

Symphonie Fantastique: A Story of Romantic Obsession

Auburn, WA: Auburn Symphony Orchestra ends their 2021-2022 season with an enchanting concert. *Finale Fantastique* will be presented on **Sunday, May 15, 2022 at 2:30 PM at Federal Way Performing Arts and Event Center**. The symphony will perform *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* by Paul Dukas, with narration by John Coons, *Concertino for Harp* by Germaine Tailleferre with John Carrington, harp, and *Symphonie Fantastique* by Hector Berlioz. Tickets and information can be found at auburnsymphony.org or by calling the FWPAEC Box Office at 253-835-7010. Ticket prices are \$40 general, \$32 seniors, and \$12 students.

***Symphonie fantastique* by Hector Berlioz** is a story of Berlioz's own romantic obsession with actress Harriet Smithson. The composer used the orchestra in ways it had never been used before and seldom since. In five movements the symphony describes obsessive passion, tender serenity, and frenzied nightmares. Many listeners will recognize Paul Dukas' *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* from Disney's *Fantasia* and Germaine Tailleferre's *Concertino for Harp* with soloist John Carrington rounds out the program.

Dave Beck returns to Auburn Symphony's pre-concert talk series in this month's Meet the Music. Ticket holders may come to the lobby an hour before the concert at 1:30 PM to learn more about the music and enrich their concert experience. Beck has been with public radio in Seattle since 1985, currently at KING FM and until 2019 he was a cellist with Auburn Symphony Orchestra.

About John Carrington:

John Carrington is Principal Harpist with the Auburn Symphony Orchestra as well as Pacific Northwest Ballet Orchestra for the past 20 years. He is an active freelancer, teacher and recording artist in the Seattle area and can be heard on over 300 motion picture soundtracks. He has performed with conductors such as Seiji Ozawa, Charles Dutoit, Leonard Slatkin, Leon Fleisher and John Rutter and also worked with popular performers such as Tony Bennett, Josh Groban, Olivia Newton John and James Taylor. He was solo harpist aboard the World Cruise of Cunard's legendary ship the Queen Elizabeth 2.

Summer Festivals have included The National Repertory Orchestra, Tanglewood, and the Festival at Sandpoint with Gunther Schuller. Carrington also played with the New World Symphony and spent several summers at the Salzedo School in Camden, Maine. He has served as adjudicator and judge for the Washington State Solo Competition, the Seattle Young Artist Music Festival, and the American Harp Society. He has appeared as soloist on invitation to several American Harp Society National Conferences as well as the World Harp Congress. He is currently co-chair of the Salzedo Fund of the American Harp Society.



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He received his Master of Music degree from the Cleveland Institute of Music after earning his Bachelor of Music from the University of Washington. His teachers include Pamela Vokolek, Lynne Palmer and Alice Chalifoux.

About John Coons:

As a performer, John Coons is at home in a wide variety of styles and settings. With a background in the worlds of classical music, musical theater, jazz, and pop, Coons is incredibly versatile as a vocalist, actor and collaborator. He has performed roles with the Seattle Opera, the 5th Avenue Theatre, Village Theatre, ACT Theatre, ArtsWest, Book It Repertory, ReAct Theatre and The 14/48 Projects, with highlights including Oswald in *Ghosts* (ArtsWest), Zangara in *Assassins* (ACT/5th Avenue Theatre), and Pirelli in *Sweeney Todd* (Eugene Opera).

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