

The Symphony of Southeast Texas
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SYMPHONY OF SOUTHEAST TEXAS



Chelsea Tipton II
Music Director

A Word with Maestro Chelsea Tipton II for the Upcoming Season

Musical Spirits: Czars, the Wizard and the Common Man

If this was the title of a book, you wouldn't know what to expect! As the title of our 67th season, it really does give you a hint about the diversity of music you'll experience this season. Our audiences and musicians really enjoy a variety of music, as well as performances that come from a variety of talents. As YOUR Symphony of Southeast Texas, we pride ourselves in the ability to be musical chameleons, so you'll be entertained in many ways.

Like any art form, music has been tested by time and popularity as to what becomes a "Classic" or simply entertaining. The Titans of Symphonic music have a couple of things in common, one being the hallmark of a Fifth composition, whether it is a concerto or symphony. Our first provides one of each, Beethoven's Emperor Concerto and Shostakovich's Fifth symphony. Equally beautiful and vibrant is the Third symphony of Aaron Copland, and Edward Elgar's haunting Cello Concerto. Many of you will recall the Fanfare for the Common Man, played a few seasons ago, and Elgar's beautiful Enigma Variations. You can be sure that such beautiful harmonies, excitement and vibrant orchestrations will provide immediate recall of those great concerts.

One of our privileges and pleasures is working with outstanding soloists to present these epic works. Longtime favorite, Philippe Bianconi, comes back to Beaumont for his fourth appearance to the joy of audience and orchestra alike. Philippe continues to amaze us with his understanding and command of the piano. This year, cellist Julian Schwarz, son of famed conductor Gerard Schwarz, will render a heartfelt rendition of the Elgar's cello concerto. A most moving work, guaranteed.

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A Word with Maestro Chelsea Tipton II for the Upcoming Season (cont.)

For those who are just experiencing symphonic music, we present concerts with music you've probably heard, just never thought about them as being presented by a symphony orchestra. Our first "Pops" concert will feature the music of Elton John and Billy Joel. Not "watered down" arrangements, but exciting transcriptions performed by fascinating artists who've studied these classic musicians and provide great tribute to them, who like Beethoven and Shostakovich, have stood their own test of time. And this year, SOST provides a first for Southeast Texas, by presenting the Movie/Symphony version of the film classic, *The Wizard of Oz*. Technology enables us to show the film, with Judy Garland, Ray Bolger and others, on a screen above the orchestra, while your SOST plays the actual score used in the 1939 classic film. You won't want to miss this!

So, welcome to our 67th year and get ready to enjoy the Musical spirits which are the soundtrack of our era! Please know how much the board, orchestra, staff and I appreciate your loyal support and enthusiasm. Whether it's a titan, musical wizardry, or just a toe tapping beat, we look forward to playing for you! Thanks so much for being a great audience.



Chelsea Tipton II, Music Director



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Regina Rogers

The Titans of the Classics: Beethoven and Shostakovich

There's something about fifths in musical literature. So many composers are recognized after writing their fifth symphony or concerto, including Tchaikovsky, Sibelius, Mendelssohn, Mahler, Beethoven and Shostakovich. This concert features two of those titans-Beethoven's Emperor or fifth piano concerto and Shostakovich's fifth symphony.

Philippe Bianconi, a perennial favorite of Beaumont audiences, will return to treat our audiences with his majestic playing. Prize winner of the famed Van Cliburn Piano Competition, Bianconi's treatment of Beethoven's melodies brings the music alive with color and passion, all through technical wizardry.

Shostakovich's fifth packs a powerful political statement. Come hear the variety of emotions through the composer's masterful scoring! A powerful concert to launch a phenomenal season!

Jean Meilleur (Lead Vocals),
John Regan (Piano)



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The Piano Man meets the Rocket Man October 5

Jeans 'n Classics presents
Back to Back: Elton John meets Billy Joel

Remember when rock was young? Well our Pops program of the music of Elton John and Billy Joel will rekindle those great memories provided by these pop music icons. "Just the Way You Are," "Piano Man," "Circle of Life" and much more.

Your SOST with a rocking program we know you'll enjoy!



Please join us for a magical day in the beautiful gardens of Shangri-La!

At the peak of the Scarecrow Festival, SOST will once again indulge patrons with a festive evening of seasonal nature and magnificent music!

Grab your chair or picnic blanket and enjoy a family evening you won't forget!

Symphony at Shangri La Gardens Sunday, October 20, 2019 5:00pm



Call the SOST office for tickets! 409-892-2257

Sponsored by Natalie and S.L. Greenberg
Mercedes Benz of Beaumont



Maestro's Notes

We are opening the season with two celebrated masterpieces in the symphonic repertoire. Philippe Bianconi will be sharing the stage with our Symphony of Southeast Texas on the Concerto No. 5 by Ludwig van Beethoven. Philippe has played with the SOST and in the community on numerous occasions, always leaving the audience thrilled by his performances. This Fifth Piano Concerto of Beethoven was a work ahead of its time on so many levels, melodically, and musically changing the structure of the Classical concerto. This is Beethoven at his most beautiful, original and virtuosic style.



Following intermission, we will embark on a musical journey through Russia. Shostakovich's Symphony No. 5 was a controversial work that won over audiences and critics alike after its premiere. The piece is controversial in that it differed from past symphonic formats that were expected of Russian composers, yet its humor and statements made political commentary that were not immediately recognizable. The first time that I heard this piece was when I was a student at the Eastern Music Festival. I immediately fell in love with the themes and the power of the music. It is a work that showcases our musician's artistry. We will take you on a musical journey filled with drama, passion; see how the power of music shaped thoughts and history in the Soviet Union in the early 20th century.

Pre-Concert Talk

Be sure to join Maestro Chelsea Tipton at 6:40pm before the Classic Series concerts for the Pre-Concert Talk. He will discuss the music of the evening and give in-depth information about the show!

MUSICAL SPIRITS

CZARS, THE WIZARD AND THE COMMON MAN

2019/20 SEASON

Classic Series I

September 14, 2019 7:30PM
 The Titans of the Classics: Beethoven and Shostakovich
 Beethoven Concerto No. 5
 Shostakovich Symphony No. 5
 Guest Artist Philippe Bianconi, Piano

Classic Series II

November 16, 2019 7:30PM
 A Celebration of Mozart, Rossini and SOST!
 Rossini Barber of Seville
 Vaughan Williams Suite for Viola and Orchestra
 Mozart Symphony No. 39
 Featured Artist Whitney Bullock, SOST Principal Violist

Classic Series III

February 15, 2020 7:30PM
 The Romantic Spirit of Music
 Brahms Academic Festival Overture
 Fauré Requiem
 Hanson Symphony No. 2
 Featuring the SOST Chorus

Classic Series IV

April 4, 2020 7:30PM
 A Renewal of Spirit: Elgar and the Common Man
 Glinka Overture to Ruslan und Ludmilla
 Elgar Cello Concerto, op. 85
 Copland Symphony No. 3
 Guest Artist Julian Schwarz, cello

POPS I

October 5, 2019 7:30PM
 The Piano Man meets the Rocket Man
 Jeans 'n Classics presents
 Back to Back: Elton John meets Billy Joel
 Jean Meilleur (Lead Vocals), John Regan (Piano)

POPS II

March 7, 2020 7:30PM
 We're Off to See the Wizard
 A multimedia presentation of the movie
 The Wizard of Oz, accompanied by your
 SOST!



Save the Date!!!



HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Sunday, December 8, 3PM

Guest Artist: Carmen Bradford



MEMORIAL CONCERT

In memory of beloved violinist, Yu Zhou Gu.

Sunday, January 26, 5PM FREE Community concert

Beethoven, Bach, and Massenet will be featured

Symphony Ball Announcement

A major fundraising project, the League's annual Symphony Ball, has become the highlight of the social season.

Mark your calendars to join us at the Beaumont Civic Center on Saturday, February 8th as we celebrate "Belles & Beaus Beneath a Crystal Cloud."

Reservations for the event can be secured by calling Julia Matheny or Ronda Harkey, reservations co-chairs, at (409)554-1117, jmatheny@obt.com or (409)386-0386, rbh@obt.com



Mission Statement

The mission of The Symphony of Southeast Texas is to develop, maintain, and nurture a symphony orchestra of the highest achievable artistic quality that will, within a viable economic framework, play a major role in the education, entertainment, and cultural enrichment of all residents of Southeast Texas.

Find us on:



www.facebook.com/TheSOST



[@TheSOSTx](https://www.instagram.com/TheSOSTx)



<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCc0f1VlpKqGMIP0RPfbfOhg>

Upcoming Events

Date, time	Event	Location
September 14, 7:30 p.m.	Classic Series I "The Titans of the Classics: Beethoven and Shostakovich"	Julie Rogers Theatre 765 Pearl Street
October 5, 7:30 p.m.	POPS I "The Piano Man meets the Rocket Man"	Julie Rogers Theatre 765 Pearl Street
October 20, 5:00 p.m. Sunday	Symphony at Shangri-La	2111 W. Park Ave. Orange, TX 77630
November 16, 7:30 p.m.	Classic Series II "A Celebration of Mozart, Rossini and SOST!"	Julie Rogers Theatre 765 Pearl Street
December 8, 3:00 p.m. Sunday	Home for the Holidays	Julie Rogers Theatre 765 Pearl Street
January 26, 5:00 p.m.	Memorial Concert for Yu Gu	Julie Rogers Theatre 765 Pearl Street
February 15, 7:30 p.m.	Classic Series III "The Romantic Spirit of Music"	Julie Rogers Theatre 765 Pearl Street
March 7, 7:30 p.m.	POPS II "We're off the see the Wizard"	Julie Rogers Theatre 765 Pearl Street

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