

A Contemporary American Program

Auburn, WA: Two works by twentieth century American composers, two grand pianos, and a dance company will make this a night to remember. *Copland's Appalachian Spring* will be presented on **Sunday, April 3, 2022 at 2:30 PM at Federal Way Performing Arts and Event Center.** Auburn Symphony Orchestra will perform Aaron Copland's *Appalachian Spring* for 13 instruments with The Guild Dance Company and John Adams' *Grand Pianola Music* with Oksana Ejokina and Cristina Valdés on pianos. Tickets and information can be found at <u>auburnsymphony.org</u> or by calling the FWPAEC Box Office at 253-835-7010. Ticket prices are \$40 general, \$32 seniors, and \$12 students.

You may have heard Aaron Copland's *Appalachian Spring* which features a set of variations on the Shaker tune *Simple Gifts*, but you've never seen a show like this! Auburn Symphony Orchestra in collaboration with The Guild Dance Company will present an update on the famous work created by Aaron Copland and Martha Graham in 1958. This new choreography reflects what American life and people look like now, taking the melting pot of America and presenting it in dance, music, and storytelling.

This concert will also feature a rare performance of John Adams' *Grand Pianola Music.* This is about as raucous and outrageous as music gets. You may love it or you may hate it, but this piece will make an impression on you. Guest pianists Oksana Ejokina and Cristina Valdés will both join the orchestra for this exuberant performance.

The Guild Dance Company was founded by Artistic Director Alex Ung in Seattle and was created as a place for artists to collaborate and create works together, sharing stories, experiences, expressions, and memories with each other and their audiences through contemporary artistry. theguilddance.com

Pianist **Oksana Ejokina** appears frequently as guest recitalist and chamber musician on concert series across the United States and abroad. A dedicated performer of new music, she has appeared with many orchestras and chamber groups in person and on radio. A sought-after teacher, Oksana is Chair of Piano Studies and Associate Professor of Music at Pacific Lutheran University, where she teaches piano and academic courses in Piano Literature and Piano Pedagogy.

Pianist, **Cristina Valdés**, presents innovative concerts of standard and experimental repertoire, and is known to "play a mean piano". A fierce advocate for new music, she has premiered countless works, including many written for her. She has performed across four continents and has garnered critical acclaim. She currently lives in Seattle where she founded the SLAM Festival, and performs regularly as a member of the Seattle Modern Orchestra and is the Director of the UW Modern Music Ensemble.



ASO is committed to creating a safe and healthy environment to enjoy live performances. Existing safety procedures will continue to be followed. Proof of vaccination OR a negative COVID-19 test with proof of identity are required for entry, as well as masks at all times except when actively eating or drinking. For more details visit the Health & Safety page at <u>auburnsymphony.org/updates</u>.

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Auburn Symphony Orchestra changes lives and our South Puget Sound community through the shared experience of live orchestral music performances and by nurturing the relationship between our audience and our artists. Learn more at <u>auburnsymphony.org</u> and social media pages <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, <u>YouTube</u>.

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