

Music on the Hill

Sunday, September 22, 2024 at 3pm
Trinity Chapel, Bethany Lutheran College



With thanks to our generous sponsor:



Piano Trio in E-flat Major, Op. 1 No. 1
Ludwig van Beethoven | 30'

Allegro
Adagio cantabile
Scherzo allegro assai
Finale presto

Blue Like An Orange
Tina Davidson | 12'

Piano Trio No. 2 in D Minor, Op. 34
Louise Farrenc | 24'

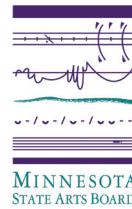
Andante-Allegro
Theme with Five Variations
Finale - Allegro

Bethel Balge, piano
Stephanie Arado, violin
Sharon Mautner-Rodgers, cello



For a complete program including artist bios and program notes, visit MankatoSymphony.org/chamber

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Meet the Artists



Winner of the Louis B. Sudler Prize in the Arts, pianist **Bethel Balge** has performed in Germany, including at Frankfurt's Alte Oper, in Russia as soloist with the Voronezh Philharmonic, as well as in various American venues. Balge's "highly concentrated, technically secure and captivating interpretation" of Ravel's *Gaspard de la Nuit* attracted notice from a reviewer at the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* after a performance at the Alte Oper. She is founding Artistic Director of the ProMusica Minnesota Chamber Music Series and of the ProMusica Minnesota Chamber Music Festival. As a doctoral student of Lydia Artymiw, Balge performed in a Minnesota Public Radio live broadcast in the Bach Birthday concert organized by MPR host Michael Barone. Recently she was featured on American Public Media's program "Performance Today" in a ProMusica Minnesota performance. In 2020 Balge became Executive Director of the Mankato Symphony Orchestra. She was featured on the cover of the December 2022 River Valley Woman magazine in a story titled *Executive Director of Joy*.

Balge received a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Minnesota under Lydia Artymiw in 2014. Previously she received a Diplom degree from the University of Frankfurt's Hochschule fuer Musik in Germany. She has also received a Master of Music degree from the University of Wisconsin under Howard Karp and is a cum laude graduate of Michigan State University, where she received a Bachelor of Music degree under Van Cliburn gold prize winner Ralph Votapek. While a student, Balge won numerous regional and national performance awards.



Violinist **Stephanie Arado**'s career encompasses a wide range of performance and teaching experience. Ms. Arado began her violin studies at the age of five and played her first solo recital when she was eight. Since her debut with the Chicago Symphony as a 12 year old, Ms. Arado has performed as soloist with symphony orchestras throughout the United States, including the Detroit, St. Louis, and Minnesota Orchestras. Ms. Arado spent 22 years as Assistant Concertmaster of the Minnesota Orchestra and also served as Concertmaster of the Colorado Symphony. In 2012, Ms. Arado resigned from her position with the Minnesota Orchestra to devote more time to teaching and chamber music. Ms. Arado has participated in chamber music festivals both nationally and internationally and has had the privilege to perform with such masters as Paul Tortelier, Joseph Silverstein, and Yuri Bashmet. A recipient of a McKnight Foundation Grant for Performing Artists, Ms. Arado joined the faculty of the University of Minnesota in 2020 as Assistant Professor of Violin. In addition, she maintains a private teaching studio in Minneapolis and is an Artistic Director of the Bakken Ensemble, a chamber music consortium she has performed with since 1991.



Sharon Mautner-Rodgers is a California native, and a graduate of the Cleveland Institute of Music where she received her Bachelor's degree and the Ellis A. Feiman award for excellence.

A private cello teacher for over 30 years, Sharon has also taught at The Luzerne Music Center, Cornell College, Grace Christian School, St. Jose Sanchez del Rio minor seminary, and was recently invited to be a sabbatical replacement at Drake University in Des Moines, IA.

Sharon has been a member of many professional symphony orchestras all around the USA. She has performed at the Bastille Opera House in Paris, Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, and in Singapore, Malaysia, China, and South America.

Currently, Sharon is professor of cello and teaches string techniques class at Gustavus Adolphus College, as well as principal cellist of the Mankato Symphony and Associate Principal of the South Dakota Symphony. She is a regular freelancer in the Twin Cities, and plays with the Sinfonia Chamber Orchestra, Minneapolis Pops Orchestra, Minnesota Orchestra, and has performed with the Oratorio Society, VocalEssence, and the Loring String Quartet. She is a member of the Kasota Piano Trio.

Next for Music on the Hill:

Leyendas

November 10, 2024 at 3:00pm

Maureen Nelson, viollin

Cece Belcher, violin

Daniel Orsen, viola

Richard Belcher, cello

Mozart, String Quartet No.15 in D minor, K.421/417b

Wolf, Italian Serenade

Frank, Leyendas



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