



THE DELAWARE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

DAVID AMADO, MUSIC DIRECTOR

Joint Artistic and Musicians Advisory Committee Meeting – January 4, 2016 – 10:00 a.m. Telephonic Meeting Meeting Minutes / DRAFT

The telephonic meeting was called to order at 10:05 am by Charles Babcock, Chair. Participating were director Babcock, director Matt diGuglielmo, director Jeff Ruben, musician Eileen Grycky, musician Natalie Mannix, University of Delaware professor Larry Stomberg, Music Director David Amado, and Executive Director Alan Jordan.

The meeting began with information shared about the string quartet, Ethel. Jordan described the envisioned partnership with the Grand Opera House on this program. It would be offered as an “add-on” to DSO subscribers. Participants encouraged a strong marketing campaign for this offering.

Amado likened developing a season to juggling puzzle pieces. He feels the proposed programs cover a lot of ground and include works new to the Orchestra as well as pieces performed a while ago. The schedule represents a good cross section. The Classics Series includes some large works, while the Chamber Series includes two programs with chamber orchestras.

Grycky expressed her complete respect for Amado’s programming. Stomberg noted concern that the second Classic program was “too big,” to which Amado responded both West Side Story and La Mer were too short to make up a full half program. The Takemitsu provides a contrast in style and musician taxation. This program might also serve as offering material for a family concert.

Mannix stated the programming has an interesting balance for audiences, but she observed the lack of low brass and percussion on Classics programs in February and April. (This was intentional so these programs might be more saleable to downstate presenters.) Mannix felt the DSO might lose the affected musicians’ interest during such a gap. Others agreed this could be a problem. Substituting Brahms’ Second Symphony for the First Serenade might ameliorate this. It was also noted the current plan has back-to-back piano soloists in April and May. Jordan will see if Alon Goldstein’s schedule would permit a swap of the January and February programs to create space between piano concertos.

Ruben asked if we were obliged to program a Rachmaninoff piano concerto during the season, as the Second concerto was performed in November 2015. May 12 is Mrs. Copeland’s anniversary. She had hoped the DSO could do a special concert on May 12, 2016. This was found to be not logistically possible, so the hope was to help the Copelands celebrate in 2017 with a concert including Rachmaninoff’s Third Concerto. Jordan will confer with Mrs. Copeland about this and present other options. The Symphonic Dances and “The Rock” were suggested.

Jordan shared Amy Leonard’s e-mailed questions: Andre Previn will receive the 2016-2017 season A. I DuPont award. Due to health concerns, we wanted to schedule his visit early in the season. We should be able to get Verklarte Nacht parts out early. Stomberg questioned whether the planned string count for that piece would be adequate with the required divisis. Amado noted we performed a portion of Façade before, but the April Chamber Series presentation will be the complete chamber ensemble version. He

agreed to swapping the program order so Feldman was first and Walton second. Amado provided some background for Samuel Beckett, Words and Music.

The Chamber Series highlights a “words and music” theme. The first program should include readings. Stomberg recommended Noël Archambeault as a soloist for the second Chamber program.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:40 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Jordan, Executive Director