

PRESS START

AN ORCHESTRA FOR A GENERATION

Featuring

オタククワイア

OTAKU
CHOIR

AGE OF HEROES



Thursday, April 16th, 7pm
Church of the Holy Apostles
296 9th Avenue, New York, NY

PROGRAM

Lorule Castle Theme

from *The Legend of Zelda: A Link Between Worlds*

OST by Ryo Nagamatsu, arr. Jasmine Qiang

Dearly Beloved

from *Kingdom Hearts*

OST by Yoko Shimomura, arr. Jacob Tantleff

Conrad Chu, Conductor

Cogwork Dancers

from *Hollow Knight: Silksong*

OST by Christopher Larkin, arr. Andie Zhou

MONSTER HUNTER: Songs of the Frontier

OST by Masato Koda, Capcom Sound Team, et al.

arr. Jacob Tantleff

Intermission

Sonata No. 4 in E Minor, BWV 528

by J.S. Bach

I. Adagio / Vivace

Nicholas Cioli, Organ

Suite Gothique, Op. 25

by Léon Boëllmann

III. Prière à Notre-Dame

Abegail Delgado, Organ

Arirang

Traditional Korean, arr. Hyo-Won Woo

Johnathan Gibbs, Conductor

Andrew McGowan, Piano

Destati

from *Kingdom Hearts*

OST by Yoko Shimamura, arr. Joel Scianna

orch. ad lib Press Start Orchestra Musicians

Joanna Ju, Conductor

Ocarina of Time Suite

from *The Legend of Zelda: Ocarina of Time*

OST by Koji Kondo, arr. Jesse Lee

I. Title Theme

II. Hyrule Field

III. Forest

IV. Fire

Boléro

by Maurice Ravel

DIRECTORS



Zach Nicely

Zach Nicely is stamping his name in the classical music industry as “The Video Game Music Conductor.”

He is frequently called as a guest conductor and game music lecturer by ensembles, universities, and high schools across the country. He founded Press Start, a New York orchestra dedicated to programming video game music with classical favorites. Through his artistic direction, the orchestra presented two thrilling programs pairing Hollow Knight composer Christopher Larkin with Dmitri Shostakovich and Journey composer Austin Wintory with Samuel Barber. Zach was recruited by Mannes School of Music to develop such an ensemble for their pre-college program, establishing the Game Orchestra at Mannes Prep. His essay “Video Game Music: A Connection Beyond the Controller” was published in the Lexia Undergraduate Journal in Writing, Rhetoric, and Technical Communication by the first unanimous vote of the journal’s editorial committee.

Conrad Chu

Conductor and pianist Conrad Chu has over 25 years as a director of community and academic choruses, with affinity for both classical and contemporary genres. Since 2017 he has music directed the North River Sing Community Chorus, a Jersey City mixed choir dedicated to preserving the Great American Songbook tradition. He is also a director of Chinese American choruses, and has served as chorusmaster for the New Jersey Symphony’s Chinese New Year Festival. Conrad’s most recent academic post was Director of Performance at Union College in Schenectady, New York, where he directed the Union College Chorale and the Union College Community Orchestra. By training an orchestral conductor, Conrad actively free-lances in New York’s orchestral and operatic scenes. Opera companies where he has music directed or assisted include Santa Fe Opera, Gotham Chamber Opera, American Opera Projects, Bronx Opera, Brooklyn Repertory Opera, Beth Morrison Productions, Rhymes With Opera, and Victory Hall Opera. In the orchestral scene, Conrad has conducted a range of community ensembles, including the Litha Symphony, Queer Urban Orchestra, Hunter College Symphony, Gemini Youth Orchestras and the Queens Symphony. In 2023, Conrad began a new role as Orchestra and Chamber Music Coordinator for Bloomingdale School of Music in Manhattan.

PRESS START ORCHESTRA

Music Director

Zach Nicely^^

Violin

Elaine Cai
Cindy Camacho*
Renee Clark
Chris Copley
Christie Frush
Elizabeth Kasumi
Zane Oyales
Hayley Rothman
Eric Shen**
Onyx
Olivia Trotter
Arianna Zhai

Viola

Cindy Gong
Vishnu Gottiparthi^^*
Laura Lopez
Ash Toner^^

Cello

Josh Dent
Josh Epstein*
Alexander Huang
Sean Kim
Ivy Xue

Double Bass

Shir Goldberg
Lee Kelly
Vin Verducci

Piccolo

Hannah Donnelly*
Marvin Wang

Flute

Hannah Donnelly*
Prashant Kumar^^
Thomas Lei^
Marvin Wang

Alto Flute

Prashant Kumar^^

Ocarina

Prashant Kumar^^

Oboe

Felix Aremburg
Adam Schorr*

Oboe d'amore

Chris Abramson

Clarinet

Jonathan Lee*
Alex Ringlein

E-Flat Clarinet

Alex Ringlein

Bass Clarinet

Lara Kelley
Jeremy Rothstein

Bassoon

Richard Davison*
Michele Ellenbacher
Ray Heller

Contrabassoon

Chris Abramson

Soprano Saxophone

Vincent Hoffarth^^*

Alto Saxophone

Vincent Hoffarth^^*

Tenor Saxophone

Bilva Sanaba

Baritone Saxophone

Daniel Beadle

Horn

Julien Murter
Wesley Richter
Ingram Tam
Poi Wong

Trumpet

Jaime Kraus
Argan Pagotaisidro^^*
Paul Vespe
Adrian Wang

Piccolo Trumpet

Adrian Wang

Trombone

Nicholas Cioli
Abegail Delgado^*

Bass Trombone

Julie Zedeck

Tuba

Andy Richards

Percussion

Samuel Calto^^*
Ben Chamblee
Jaz Koft
Jesse Lee+
Jerry Remig
Tiffany Yong

Synthesizer

Jesse Lee+

Piano

Joanna Ju

Organ

Nicholas Cioli
Abegail Delgado

Bassist

Fima Ephon

Additional Staff

Helene Ashbrooke
Matthew Delgado
Dylan Donohue*
Payton Harrison^^
Vanessa Miller^^
Jacob Tantleff+
Jasmine Qiang^^+
Andie Zhou+

Audio & Video

Jason Lambe
Bill Rouse
Cem Spicer

**Concertmaster

*Section Leader

^^Staff Leadership

^Staff Member

+Orchestrator

OTAKU CHOIR

Founder/Artistic Director

Johnathan Gibbs

Soprano

Amanda
Felicity Audet
Sophia Chan
Arya Chandra
Elaine Cheah
Melanie Chin
Heather Huang
Jasmine Jenkins
Joanna Ju
Silvia Martinez
Ashley Mendez
Sophie Mori
Inez Nelson
Mai Nguyen
Delaney R Page
Eris Prado
Annie Yang
Cherry Xu

Alto

Rahanna Brown
Kelly Burrus
Harmony Chau
Diana Clemente
Morgani "Aiyana" Elam
Ashley Foster
Diana Hernandez
Illy Huang
Kyla Hunter
Jibi Jacob
Frances Lau
Serena Malhotra
Yulin Ni
Onyx
Ari Osmanzai
Jalisha Paz
Eiji Ren
Amanda Waldron
Alice Q Wong

Tenor

Romeo Barnett
Connor "Bear" Barre
Jiahao Chen
Ethan Ferrall
James Huang
Fred Li
Abraham Rogers Lopez
Anthony Merolla
Jourdan Ooi
Nina Pankova
Joshau Pyram
Christopher Smith
Justin Sun
Ivan Wang
Erin-Marquise Watson
Zekai Zheng

Bass

Injung Ahn
David Bright (DB)
Pablo Giraldo
Sadinah Gueye
Pierce Lai
Richard Lu
Patrick McCullough
Andrew McGowan
Joel Verez Mora
Kyu Park
Evan Rosson
Sebastián Villamizar Santamaría
Geoffrey Shlapak
Michael Steigman
Ko Tanaka
Jason Wang

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