Goudy Series 30th Anniversary Season presents Red Priest, Baroque Quartet

Red Priest

The Grace Goudy Distinguished Artists Series and the Salem Chamber Orchestra (SCO) are teaming up to bring the legendary Red Priest to town. The baroque ensemble, described by music critics as “visionary and heretical,” “wholly irreverent and highly enlightened,” “completely wild and deeply imaginative,” with a “red-hot wicked sense of humour,” will present a March 8 performance as part of the Goudy Series. Red Priest will join the SCO on March 10, performing Bach’s 5th Brandenburg Concerto and a Vivaldi Cello Concerto. In addition, the ensemble will give a master class and rehearse and record pieces by Willamette student composers.

Founded in 1997 and named after the flame-haired priest, Antonio Vivaldi, Red Priest has given several hundred sell-out concerts in the world’s most prestigious festivals. The only early music group compared in the press to the Rolling Stones, the Marx Brothers, Spike Jones and the Cirque du Soleil, Red Priest has redefined the art of period performance, creating a virtual orchestra through creative arrangements, heart-on-sleeve emotion and compelling stagecraft. Its repertoire ranges from obscure 17th-century sonatas to the most famous works of Bach and Vivaldi — all presented in imaginative programs with filmic titles “Priest on the Run,” “Nightmare in Venice,” “Pirates of the Baroque” and “Johann, I’m Only Dancing.”

“Sonomically super-charged, played with the intensity of any rock performance”
— Swirlpop Magazine

Upcoming Music Events

Visit willamette.edu/cla/music/performance/events/

JANUARY
Sunday 6  Connie Fritz Concerto Competition, 3 p.m., HH
Friday 11  Oregon Symphony Classical, 8 p.m., SA*
Saturday 26  Choir Tour Homecoming Concert, 7 p.m., HH

FEBRUARY
Saturday 2  Oregon Symphony Special Concert, 8 p.m., SA*
Saturday 9  Hashem Assadullahi Sextet, 7:30 p.m., HH*
Sunday 10  Faculty Recital Series, Willamette Chamber Players: Anita King, piano; Daniel Poulin, violin; Jason Duckles, oboe; Scott Harlow, clarinet; 3 p.m., HH*
Friday 15  United States Navy Band, 7 p.m., SA, free concert but tickets are required, 503-370-6255
Sunday 17  Salem Chamber Orchestra, Family Concert, 3 p.m., North Salem High School
Saturday 23  Willamette Master Chorus Concert, 7 p.m., HH*
Sunday 24  Willamette Master Chorus Concert, 7 p.m., HH*

MARCH
Saturday 2  Winter Choir Concert, 7 p.m., HH
Thursday 7  Goudy Distinguished Artists Series, Red Priest Master Class, 11:30 a.m.—1 p.m., HH
Student Composers Reading and Recording 2:30—4:30 p.m., HH
Friday 8  Goudy Distinguished Artists Series, Red Priest, 8 p.m., HH*
Saturday 9  Faculty Recital Series, Christine Vatcher Bider, soprano; Richard Flower, pianist; 7:30 p.m., HH*
Sunday 10  Salem Chamber Orchestra Concert, 3 p.m., HH*
Wednesday 13  New Music at Willamette, 7:30 p.m., HH
Thursday 14  Dramatic Vocal Arts Performance, “The Secret Garden,” 7 p.m., SA*, tickets on sale Feb. 20, 503-370-6255
Friday 15  Dramatic Vocal Arts Performance, 7 p.m., SA*
Saturday 16  Dramatic Vocal Arts Performance, 7 p.m., SA*
Sunday 17  Dramatic Vocal Arts Performance, 3 p.m., SA*
Tuesday 19  Wind Ensemble Concert, 7:30 p.m., HH
Friday 22  Oregon Symphony Special Concert, 8 p.m., SA*

APRIL
Saturday 13  NW Collegiate Male Chorus Festival, 7 p.m., HH
Tuesday 16  Noru Ka Sonu Ka Concert, 7:30 p.m., SA
Friday 19  Oregon Symphony, 8 p.m., SA*
Monday 22  Small Ensemble Celebration Concert, 7:30 p.m., CC
Thursday 25  Wind Ensemble/University Chamber Orchestra Concert, 7:30 p.m., HH
Friday 26  Willamette University Invitational Jazz Concert, 7:30 p.m., SA*
Saturday 27  Spring Choir Concert, 7 p.m., HH

MAY
Saturday 4  Willamette Master Chorus/Salem Chamber Orchestra Concert, 7 p.m., HH*
Sunday 5  Willamette Master Chorus/Salem Chamber Orchestra Concert, 3 p.m., HH*
Saturday 11  Senior Honors Recital, 7:30 p.m., HH
Friday 17  Oregon Symphony Classical, 7:30 p.m., HH

TICKET SALES FOR THE FOLLOWING AT:
Travel Salem (181 High St. NE): absolutelytix.com, 503-581-4325.
Willamette Master Chorus: willamettemasterchorus.org, 503-370-6929.
Salem Chamber Orchestra: salemchamberorchestra.org, 503-480-1128.
Willamette University Music Department: willamette.edu/cla/music, 503-370-6255.

SA: Smith Auditorium; HH: Hudson Hall; RR: Rogers Rehearsal Hall
*Admission will be charged
**Reserved Donation ($5 adults, $5 students)
Note from the Chair

As I reflect on the many concerts in Hudson Hall this past fall, the words accomplishment and community come to mind.

As usual, the music department is associated with an astonishing array of exhilarating concerts this year. We are definitely a performance-centered operation and performance itself has so many dimensions.

On the one hand, musical performance is about in-reach, developing the technical expertise and artistic accomplishment of the individual musician and the high-level musical collaborations in which musicians engage. Last November, 25 students in the University Chamber Orchestra performed a large-scale Corelli work without a conductor! Imagine the level of listening, sensing and collaborative attention this required. This spring, you will hear some of our most accomplished student performers featured as soloists in concerts and arias with the University Chamber and Salem Chamber Orchestras and as lead singers in the Dramatic Vocal Arts production of the musical, “My Secret Garden.”

Our large performance enterprise is also about out-reach. In October, seven of our talented student singers gave a program of Baroque opera arias to the members of the Institute for Continued Learning, and in November, 125 Willamette alumnae representing more than three decades of participation in our choral program under the direction of Wallace Long — returned to campus for a weekend of intensive rehearsing and performances in collaboration with our current choral students.

The department is deeply grateful to the community of music lovers who attend our concerts and the friends and alumnae who continue to support the department through donations of musical instruments and financial gifts. A recent bequest from the estate of music alumnus, Barbara Gerton ‘52, has enabled us to purchase a fine piano for a classroom and begin an endowed fund for instrument purchase and repair. It is our hope and need to continue to grow this fund so that we may continue to upgrade and maintain our precious fleet of musical instruments and essential equipment.

At least for the time being, this is my last term as department chair. I will have a sabbatical next year and look forward to some good “in-reach” as I prepare piano repertoire for performance. It has been a privilege to chair our music department for three years. The performance enterprise is a continuous reason for celebration.

Salem Chamber Orchestra Continues “Bach is Rock” with Red Priest

Salem Chamber Orchestra continues its season March 10 at 3 p.m. with special guest, Red Priest. This British baroque ensemble is famous for its virtuosity and authenticity, as well as its ability to rock like The Rolling Stones. Performing in Bach’s Brandenburg Concerto No. 5, the group is the perfect way to end the first half of SCO’s “Bach is Rock,” Brandenburg cycle.

SCO is collaborating with the Willamette Master Chorus for the season finale. The two ensembles are performing a live soundtrack to a screening of the 1923 silent film, “The Hunchback of Notre Dame.” Concerts are performed in Hudson Hall May 4 at 7 p.m. and May 5 at 3 p.m.

Tickets are available at Travel Salem at 503-581-4325 or online at salemchamberorchestra.org.

Summer Study Grant Immeres WU Violinist in String Quartet Program

A Philip Stoehr Memorial Summer Study Grant enabled music performance major Chloe Prendergast ‘14 to attend the Charles Castleman String Quartet Program in Boulder, Colo. for four weeks in July.

Known as a premiere summer program for advanced student musicians, each of the seven string quartets embarked on an intensive regimen of rehearsals, coaching sessions, individual lessons and performances.

Prendergast reports, “I was placed in a quartet preparing Bartók’s first string quartet, an exceedingly difficult and rewarding piece. We rehearsed four to five hours each day, in addition to our individual practice time. This is exactly the way that professional string quartets rehearse, and it was great to be able to have this ‘real world’ experience. The teachers and coaches were phenomenal and the student musicians, from across the country, were dedicated and inspiring people. It will take a long time to fully integrate everything I learned. In addition to the many musical benefits, string quartet work teaches many valuable lessons in patience, humility and creativity in addressing problems. The Stoehr Summer Grant gave me one of the most stimulating and rewarding musical opportunities of my life.”

Navy Concert Band to Perform

The United States Navy Concert Band, the premier wind ensemble of the U.S. Navy, will present a variety of popular favorites Feb. 15 at 7:30 p.m. in Smith Auditorium.

Under the baton of Capt. Brian O. Walden, the band performs a wide array of marches, patriotic selections, orchestral transcriptions and a modern wind ensemble repertoire. As the original ensemble of the Navy Band, the Concert Band has performed in public concerts and participated in high-profile events for more than 85 years.

In addition to national concert tours and an extensive local concert season, the Concert Band has been featured internationally at military tattoos and festivals in Oslo, Stockholm and Quebec City. In 1996, the band was honored to participate in the 300th anniversary of the Russian fleet in St. Petersburg and in the Baltic International Festival of the Fleets in Kaliningrad, Russia.

The concert is free, but tickets are required. They can be obtained by contacting the music office at 503-370-6255.
This season, Willamette University's Dramatic Vocal Arts program presents the musical, “The Secret Garden.” This heart-wrenching tale tells the story of Mary Lennox, a young girl raised in colonial India. When Mary becomes orphaned by a cholera outbreak, she is sent to Yorkshire, England, to live with her uncle Archibald Craven.

Mary's introduction to Archibald's family ignites the once lifeless house. As she disrupts the household, she makes discoveries about her new and mysterious family: an uncle with ulterior motives, a crippled son hidden away from the world, the ghost of her deceased aunt, and a secret garden. As Mary nurtures the dying garden, she shifts the foundations of her family's relationships. Will Mary's presence dismantle the family, or, like the garden, reawaken it?

Marsha Norman and Lucy Simon's beautiful reinterpretation breathes new life into a classic story. Featuring a phenomenal cast and a Tony-award winning score, “The Secret Garden” is a rousing tale fit for the whole family.

Performances are in Smith Auditorium March 14, 15 and 16 at 7 p.m. and March 17 at 3 p.m. Tickets cost $7 for adults and $3 for students. They may be purchased in the music office, at the door or by calling 503-370-6255.
University Chamber Orchestra Breaks New Ground

The fall semester was full of new experiences for the University Chamber Orchestra (UCO). In one concert, the UCO presented famous symphony movements by Mozart and Beethoven, a conductorless interpretation of Corelli, and an arrangement of a Beethoven string quartet for string orchestra.

Performing the Corelli Concerto Grosso with no conductor placed complete responsibility for the pacing, sweep and energy of the performance directly on the shoulders of the musicians. This heightened sense of accountability and ownership makes a performance crackle with intensity, and it has become this intensity that has become the UCO’s hallmark this year.

The UCO is a diverse mix of music majors and non-majors alike, all from different backgrounds and all united by their love of music. The April 25th concert will feature fantastic performances by the winners of the annual Concerto-Aria Competition, accomplished student performers who represent the high artistic quality in the department of music. Concert-goers can look forward to experiencing the audaciousness of Strauss’s “Adel’s Audition Aria” from “Die Fledermaus,” the dramatic intensity of Handel’s “Piangero” from “Guilio Cesare,” and the frolicsome virtuosity of the final movement from Beethoven’s Violin Concerto.

Willamette Master Chorus Performs

The Willamette Master Chorus is pleased to present Hector Berlioz’s “L’enfance du Christ” this February in Hudson Hall.

This masterpiece, performed with orchestra, tells the story of the childhood of Christ — most specifically the flight into Egypt and the harboring of the holy family. Sung in French with supertitles, the main roles will be sung by faculty members Les Green, tenor, and Amy Hansen, soprano.

Performances are scheduled for Feb. 23 at 7 p.m. and Feb. 24 at 3 p.m. Tickets purchase and further information may be found at willamettemasterchorus.org.