

UNLV Symphony Orchestra

Taras Krysa, Music Director and Conductor
Tobias Roth, Viola

PROGRAM

Viola Concerto in G Major TWV 51:G9

Tobias Roth, Viola

G.P. Telemann
(1681–1767)

Appalachian Spring: Original Version for 13 Instruments

Aaron Copland
(1900–1990)

Serenade No. 12 in C Minor for 8 Winds K. 388

W.A. Mozart
(1756–1791)

Wednesday, April 28, 2021

7.30 p.m.

**Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall
Performing Arts Center
University of Nevada, Las Vegas**

PROGRAM NOTES

Georg Phillip Telemann was a German Baroque composer who lived from 1681-1767. He was a self-taught musician, against his family's wishes. His Viola Concerto in G Major was the first known concerto for viola and is his most popular of his performed concertos. The piece is written for viola solo, string orchestra, and continuo. Tonight's soloist is Tobias Roth. The concerto runs about 15'

Appalachian Spring is a ballet with music written by Aaron Copland, an American composer who lived from 1900-1990. The ballet was commissioned as part of a large ballet event in Washington DC along with ballets by Paul Hindemith and Darius Milhaud. The ballet takes place in the early 1800's in rural Pennsylvania and depicts the wedding of a young farmer and his bride. Copland originally scored the ballet for a chamber ensemble of 13 instruments and later arranged it for large symphony orchestra. After the premiere in 1945, *Appalachian Spring* won both the Pulitzer prize for music and the Music Critics Circle of New York award for outstanding theatrical work. Copland features a Shaker theme titled *Simple Gifts* toward the end of the piece with a poem that reads:

'Tis the gift to be simple
 'Tis the gift to be free,
'Tis the gift to come down
 Where we ought to be.
And when we find ourselves
 In the place just right
'Twill be in the valley
 Of love and delight.
When true simplicity is gain'd
 To bow and to bend we shan't be asham'd
To turn, turn will be our delight,
 'Till by turning, turning we come out right.

Appalachian Spring runs about 23'.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was a classical Austrian composer who lived 1756-1791. Mozart showed very high musical promise from early childhood. He began composing for European royalty by age five and by 17, was already a prominent musician of the Salzburg court. After visiting, and later moving, to Vienna in 1781, he composed some of his most famous symphonies, concertos, operas, and already began part of his requiem, a piece many composers don't write until near the end of their life. His premature death in 1791 at the age of 35 still remains highly rumored, with the most believed conclusion being he began to fall ill around August of 1791 and gradually declining until his death in December of that same year. Mozart wrote the wind serenade for eight wind instruments in 1782, at age 26. The piece runs about 22'.

BIOGRAPHIES



Taras Krysa

The Ukrainian-born, American conductor Taras Krysa is establishing a reputation for innovative and thoughtful music-making throughout the United States and Europe. In addition to serving as the Director of Orchestras at UNLV, Mr. Krysa serves as the Music Director of Las Vegas Sinfonietta and just finished his tenure as the Music Director of Lviv Philharmonic Orchestra.

Krysa has appeared internationally with orchestras including the New World Symphony, Netherlands Symphony Orchestra, St. Petersburg Symphony, Moscow Soloists, Slovak Sinfonietta, Spoleto Festival Orchestra, Kiev Chamber Orchestra, Lublin Philharmonic Orchestra, Las Vegas Philharmonic Orchestra, Odessa Philharmonic Orchestra, and many others. In addition, Krysa led several European orchestras on tours in China, Germany and the Netherlands, including appearances at the Concertgebouw Hall.

An accomplished violinist, he was a member of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra and the New World Symphony Orchestra, and continues to maintain an active career performing chamber music.

Krysa concluded his ninth season in 2015 as the Artistic and Music Director of the Henderson Symphony Orchestra in Nevada. Under his leadership, the ensemble saw its audience expand ten-fold, and its concerts recognized as a treasured part of the cultural life of the community.

Mr. Krysa actively promotes new music and has made three critically acclaimed recordings for the Brilliant Classics label; two of which featured works by Mozart, and one a live recording of Freddie Mercury's rock opera, *Barcelona*.

Krysa attended the Gnessin in Moscow before moving with his family to the United States in 1989, where he continued his studies in violin and conducting at Indiana University and Northwestern University. His conducting teachers were Victor Yampolsky, Jorma Panula and David Zinman. Mr. Krysa attended The Pierre Monteux School and the American Academy of Conducting at Aspen Music Festival.



Tobias Kremer Roth

21st-Century Viola Hero, is constantly seeking innovative opportunities to share the soulful expressions of his instrument with audiences everywhere. Guided by his passion for the contemporary arts, he has premiered viola works from New York City composers Robert Karpay, Matthew Koras, and Jonathan Koch. He has participated in the premiere recordings of chamber works from acclaimed composers Cynthia Lee Wong and Charles Halka.

A budding composer himself, Tobias's recent projects include "Double Rainbow", an exploration of pure modality for harp and cello, and a multi-movement incidental suite for Shakespeare's *Titus Andronicus*. Frequent recitalist and musician of marked versatility, he has delivered "delightful experience[s] in experimental theater", solo performances "of the highest order [that] would have graced the stage of any concert hall" (Hal de Becker), and classical chamber performances with such acclaimed artists as the American String Quartet. Tobias became the youngest member of the Las Vegas Philharmonic at age 17 and the youngest founding member of the Chamber Orchestra of New York at age 18.

Upon graduating from the Manhattan School of Music and from the University of Nevada Las Vegas, where he received a Master of Music degree, Tobias was honored to become principal violist of the L'viv Philharmonic in Ukraine, a position which he holds to this day. He gratefully acknowledges his past teachers, including Kate Hamilton, Jason Bonham, Lawrence Dutton, Evan Wilson, and Mary Trimble.

THE UNLV SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The highly-acclaimed UNLV Symphony Orchestra is one of the signature ensembles of the UNLV School of Music. Comprised of undergraduate and graduate music majors, minors, and talented non-music majors, the group provides students with a rigorous professional environment in which to train and perform, and it enriches the cultural life of UNLV and the Las Vegas community.

As many as eight concerts a year are presented, each including a variety of standard orchestral repertoire ranging from Baroque to modern contemporary selections. The orchestra's yearly programming also features one fully-staged opera, one ballet production, and a concert featuring the winner of the annual Solo Concerto Competition.

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UNLV Symphony Orchestra

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