith Saxton Fund for Steuben County

Youth Services

Hilliard Foundation

League of American Orchestras

New York State Council on the Arts

Schuyler County Fund

The Tripp Foundation

U.S. Family Foundation

Matching and Donor-Advised Gifts

Charles Schwab

Corning Enterprises

Corning Incorporated Foundation Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund

Fidelity Chantable Gift Full

GE Foundation

Gregg Family Charitable Fund

Morgan Stanley GIFT Fund

Network For Good

Olmstead Designated Fund

PayPal Charitable Fund

Raymond James

Vanguard Charitable Fund

Tributes

In Honor of Mary Griffin-

Katie Marsh

Molly Nelson

In Memory of David Hanson-

Robert & Karen Dusek

In Memory of Mary Johnson—

Christine & John Sharkey

In Memory of Erik Lomasson—

Kristen Lomasson

In Memory of Brent & Martha Olmstead-

Frank & Linda Gudas

Stephen & Anne Hoffman

In Memory of Will Provine-

Gail Provine & John Parker

In Memory of Jerry Wright—

Alison Merkl

In Memory of Kogo Yamaguchi—

Roger & Maureen Ackerman

Timothy Clear

Druanne Dillon

Robert Drake

Kathryn Gerwig

William & Terry Kessler

Richard & Katherine Morocco

Jon Nakagawa

Edwin & Beverly O'Brien

James & Kathleen Ramich

Ristiina Wigg

Conductor's Circle

Diamond Baton—\$10,000 and above

Gary & Bonnie Chollet

Estate of Brent & Martha Olmstead

Dick & Judy Sphon

Jan & Clare van den Blink

Gold Baton—\$5,000 to \$9,999

Karen Peterson

Silver Baton—\$2,500 to \$4,999

Charles & Trudy Craig

Kirk & Penny Gregg

Dr. James Norton & Joy Hoffman

Derek Law & Sheri Ye

Martha Pierce & John M. Walsh III

Dr. Edward & Sheryl Williams

Bronze Baton—\$1,000 to \$2,499

Roger & Maureen Ackerman

J.C. & Joan Argetsinger

Ronald & Gail Bellohusen

Carl & Suzanne Blowers

Jennifer Butler

Dean & Janice Butts

Dr. Joseph & Guiliana Calderone

Canandaigua National Bank & Trust

Chemung Canal Trust Company

Corning's Gaffer District

Walter & Karen Douglas

David & Ann Hertzog

Harry & Jennifer Hillman

Jon & Donna Homuth

Elise Johnson-Schmidt & Gerald Schmidt

Johnson-Schmidt, Architect & Associates

Georgianna Keser

Denis Kingsley

Joydeep Lahiri & Santona Pal

Franc & Linda Laux

Donald & Margaret Matthews

Robert McKinnon

Mila Meier

Dr. Alan & Barbara Preucil

Stuart & Lucia Schweizer

Mimi Updegraff

Wendell Weeks & Kim Frock

Paddy & Gillet Welles

Orchestra Friends

Benefactor—\$500 to \$999

Anonymous

Russel Anthony

J & Kristina Cadwallader

Central Recycling Co-op, Inc.

Dr. Frank & Linda Gudas

John Helfinstine

Timothy Horan

Lois & Clinton Janes Jr.

Natsue Kobayashi

Michelle & Gautam Kudva

J. Carol Lincoln

Savannah Paddock

David & Cathy Peckham

Richard Perry

Matthew & Sue Strack

Betty Vinti

Lingling Wang & Xiao Chen

Randall & Karen Youngman

Sustainer—\$250 to \$499

Anonymous

John & Marcia Anthony

Gary Brown

Laura Campbell

Marcy Cathey & Aaron Frank

Martin & Susan Curran

Robert & Elizabeth Dalrymple

Dr. Robert & Karen Dusek

Empire Access

F.M. Howell & Company

Jessie Gardner

GCP Discount Liquors. Inc.

Marcus & Charlotte Kantz

Barbara Lawrence

Olivier Marie & Celine Guermeur

Elizabeth & Geoffrey Marshall

Mengel, Metzger, Barr & Co. LLP

Barbara & Thomas O'Brien

Matt & Joy Perry

Richard & Patricia Preston

Karen Rebis

Christine & John Sharkey

Valicenti Advisory Services Richard Van Brunt Alan & Maria Winston Todd Yoggy

Patron—\$100 to \$249

Elijah & Gail Baity

Gary & Ann Brouse

Janice & Robert Brown

Linda Burke

Raymond Chollet

Timothy Clear

Amelia & Paul Cueva

Druanne Dillon

Benita Eldridge

Craig Evans

Jennifer Green Fais & Noel Sylvester

Dr. Charles & Kathleen Fedele

Francis Fehlner

Wendy Field

Linda Fields

Jessica Fierro

A.J. Fratarcangelo

Kathryn Gerwig

Sarah Gowin

Cynthia Haigh

JB & DW Hambruch

Stephen & Anne Hoffman

Harry & Beverly Jonas

Michael & Julia Lavarnway

Ian Mackenzie

Holly McNulty

Jebediah & Christina Mead

Scott & Sharon Moore

Susan Morris

Jon Nakagawa

Edwin & Beverly O'Brien

Robert & Carimar Patrician

James Pitt & Pamela Farr

Gail Provine & John Parker

James & Kathleen Ramich

Margaret Reed

John & Jeanne Schiavone

Peggy Streeter

Marilynn Sullivan

Mary Swan

Noel Sylvester Photography Robert & Jean Tedrick Michiko Yamaguchi

Thank you for your support!

WEST END GALLERY

Paintings · Sculpture · Pottery · Glass · Jewelry











12 West Market Street • Corning, NY 14830 • 607.936.2011 Visit us online to view the Current Exhibit, Business Hours & Services Offered:

www.WestEndGallery.net







16 E. Market St. 607.937.4438

Arnot Mall 607.796.5540 connorsmercantile.com yesterdaysgiftshop.com



To reserve your choice of the best available seats for the remainder of the concert season, sign up for subscription tickets. Call or email the OSFL office at (607) 936-2873 or info@osfl.org.

Section A \$90

Section B \$70

Section C \$33

These prices will reserve a seat for both of the two remaining concerts.

Musica Diversa

Sunday, March 6 at 4:00 PM Clemens Center, Elmira, NY

OSFL Spring Concert

Sunday, May 1 at 4:00 PM Corning Museum of Glass, Corning, NY

