

A
CONCERT
FOR
Charlotte

October 24

TRUIST  FIELD



FALL 2020 *Reimagined*
charlottesymphony.org



A Concert for Charlotte

Welcome to Truist Field and to a wonderful evening with your Charlotte Symphony. We're delighted to be partnering with the Charlotte Knights to present "A Concert for Charlotte". Tonight we come together in recognition of all that we've lost over these past 8 months, but there is also much to celebrate: the indomitable spirit of the Charlotte community, epitomized by the extraordinary dedication and courage shown every day by our health care workers and by all those on the front line of providing emergency care; the resourcefulness and ingenuity that allows us all to gather here safely tonight; and the unquestionable power of music - which heals, consoles, and brings us together like nothing else can.

Concerts like this, held out in our community, make it possible for us to get to know our neighbors. And we want everyone to know that, wherever you come from and whoever you are, the Charlotte Symphony is your orchestra - and it is our great privilege to perform for you. This event enables us to show our appreciation for YOU; we thank you for your loyalty and support as we navigate these extraordinary times together.

Please enjoy this exceptional **live** musical experience.

David Fisk
President & CEO



join the musical dialogue

What did you think of the performance?



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CHARLOTTE
SYMPHONY
CHRISTOPHER WARREN-GREEN
music director



CHARLOTTE
KNIGHTS

A
CONCERT
FOR
Charlotte

Saturday, October 24, 2020 at 7 p.m.

TRUIST  FIELD

Christopher Warren-Green, conductor
Jennifer Wiggins, mezzo-soprano

JOHN STAFFORD SMITH (1750-1836)

The Star Spangled Banner (arr. Davis)

Jennifer Wiggins, mezzo-soprano

NKEIRU OKOYE (1972-)

Charlotte Mecklenburg (arr. Fry)

CHRISTOPH WILLIBALD GLUCK (1714-1787)

"Che farò senza Euridice" from *Orfeo ed Euridice*

Jennifer Wiggins, mezzo-soprano

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN (1770-1827)

Symphony No. 7 in A Major, Op. 92

IV. Finale - *Allegro con brio*

SAMUEL BARBER (1910-1981)

Adagio for Strings

JOHN WILLIAMS (1932-)

Air and Simple Gifts

This concert is made possible in part by generous gifts from

Catherine & Wilton Connor

and

Robin Cochran

Tonight's concert will be performed without an intermission.



Christopher Warren-Green

music director

Now in his 11th season with the CSO, Maestro Warren-Green also serves as Music Director of the London Chamber Orchestra.

British conductor Christopher Warren-Green has worked extensively in North America and Europe, with key engagements including The Philadelphia Orchestra, the Detroit, Houston, St. Louis, Toronto,

Milwaukee, Seattle and Vancouver symphony orchestras, the Minnesota Orchestra, Washington's National Symphony Orchestra, the Philharmonia Orchestra, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra amongst others.

Maestro Warren-Green returns to Charlotte to open the 2020/21 season with virtual programs featuring works by Tchaikovsky, Grieg, Brahms, and Dvořák. He also leads the CSO in "A Concert for Charlotte" at Truist Field, an event designed to celebrate Charlotte and help bring the community back together through music. A product of community music education, Warren-Green plays a key role in the CSO's educational efforts, including two youth orchestras and Project Harmony, an afterschool program serving high-need areas.

In addition to his international commitments, he has been invited to conduct at the wedding services of TRH The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall at St. George's Chapel, Windsor, in 2005, TRH The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge at Westminster Abbey in 2011 and the Duke and Duchess of Sussex at St George's Chapel, Windsor, in 2018. He conducted the London Chamber Orchestra on the occasion of HM The Queen's 80th birthday and the Philharmonia Orchestra for Her Majesty's 90th birthday concert at Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, as well as HRH The Prince of Wales' 60th birthday concert in Buckingham Palace.

A violinist by training, Warren-Green began his career at the age of 19 as concertmaster of the BBC National Orchestra of Wales, followed by the Philharmonia Orchestra and the Academy of St Martin in the Fields. He is a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Music, having been a Professor there for eight years, and has appeared numerous times on television and radio. He has recorded extensively for Sony, Philips, Virgin EMI, Chandos, Decca and Deutsche Grammophon, and records with the London Chamber Orchestra for Signum Classics.



Jennifer Wiggins

mezzo-soprano

Tonight's concert is Ms. Wiggins' first appearance with the CSO.

This season, mezzo-soprano Jennifer E. Wiggins makes her debut at Sarasota Opera as an Apprentice Artist, and graduates with her degree from University of Illinois in December. A native of Charlotte, NC, she is praised for "a voice that [fills] up the stage and [your] heart." (*Smile Politely*)

Ms. Wiggins has spent the last few years in Illinois, pursuing her graduate studies at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. This past season she premiered the role of Third Prophetess in *A Psalm in Silence* (Lyric Theatre at Illinois), a new opera composed by Lucas Marshall Smith. In 2015, she made her debut as Ursule in Lyric Theatre at Illinois' production of *Béatrice et Bénédict*.

In tandem with her operatic performances, Ms. Wiggins performs as a soloist for various concert works and oratorios, including Brahms' *Alto Rhapsody*, Mozart's *Requiem*, Handel's *Messiah*, Debussy's *La Damoiselle élue*, and Schubert's *Ständchen*.

She currently resides in Charlotte, NC, and received her Bachelor of Arts in Music in 2014 from Furman University.



CHARLOTTE
SYMPHONY

music lives *here*



YOUR CHARLOTTE SYMPHONY

Christopher Warren-Green
Music Director

Christopher James Lees
Resident Conductor

FIRST VIOLINS

Calin Ovidiu Lupanu
Concertmaster
The Catherine & Wilton Connor Chair
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Kari Giles
Assistant Concertmaster
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Oliver Kot
Principal
The Wolfgang Roth Chair
Kathleen Jarrell
Assistant Principal
The Pepsi-Cola Foundation of
Charlotte Chair
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Monica Boboc
Tatiana Karpova
Martha Geissler
Margie Sakira Harley

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Benjamin Geller
Principal
The Zoe Buntin Merrill
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E♭ CLARINET

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Vacant
Principal
The Governor James G. Martin Chair

TIMPANI

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Principal
The Robert Haywood Morrison Chair

PERCUSSION

Brice Burton
Principal

° Non-revolving position

°° Alternates between first and second violins

† Acting member of the Charlotte Symphony

‡ Funded by The Symphony Guild of Charlotte, Inc.

* On leave

This roster lists the full-time members of the Charlotte Symphony.

The number and seating of musicians onstage varies depending on the piece being performed.

MUSICIAN SPOTLIGHT

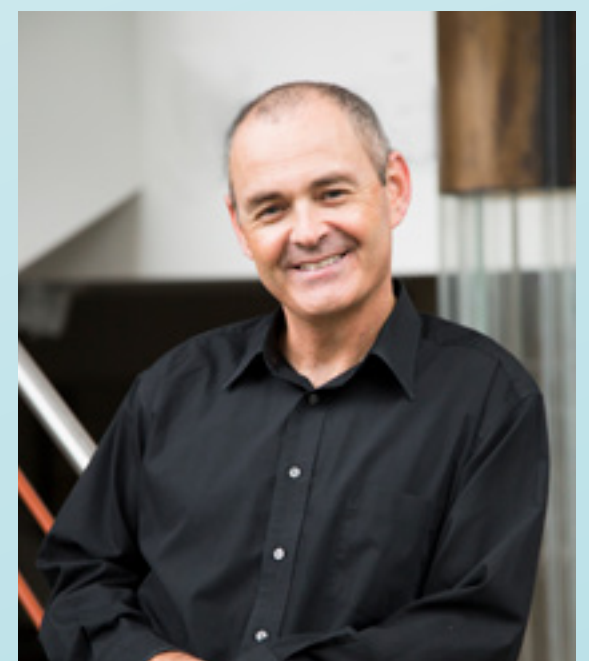
Thomas Burge, trombone

Tom Burge is the second trombonist of the Charlotte Symphony and the Low Brass Instructor at Wingate University. He has also hosted shows on classical public radio station WDAV and 99.5 WGBH in Boston. A native of Australia, Burge has performed with most of the Australian Symphony Orchestras and a few American ones as well, most notably the New York and Los Angeles Philharmonics.

Burge very much admires the work of Nkeiru Okoye, whose *Charlotte Mecklenburg* is featured on tonight's program. "Her works incorporate many different sounds and styles from cultural areas that are both part of her own personal journey, and also part of a larger narrative regarding the history of African American people... she offers an important personal perspective through her music that highlights a broader cultural connection that resonates with many Americans."

Outside of his work as a teacher, performer, and radio host Burge enjoys running, surfing, reading, and math.

For more information about Charlotte Symphony musicians, visit charlottesymphony.org.





The Charlotte Symphony is committed to delivering exceptional musical experiences that connect and strengthen our community. A cornerstone of Charlotte's arts and cultural landscape, the Charlotte Symphony is a full-time orchestra that performs more than 130 concerts annually and supports bold and robust community engagement and education efforts.

Founded in 1932, and led by internationally celebrated Music Director Christopher Warren-Green, we are the most longstanding performing arts organization in the region. Today we continue as a 21st century orchestra, responsive to and engaged in the narrative of our people. We employ music as a tool for building community and even as an agent of change.

The Charlotte Symphony is a key piece of the area's cultural fabric, using the power of music in its many forms, to unite and inspire our community.

Core programming runs September to May and includes Classical, Pops, and Family series, plus special events from movies in concert to the annual Magic of Christmas concerts. Summer Pops at Symphony Park rounds out each season.

We perform everywhere from community parks and schools to breweries, places of worship, and senior care centers. We are deeply committed to the notion that music, accessible to all and experienced in many forms, enriches our community.

We creatively strive toward being an industry leader in imaginative, relevant programming on and off the stage. Project Harmony serves more than 150 students in critical-need areas with free after-school lessons in music and life skills. Inspired by the El Sistema youth development program of Venezuela, Project Harmony expanded to four locations in 2018-19.

We value diversity and intentionally work to break down barriers to arts access. Our Music For All program affords members of our community holding EBT cards admission to any Symphony experience at \$1 per ticket. We buck industry trends by offering opportunities to women and to musicians, composers, and conductors of color. We serve our area's youngest musicians through two diverse youth orchestras, and aim for these ensembles to reflect our wider community.

The Charlotte Symphony is a key piece of the area's cultural fabric, using the power of music in its many forms, to entertain, educate, unite, and inspire.



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CHARLOTTEKNIGHTS.COM



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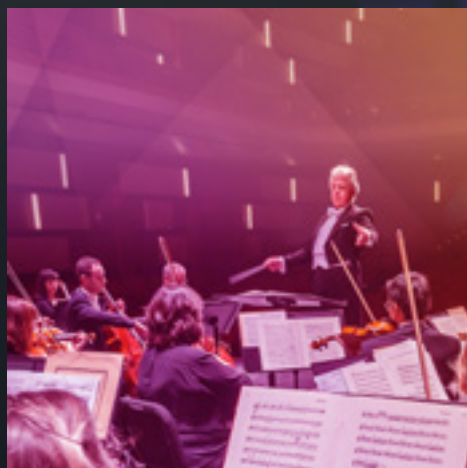
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CSO

ON DEMAND

Your Charlotte Symphony presents four concerts streamed from the Knight Theater this fall, featuring an exciting mix of classical favorites and inspiring new works.



TCHAIKOVSKY + GRIEG

conducted by Christopher Warren-Green

available to stream

October 23



WILLIAMS, COPLAND + O'CONNOR

conducted by Christopher James Lees

available to stream

November 6



BRAHMS + DVOŘÁK

conducted by Christopher Warren-Green

available to stream

November 20



MENDELSSOHN + SHAW

conducted by Christopher James Lees

available to stream

December 4

Concerts will be available on demand for one week following the premiere.

Subscribers of the 20/21 Season will receive access to CSO On Demand for FREE!

For tickets or more information, visit us at

charlottesymphony.org



A CONCERT FOR *Charlotte* PROGRAM NOTES



Nkeiru Okoye

Welcome to **A Concert for Charlotte**, a program celebrating our community and bringing us back together through the power of music. Each piece in this program has special meaning for our city and the Charlotte Symphony, starting with **Nkeiru Okoye's *Charlotte Mecklenburg*** – a piece commissioned by the CSO on the occasion of Charlotte's 250th anniversary. The piece reflects the rich and diverse history of the city, weaving folk songs and spirituals with the sounds of laborers and the repetitive clacking of mills.



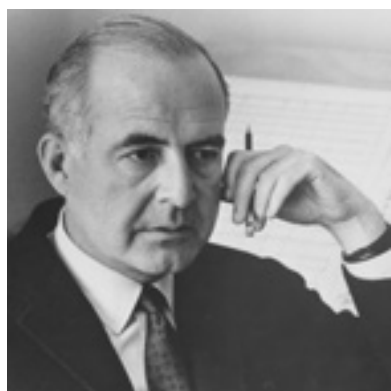
Christoph Willibald Gluck

Orfeo sings of his grief in Gluck's *Orfeo ed Euridice* exclaiming, "***Che farò senza Euridice***" ("What shall I do without Euridice?"). Charlotte-based mezzo-soprano Jennifer Wiggins hopes her performance of this aria will "allow people to find closure from any heartbreak they might be experiencing and help them realize it's okay to mourn the ones you've loved and lost."



Ludwig van Beethoven

After its premiere, **Beethoven's *Symphony No. 7*** was repeated three times in the following 10 weeks; the reception so animated that the audience insisted on encores at each performance. The appeal is easy to understand. Music critic Richard Freed regards it as "a triumphant discourse by a man intoxicated with the spirit of creativity itself" and the final movement as "elemental fury unleashed."



Samuel Barber

Barber's *Adagio for Strings* is a solemn, heart-wrenching work and has been used in a range of powerful ways beyond the concert hall, including broadcasts after the deaths of Franklin D. Roosevelt and John F. Kennedy. As music critic Johanna Keller so aptly wrote, "If any music can come close to conveying the effect of a sigh, or courage in the face of tragedy, or hope, or abiding love, it is this."



John Williams

John Williams's *Air & Simple Gifts* was composed for the 2009 inauguration of Barack Obama and was the first classical quartet to be performed at a presidential inauguration. The piece is based on a 19th century Shaker hymn "Simple Gifts" by Joseph Brackett.



ANNUAL FUND

We gratefully acknowledge these generous donors to the Charlotte Symphony Annual Fund.
This list reflects gifts received between September 1, 2019, and October 7, 2020.

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