

20 SEASONS IN SIMSBURY  
HARTFORD SYMPHONY'S  
**TALCOTT MOUNTAIN MUSIC FESTIVAL**



**2015 Season • June 26 – July 24**  
The Performing Arts Center at Simsbury Meadows

**TALCOTT MOUNTAIN MUSIC FESTIVAL**  
HARTFORD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA | Carolyn Kuan, *Music Director*

The 2015 Talcott Mountain Music Festival Series is presented by  
**RICHARD P. GARMANY FUND**



This concert is sponsored by



**CELEBRATE AMERICA!**

Friday, July 3, 2015  
7:30 p.m. | The Performing Arts Center at Simsbury Meadows | Simsbury, CT

**ERIC DUDLEY, conductor**  
**ASYLUM HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHOIR**  
**STEVE MITCHELL, director**  
**JAROSLAW LIS, narrator**

Presentation of the Colors

**JOHN SMITH**  
(1750-1836)  
Arr. Walter Damrosch  
*The Star Spangled Banner*  
Asylum Hill Congregational Church Sanctuary Choir

**ROBERT LOWDEN**  
(1920-1998)  
*Armed Forces Salute*  
(The Official Songs of the U.S. Army, Coast Guard,  
Marines, Air Forces and Navy)  
Asylum Hill Congregational Church Sanctuary Choir

**EDWARD ELGAR**  
(1857-1934)  
*Variations on an Original Theme, Op. 36, "Enigma Variations"*  
IX. "Nimrod"  
Jaroslaw Lis, narrator

**FERDE GROFÉ**  
(1892-1972)  
*Mississippi Suite*  
I. Father of the Waters  
IV. Mardi Gras

The post of Music Director is endowed by The Beatrice Fox Auerbach Foundation.  
Cameras and recording equipment are not permitted during the performance.  
As a courtesy to the performers and other audience members, please turn off watch alarms and cell phones.  
The Hartford Symphony Orchestra receives major support from the Greater Hartford Arts Council,  
the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, and with support from the Department of Economic  
and Community Development, Connecticut Office of the Arts which also receives  
support from the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

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—continued—

**COLE PORTER**  
(1891-1964)  
Arr. Calvin Custer  
"Begin the Beguine" from *Jubilee*

**JAY UNGAR**  
(b. 1946)  
Arr. Robert Cerulli  
*Ashokan Farewell*

**ARTURO MÁRQUEZ**  
(b. 1950)  
*Danzon No. 2*

—INTERMISSION—

**MORTON GOULD**  
(1913-1996)  
*American Salute*

**RICHARD RODGERS**  
(1902-1979)  
Arr. Robert Russell Bennett  
*The Sound of Music, A Symphonic Picture*

**RICHARD SMALLWOOD**  
(b. 1948)  
*Total Praise (High and Lifted Up)*  
Asylum Hill Congregational Church Sanctuary Choir

**JOHN JOHNSON**  
(1873-1954)  
Arr. Roland Carter  
*Lift Every Voice and Sing*  
Asylum Hill Congregational Church Sanctuary Choir

**IRVING BERLIN**  
(1888-1989)  
Arr. Bruce Healy  
*God Bless America*  
Asylum Hill Congregational Church Sanctuary Choir

**PIOTR ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY**  
(1840-1893)  
*1812, Overture Solennelle, Op. 49*

**JOHN PHILIP SOUSA**  
(1854-1932)  
*The Stars and Stripes Forever*

—FIREWORKS TO FOLLOW—

The 2014-15 Season is presented by





## About the Artists

HARTFORD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

A graduate of the University of Miami and veteran public school music teacher, **STEVE MITCHELL** is recognized as a distinguished choral conductor, choreographer, and soloist. He was co-founder of the Cutler Ridge Middle School Ridge ARTS Program, recognized by The Executive Educator magazine and The School Board Journal as "...one of the 25 most effective instructional programs in North America." In addition to public school, Mr. Mitchell has conducted The Miami Boy Choir, University of Miami Summer Choral Camp, University of Wisconsin Music Clinics, CT Northern Regional Middle School and High School Choirs, the Berkshire League Music Festival, the NCC Festival Choir, the Hartford Symphony and numerous temple and church choirs. As a clinician, Mr. Mitchell has worked with CT Region 1 & Region 7 music teachers and is a regular adjudicator with Fantastic Festivals. He continues to work with area schools and choral organizations as a clinician and workshop leader focusing on choral tone, vocal health, repertoire, and style development.

Mr. Mitchell came to Connecticut in 2000 to serve as Minister of Music & Arts at Asylum Hill Congregational Church in Hartford where his responsibilities include direction of the Sanctuary Choir, worship development, children's music programming, adult studies in art, drama and music, book reviews, lectures and the Asylum Hill Concert Series. In 2012, he founded the John & Edie Murphy Music for Humanity Concerts – an endowed concert fund that uniquely marries live concert performances with community outreach.

In addition, Mr. Mitchell is a sought after soloist. His solo credits include: The Miami Bach Society, the Florida Grand Opera, Connecticut Concert Opera, CONCORO, VOCE, Café Eiko @Japanalia, the Hartford Symphony Orchestra and The New World Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Michael Tilson-Thomas.

Mr. Mitchell serves as Technical Director and Co-Founder of *Nightfall* a free, live, outdoor arts

**STEVE MITCHELL**  
director



experience celebrating the changing season. This annual event features the creative genius of artist & puppeteer Anne Cubberly and performing artists from the Greater Hartford region. He lives in Hartford with his incredibly understanding wife. They have two outgoing and accomplished adult children.

The Sanctuary Choir of ASYLUM HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH (AHCC) is comprised of 67 singer/musicians who, through their talent and their spirits, provide musical leadership for Sunday worship services and community events. With 8 professional section

leaders and some of the community's best soloists and instrumentalists, the AHCC Music Ministry is capable of extraordinary musical diversity and quality. Under the leadership of Music Director, Steve Mitchell, the choir has presented such major works as the Fauré *Requiem*, Mozart's *Requiem* and the *Solemn Vespers*, Vivaldi's *Gloria*, J.S. Bach's *Magnificat*, a "Gospel" Christmas, the Hartford premier of René Clausen's *A New Creation*. The Choir has also partnered with other area churches and arts organizations to present major works such as Morten Lauridsen's *Lux Aeterna*, and the Duruflé *Requiem* with CONCORO and the New Haven Symphony. Recently, the choir performed with the Hartford Symphony as part of the 2012 Holiday Concerts and the 2013 Celebrate America concert at the Talcott Mountain Music Festival. In 2014, the Choir was invited to perform on the President's Concert for the CT Conference of the American Choral Director's Association – the only church choir to be recognized. The AHCC Sanctuary Choir also leads the annual **Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival**. Now in its 48<sup>th</sup> year, this musical and dramatic celebration of Epiphany attracts more than 4800 people to five sold-out performances each January.

The choir's latest triumphs include the Help NEPAL! Benefit concert with musicians of the HSO, as well as a presentation of "*The Best of the Duke Ellington Sacred Concerts*" with a full stage band, tap dancer, soloists and singers from three historically black churches in the City of Hartford – Faith Congregational, Metropolitan AME Zion, and Union Baptist. We are honored to have singers from these Sister Churches joining us for today's concert.