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Brian Wilbur Grundstrom's

CHILDREN OF ZEUS

Beethoven's Fantasy in C minor for Piano Chorus and Orchestra, Opus 80, Saint-Saëns' Cello Concerto No. 1 in A minor, Op.33

JUNE 3, 2017 7:00 P.M.

George Washington Masonic Memorial Theatre 101 Callahan Dr., Alexandria, VA 22301

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SONOVA CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES

SONOVA, in partnership with the City of Alexandria, will be presenting a series of Friday evening chamber music concerts at Durant Arts Center.

June 9, 2017: SONOVA Chamber orchestra Tickets are only \$15 and are available at the door.

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The Symphony Orchestra of Northern Virginia Presents

SONOVA's 5th Season Finale

June 3, 2017, 7:00 PM George Washington Masonic Memorial Theatre

> Jeffrey Dokken, *Music Director* Robert Battey, *Cello* Juan Carlos Escudero, *Piano* Brian Wilbur Grundstrom, *Composer*

Cello Concerto No. 1 in A minor

Camille Saint Saëns 1835-1921

Fantasia in C minor "Choral Fantasy" Ludwig Van Beethoven 1770-1827

---Intermission---

Children of Zeus

Brian Wilbur Grundstrom b. 1963

The participation of the soloists for this evening's concert is made possible in part by a donation from the Goodman Family Trust.

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JEFFREY SEAN DOKKEN, MUSIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR

Maestro Jeffrey Sean Dokken is one of today's most exciting and vibrant conductors and tenors. Over the past decade, Dokken has performed all across the United States in some of America's greatest venues, including The Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall, the Marie Collier Baker Theater and many more; internationally, he's performed at Teatro Sanchez Aguilar, The Pedro Calmon Theater, Teatro Centro Civico Eloy Alfaro, Pumapungo Theater, and Teatro Bolivar. From 2012-2014, Maestro Dokken had the distinct honor of conducting at the White House in Washington D.C. as part of the "Holidays at the White House".



In addition to being the Music Director and Conductor of the Symphony Orchestra of Northern Virginia (SONOVA), Maestro Dokken is also the Artistic Director of CoroAllegro in Wilmington, Delaware, and the Associate Artistic Director of Encore Creativity, the nation's largest choral music organization. Dokken has recently been guest conductor with the National Symphony of Brazil, Orquesta Sinfonica de Guayaquil, Loja Symphony Orchestra, Orquesta Sinfonica de Cuenca, The Washington Men's Camerata, and The Reformation Festival Choir. After earning his degree in vocal performance from the prestigious University of Redlands School of Music, Dokken pursued graduate degrees in music education and conducting at California Lutheran University and Shenandoah Conservatory, respectively.

Dokken has composed for, conducted and performed on a number of opera, classical, and musical theatre recordings. Most recently, Dokken was a musical consultant on Novona Records' "An Orchestral Journey,". In 2015 Dokken conducted on "Premiered at the Opera House," a recording with the Symphony Orchestra of Northern Virginia and the Metropolitan chorus, featuring Carmina Burana and other works premiered at opera house around the world. He also recently conducted and co-produced Stephan Parker's 2013 adaptation of Ferdinando Paer's classic opera "Leonora", released commercially in July 2013. For 6 years Dokken was the Musical Consultant and Composer in Residence for the largest health care corporation in America, Kaiser Permanente. Maestro Dokken was featured in the August 2016 "Best Of" issue of Virginia Living Magazine.



Cellist **Robert Battey** is a nationally-known performer, teacher, and writer; he has appeared as soloist or recitalist in Canada, Mexico, and throughout the U.S., including at Carnegie Recital Hall, the Phillips Collection, and the National Gallery of Art. He has served as principal cellist for the Kennedy Center Opera House Orchestra,

Florida West Coast Symphony, National Philharmonic, and Kansas City Lyric Opera, and his varied chamber music performances have been heard throughout the U.S. in radio and television broadcasts.

In recent seasons, Battey performed the Lalo, Haydn, and Beethoven Triple concertos with area orchestras, and last year he presented the complete Bach Cello Suites in a single concert at four different venues. He performs on a magnificent instrument by J.B. Vuillaume.

A pupil of Bernard Greenhouse and Janos Starker, Battey was professor of cello at SUNY-Potsdam and the University of Missouri before moving to Washington, where he taught chamber music at the Levine School. He also writes articles and reviews for the Washington *Post* and *STRINGS* magazine.



Juan Carlos Escudero was born in Guayaquil on January 28, 1984. At the age of 12 he made his debut as soloist with the Guayaquil's Municipal Museum Chamber Orchestra and two years later, at Cuenca's Symphony Orchestra. He earned a degree in Music Technology – specializing in Piano – at the Rimsky Korsakov Music Conservatory of Guayaquil. Escudero also participated in presentations and concerts in Boston (2004), Chile (2005) and in other major cities throughout America. In 2007 he graduated as a Lawyer of the Courts and Tribunals of Ecuador at Guayaquil's Catholic University, specializing in Public Law.

He has been soloist with all the symphony orchestras of Ecuador (Guayaquil, Quito, Cuenca and Loja). In 2008 he appeared as a soloist with the Symphony Orchestras of Cuenca and Guayaquil, respectively, performing the South American premiere of the American composer Leroy Anderson's Concerto in C, directed by the renowned American conductor Leif Bjaland. On September 26, 2010, he was awarded the 2010 PREMIO ARTE (Arts Prize of New York City), achieving the distinction of 2010 Outstanding Pianist for his concerts in the United States. On June 15, 2012, he was a soloist with Cuba's National Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Enrique Pérez Mesa, in la Habana, Cuba. From July 2012 to March 2013, Juan Carlos Escudero worked as the National Director of Performing Arts at the Secretary of Culture of Ecuador. In 2012, Escudero soloed with the Symphony Orchestra of Maracaibo, Venezuela, and in 2013, presented Brahms Piano Concerto No. 1 with the Guayaquil's Symphony Orchestra.



A composer equally accustomed to writing for orchestra, opera, film, theater, chorus, piano, and chamber ensembles, **Brian Wilbur Grundstrom**'s voice includes a strong affinity for long melodic lines, distinctive tonal harmonic vocabulary, and dramatic imagery. Classically trained in piano as well as music theory from Gettysburg College, he has continued orchestration and composition studies with John David Earnest.

Grundstrom won Outstanding Emerging Artist in the 2013 DC Mayor's Arts Awards and received five grants from the D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities. A member of ASCAP, Grundstrom attended the prestigious ASCAP/NYU Buddy Baker Film Music Workshop. His studio includes the latest in technologies, including Vienna Symphonic Library, and he is able to render his orchestra compositions at high professional standards.

Grundstrom's CD, *An Orchestral Journey*, was released in 2016 by Parma Recordings by Naxos. Brian is currently working on an opera based on Hemingway's For Whom The Bell Tolls.

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