



SANTA CRUZ
SYMPHONY LEAGUE

Musical Notes

January, 2020

Symphony League Preview



Mahler's Symphony no. 5 begins with the most famous four notes since Beethoven's 5th, includes his greatest love song, the Adagietto, and charts the course from inner agony to ecstasy of the soul.

Remember, there is a Free Open Rehearsal at the Civic Auditorium, Friday, Jan. 31, 7:30 - 10:00.

To listen to Symphony #5 check this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E9D1svZ9Y0s>

In case you want to invite a friend to the concert you can get more tickets at this link:

<https://santacruzsymphony.org/how-to-order>

Deadline for Preview reservations is Sat., Jan. 25

To pay by check, please make it out to Santa Cruz Symphony League, and mail to Cheryl Hammond, 1505 42nd Avenue #30, Capitola, CA 95010. Questions? Call Cheryl at 831-475-9482.

Check this link to make your reservation:
<https://www.santacruzsymphonyleague.org/reservations/concert-preview-catharsis>



Maestro Daniel Stewart

always brings fresh insights and information about the music chosen for the concert. This face-to-face encounter is only available at the League's Preview.

**Join us at the California Grill
40 Penny Lane
(off Green Valley)
Watsonville**

Lunch on Friday, January 31, 11:30 a.m.

**A hot buffet luncheon
and no host bar.**

**\$35 for League Members,
\$40 for non-Members**

Reservations required by Sat., Jan. 25



Calling all WW II buffs and Rosie the Riveters! Grab your fedora and your seamed stockings and join the Symphony League's Wings of Glory 1940s Ball at the historic and newly renovated Vets Hall 846 Front Street in downtown Santa Cruz.

Cocktails begin at the open bar at 5:30. Mingle to the velvet tones of the John Michael Sinatra Band. Enjoy wine, a fabulous dinner and surprise entertainment in the historic Ball Room. Bid for trips and excursions at the Live Auction. Then dance, dance, dance the night away 1940s style.



The League knows how to party!
Picture is taken from our 2019 gala.

- Tickets are \$150, or a table for eight at \$1,120.
- Purchase your tickets now on the Symphony League Website.
- For information call Cheryl at 831-475-9482.
- To pay by check, please make it out to Santa Cruz Symphony League, and mail to Cheryl Hammond, 1505 42nd Avenue #30, Capitola, CA 95010.
- Questions? Call Cheryl at 831-475-9482.



Letter from the President

2019-20 is a great year for the League, thanks to every one of our members and our board. Participation is at an all time high; this year's Home Tour was particularly joyful and community building, and the results are excellent.



Now we are on to the "Wings of Glory 1940s Ball" on Saturday, March 14th at the Veterans Memorial Hall on Front Street in Santa Cruz. This is going to be a spectacular evening of cocktails, dinner, auction and dancing. The venue is very special, with tributes at every turn to the Veterans of Santa Cruz. Tickets are already on sale on the Symphony League website. Tickets are \$150 each or \$140 per person if you reserve a table for eight. I look forward to seeing you there!

Most of you have heard of the passing of Bill Mowatt last week. Bill and Gail have been League members for many years and Board Meetings will not be the same without Bill. We will keep you informed about Bill's memorial service that is being planned for March.

Happy 2020 to all of you and see you soon.

Best,

Nancy

Thanks for a Spectacular Home Tour 2019

Home Tour 2019 was a fabulous success thanks to the hard work of over 130 volunteers and the generous support of homeowners, sponsors, vendors and advertisers. Over 400 tour goers braved showers to tour 5 unique homes and provide over \$40,000 of gross revenue to the Symphony League. After expenses the Tour will provide a net result of \$32,000. This result beats last year and it is only slightly less than our best tour ever in sunny 2017. Kudos to all of us!

As always Nancy and Cheryl have many, many people to thank for this result. We thank every Greeter, Captain and Docent, every generous homeowner, every sponsor, vendor and advertiser. Every single one of you did an amazing job and our tour would not happen without you. Special thanks go to Sheila Vaughn and Mary Ann Hobbs and their committees for a winter wonderland of gifts and goodies at their new, reinvented Shops at the Home Tour. Vickie Rutan did an amazing job with the Cookie Walk. Thanks to Cathy Parisie for providing skilled musicians at several venues. And thanks to the powers that be at Cabrillo for allowing us to use the beautiful Sesnon House to kick off the tour. It was all just spectacular.

Nancy Van Natta & Cheryl Hammond,
Co-Chairs



Ann Haley Reviews our recent concert

Ascendance

Performances of October 12th and 13th, 2019

Mason Bates: The Mothership

Igor Stravinsky: The Firebird Suite

Ludwig van Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 5

Ascendance, the first concert of our 2019-20 season, included three important works from different musical eras: Mason Bates's Mothership was the most contemporary piece, energetic and physical, to open our symphony with a percussive work, in which the composer himself provided a strong ostinato throughout. The orchestra played with strength and great accuracy, with Nigel Armstrong providing a beautiful violin solo (as one homage to the Mothership) and a lovely horn solo providing another homage. Igor Stravinsky's lyrical, passionate and vibrant Firebird Suite represented the modern era, and Beethoven's 5th Piano Concerto, performed and interpreted absolutely perfectly by Jon Nakamatsu, representing the classical era of music, with the orchestra just as perfectly, competing with him and accompanying him, by turn. The program was so beautifully executed that the audience gave each work and soloist a standing ovation. Jon even gave an encore, his own interpretation of Scott Joplin's ragtime "The Entertainer."

And now for the details: Bates's Mothership was strikingly physical, in that one could imagine Jackson Pollack athletically painting a monument in time to the music. I felt that the strong ostinato must have represented the great engines of the Mothership. All

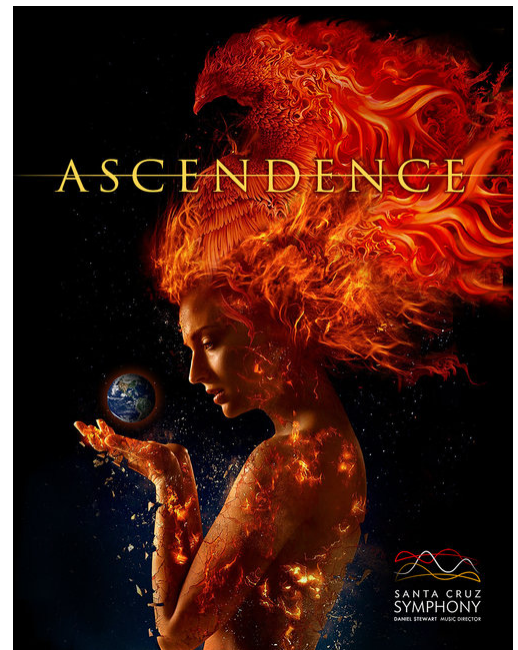


instruments in the orchestra, including strings

and winds, were used percussively, and for the composer himself, who played percussion in the orchestra, the ostinato was non-stop. Armstrong's violin was suitably lyrical for one solo, included a western theme with an orchestral honky-tonk back, and a lovely horn solo rising above the orchestra, provided another homage to the Mothership. This very energetic work provided an excellent opening to this concert, which gathered momentum with each composition performed.

Our orchestra followed Mothership with Stravinsky's dashing Firebird Suite. The suite began with a long orchestral introduction, very quiet but ominous. A quiet tremolo followed by a horn solo, then by a quickening of violin strings, all very beautifully tonal, This work referred more to the Romantic period than Stravinsky's Rite of

Spring had, as its use of lyrical melodies proved. Percussion prevailed during the presto passages, while strings and winds carried the melodic passages. The full orchestra brought the Suite to a dramatic finish.



Ann Haley Reviews our recent concert

Horizons

Performances of November 2nd and 3rd, 2019

Esa-Pekka Salonen: Violin Concerto

Antonin Dvorak: Symphony No. 7 in D Minor

Horizons, the second concert of our 2019-20 season, included major compositions from today and from the Romantic period of music. Salonen's very challenging Violin Concerto proved none too difficult for Nigel Armstrong, who I found extremely brave for even taking on such a difficult task as this. I dare not ask him why he did it. He played it superbly, but such an exhausting piece! Even its composer said that the music was pushed by his collaborator into areas he dared not go himself. But all of this was first introduced in glowing terms by Danny Stewart, whose praise of Nigel was fully deserved. The concerto opened very beautifully with a harp playing a minor theme. The violin was very fast from the start, the orchestra somber, subdued against the violin solo's sprightly perpetual motion. Throughout the piece Nigel's technique was unflinching, even through



passages that seemed painful to play. Toward the end of the final "Adieu," Nigel played an extended tremolo, very high. A harp accompanied his lyrical solo, which ended the piece. The audience loved the performance, and Nigel, Danny, and the orchestra received a highly-merited standing ovation.

Following Intermission, we were treated to Dvorak's very tonal-centered 7th Symphony. It had a dark but colorful opening, with themes familiar to most of us. The third movement revealed Dvorak's Slavonic background: filled with dance themes. The melody played above the waltz accompaniment was absolutely beautiful, and delicately anticipated

each repetition. The orchestra responded so well to Stewart's conducting that he seemed not to have to give them much direction. The fourth movement was very dynamic and melodic, moving through several keys, the dynamics from soft to loud, erupting into a new idea that was a variation upon an earlier dance theme. All carried the melody and moved ultimately toward a Picardy ending of this great work.

Again, the audience received this program, remarkable for its dimensions and adventure into the realm of new music, with unlimited enthusiasm, which only those of us who can experience it live can fully appreciate. The year 2020 holds many such rewards.



Santa Cruz Symphony League
307 Church St.
Santa Cruz, CA 95060



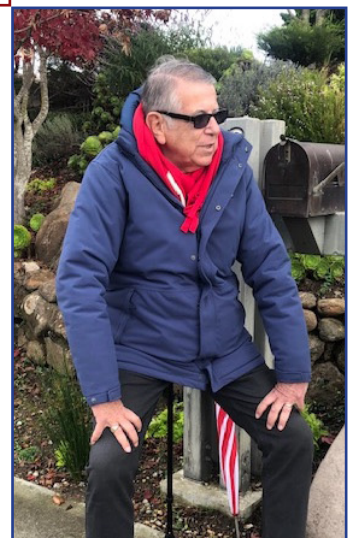
HOME TOUR



The League at Work and Play



Our Intrepid Greeters



Second Preview, November, 2019

The League at Work and Play



Photos thanks to Kevin Monahan

From your League Member Chair

It is my goal to ensure membership continues to grow and everyone always feels welcome at our social and fund raising events. If, for some reason, I have left out a name, I apologize. If I have not identified a responsibility necessary to support membership, I welcome your input.

Our wonderful organization is successful because of you. If you know of someone who would like more information regarding membership, please send them my way. I also will be happy to mail our Member Brochure – just call or email me with details.

Changes in addresses, phone numbers and emails are critical to ensuring you receive League Communications. Please let me know of any changes.

If you are aware of a member who is ill, facing a challenge or has experienced a loss, please contact Corresponding Secretary, Susan Koeker: 650-464-4214 or jkoeker@aol.com.

Thank you for your support of the League.

Dan Rutan
831-475-4939
rutandan@comcast.net



Welcome New Members

Your Symphony League continues to grow.
A Warm Welcome to the League family!

Marco Mack
Jeni Houston
Georgianna 'Gigi' Spinazzi
Angela Clark (welcome back!)



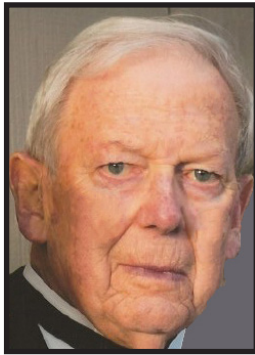
League Directory

If you do not have your print edition of the new League Directory and would like to receive your copy via USPS, please let me know. I'll be happy to drop it in the mail. Otherwise, please be sure to visit your League table at either concert where your Directory will be waiting for you. Directories are also available at Preview before Concert weekend.

A Friendly Reminder

A Friendly Reminder: Effective last July 1, all League memberships were due for renewal. This is a change from the "Old Days" when renewals were based on the anniversary when you joined the League. So, if you have not mailed your renewal, please do so right away. Please complete the form included, so I can make sure your information is correct for the Directory and League records. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you to those who have already renewed!



William Mowatt
2-26-36 - 1-9-20

Teacher, friend, maraton walker, loyal friend of the Santa Cruz Symphony and the Symphony League.

There is so much that can be said about Bill, overcoming a serious heart condition, completing several marathon walks after his pacemaker was installed, teaching Shakespeare, and loving a good round of golf. But we will remember him as an avid supporter of the League. Serving on the Board of Directors for years, he chaired the 20-20 Committee and planned so many events, from a Boche Ball BBQ (he was the grill master), to presentations by the Jewel Theater, Cioppino dinners on New Years Eve and a Super Bowl Party.

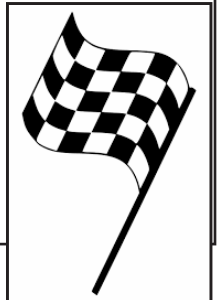
We are grateful for Bill's many generous gifts to the League and to us.



Successful Laguna Seca Track Tour

When the Symphony League was offered the opportunity to rent the WeatherTech Laguna Seca Raceway during a race weekend lunch break, we jumped at the chance. We offered people a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to drive their own cars around the most iconic road racing circuit in the world. The event was a resounding success, with over 50 people participating (drivers, passengers, and spectators).

After the drive, every one gathered under tents in the paddock to share experiences and enjoy a wonderful lunch. Special thanks to Frank and Anne Hayden, Mary Ann Orr, Patrick Hung, and Sheila Vaughn for organizing this exciting event. Hopefully we can make it an annual event.



EspressOrch.org
ESPRESSIVO
a small, intense orchestra



Michel Singher,
Conductor

ESPRESSIVO CONCERT

Espressivo—a small, intense orchestra—presents an afternoon of witty music on Sunday, January 26th, 4 pm, at Peace United Church of Christ, 900 High St., in Santa Cruz. Titled “Masterful Fun,” the program consists of Beethoven’s youthful “Octet for Wind Instruments;” Bohuslav Martinu’s smiling farewell to life, the “Second Nonet;” Judith Weir’s “Airs from Another Planet,” a space-age take on traditional Highland tunes; and Jean Francaix’s “Hommage à l’Ami Papageno,” a medley of tunes from Mozart’s The Magic Flute, recombined and decked out in jazzy harmonies.

Tickets will be available at the door, but may be ordered online at www.EspressOrch.org.

For further information, contact Marketing Director Virginia Lieb at (831) 228-1098

UPCOMING DATES MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Upcoming Symphony League Events

Jan. 31, **Preview** at California Grill, Watsonville. <https://www.santacruzsymphonyleague.org/upcoming-events/2020/1/31/concert-preview-ca-tharsis>

Feb. 1 & 2, **Symphony Concert:** <https://santacruzsymphony.org/concerts-events>

Feb. 17, League Board Meeting

Mar. 14, Gala, **“Wings of Glory 1940s Ball”**
<https://www.santacruzsymphonyleague.org/upcoming-events/2020/3/14/wings-of-glory-1940s-ball>

Mar. 15, Information for Musical Notes due to Clyde Vaughn, cvfaad@comcast.net

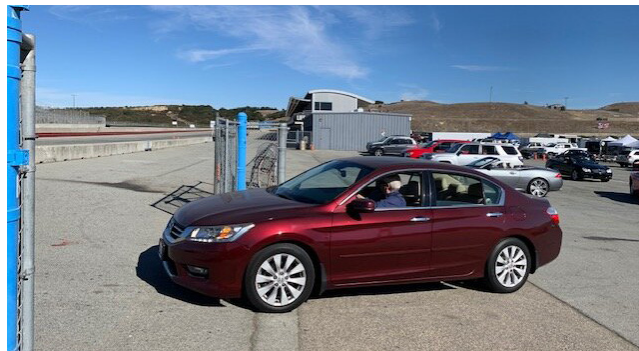
Mar. 16, League Board Meeting

Mar. 27, **Preview**, 4:00 at Pasatiempo
<https://www.santacruzsymphonyleague.org/upcoming-events/2020/3/27/concert-preview-metamorphoses>

Mar. 28 & 29, Symphony Concert: <https://santacruzsymphony.org/concerts-events>

April 21, Enjoy dining at **Shadowbrook Restaurant** and support the Symphony League

Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to drive the Laguna Seca Race Track





Your support when you shop at AmazonSmile; simply identify Santa Cruz Symphony

How does AmazonSmile work?

When first visiting AmazonSmile, customers are prompted to select a charitable organization from almost one million eligible organizations. In order to browse or shop at AmazonSmile, customers must first select a charitable organization. For eligible purchases at AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to the customer's selected charitable organization.

How does my organization receive the donations?

Each quarter, the AmazonSmile Foundation makes donations to eligible charitable organizations by electronic funds transfer. Donations will be transferred approximately 45 days after the end of each calendar quarter. To account for Product returns, a portion of the quarterly donations will be withheld until the next donation cycle, subject to any reduction due to returns from prior quarters. See the AmazonSmile Participation Agreement for more details.

What is the AmazonSmile Foundation?

The AmazonSmile Foundation is a 501(c)(3) private foundation created by Amazon to administer the AmazonSmile program. All donation amounts generated by the AmazonSmile program are remitted to the AmazonSmile Foundation. In turn, the AmazonSmile Foundation donates those amounts to the charitable organizations selected by our customers. Amazon pays all expenses of the AmazonSmile Foundation; they are not deducted from the donation amounts generated by purchases on AmazonSmile.

Make a gift in honor of, or in memory of someone precious to you.



Are you looking for a way to honor a friend, or to give a memorial gift?

Please send the following information to: Santa Cruz Symphony League, Sheila Vaughn, Treasurer, 307 Church Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060.

A donation of \$ _____

___ In Honor of _____

___ In Memory of _____

From: Name: _____

Address: _____

Please notify:

Name: _____

Address: _____



ROUND ROBIN BRIDGE

Chairperson
Jeanne Shada

How to have fun and raise funds for our Symphony League.

Each couple plays with another couple in the section once a month from September through May. A no-host award party is held in the Spring. Prizes are presented to the winners of each section with the highest cumulative scores.

CALL JEANNE SHADA, 831-247-3253, IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 2019-20 Season

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Parliamentarian*
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and Previews*

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Round Robin Bridge
Jeanne Shada

20-20 Coordinator
Bill Mowatt

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Cheryl Hammond

**Check out our Facebook page at:
www.facebook.com/SCSymphonyLeague**

