

Washington Metropolitan

Gamer Symphony Orchestra

FALL 2014
CONCERT SERIES

NIGEL HORNE, MUSIC DIRECTOR
LAURA STAYMAN, CONCERT LEADER

Saturday, December 13 – Herndon, VA
Saturday, December 20 – Rockville, MD

[Classical Music. Play On!]

WMGSO.org | @WMGSO | fb/MetroGSO

ABOUT THE WMGSO

The WMGSO is a community orchestra and choir whose mission is to share and celebrate video game music with as wide an audience as possible, primarily by putting on affordable, accessible concerts in the area.

Game music weaves a complex, melodic thread through the traditions, values, and mythos of an entire culture, and yet it largely escapes recognition in professional circles. Game music has powerful meaning to millions of people. In it, we find deep emotion and basic truths about life. We find ourselves — and we find new ways of thinking about and expressing ourselves. We find meaning that transcends the medium itself and stays with us for life. WMGSO showcases this emerging genre and highlights its artistry.

Incorporated in December 2012, WMGSO grew from the spirit of the GSO at the University of Maryland. About a dozen members showed up at WMGSO's inaugural rehearsal. Since then, the group has grown to more than 60 musicians. The WMGSO's debut at Rockville High School in June attracted an audience of more than 500. Also in June, the IRS accepted WMGSO's application to become a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, opening even more opportunities for the orchestra to grow.

ADMINISTRATION

Music Director, Nigel Horne
Chorusmaster, Jacob Coppage-Gross
President, Ayla Hurley
Vice President, Joseph Wang
Secretary, Laura Stayman
Treasurer, Chris Apple
Public Relations, Robert Garner
Webmaster, Jason Troiano
Event Coordinator, Diana Taylor
Assistant Treasurer, Patricia Lucast

SUPPORTERS

From securing rehearsal space and equipment rentals, to printing concert programs and obtaining music licenses, we rely on the support of our members and donors. The following individuals have generously contributed to our organization by purchasing one of our Platinum, Gold, or Silver Supporter packages. For more information on supporter-level benefits and to donate online, please visit WMGSO.org/donate!

PLATINUM

Susan Tayman

GOLD

Samuel & Barbara Apple	Loretta Lowe Nadine	Erin Swan Robert Swisher
Will Brown	Markam-Itteilag	Linda Taylor
Jaki Demarssi	Alyssa Menes	Jason Troiano
David DiRienzi	Sandy & Eddie	Darin Brown
Marshall Finch	Oldham	Zeynep Dilli
Maya Fox	Benjamin Petit	Dawn Morden
Robert Garner	Alex Pizzini	Donna
Emily Green	Christopher Seal	Wingate-Staton
Bruce Hendrickson	Drew Star	
Sandy Laden	James Swan	

SILVER

Elaine Achowski-Doupe	David Clarfield
Alan & Susan Apter	Charles Hurley
Scott Borst	Sally Taber & Dean Tousley
Roberta Campbell	Jarel Jones
Matthew Chin	Percy Tiglao

ROSTER

Piccolo

Jess Bateman
Mary Beck

Flute

Jessie Biele
Jessica Robertson

Oboe

Jenn Ganss
David Shapiro

Clarinet

Alisha Bhore
Jessica Elmore

Bass Clarinet

Yannick Joseph

Alto Sax

Anna Trejo
Joseph Wang

Tenor Sax

James Robertson

Baritone Sax

Jason Troiano

Bassoon

Kristi Engel
Amelia Myers

Horn

Matthew Eisenberg
George Marshall
Jamin Morden

Trumpet

Robert Garner
Richard Gray
Ethan Rossberg

Flugelhorn

Robert Garner

Trombone

Eric Fagan
Steve O'Brien

Tuba

William Campbell

Percussion

Jess Bateman
Nikki Francisco
Nadine
Markham-Itteilag
Lee Stearns
Marissa Troiano

Piano

Michael Brancato

Bass Guitar

Julius Verzosa

Soprano Voice

Melissa Apter
Catherine Campbell
Zeynep Dilli
Tracy Flanders
Christina Garnett
Mimi Herrmann
Ayla Hurley
Lauren Kirkman

Alto Voice

Nikki Francisco
Claire Hedgespeth
Tegan Hendrickson
Raha Marie
Laura Peregoy
Robin Sobel
Angelina Wong

Holly Wu

Sara Zeglin

Tenor Voice

Evan Baumel
Darin Brown
Benton Green
Kevin Hencke
Sheldon Zamora-Soon

Bass Voice

Alexander Booth
Jacob Coppage-Gross
Jeremy Hersh
Stephen Wiley

Violin

Lauren Barefoot
Ricardo Diaz
Anne Lee
Curtis Mitchell
Katie Noble
Laura Stayman
Samantha Tynes
Tyler Zimmerman

Viola

Michelle Eng
Adrian Francisco
Victor Ontiveros
Damia Torhagen

Cello

Tabia Gaston

Contrabass

Adam Nash

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PROGRAM

Gerudo Valley

The Legend of Zelda: Ocarina of Time (1998)

Koji Kondo

arr. Robert Garner

Long ago, three goddesses formed the land of Hyrule, a realm of beauty, peace, and tranquility. When the goddesses departed Hyrule for the heavens, they left behind the three-part Triforce. Possession of all three fragments grants unlimited wishes to their master. Wisdom is bound to Hyrule's Princess Zelda; Courage, to Link, the hero. Power, in a cruel twist of fate, is tied to Ganon. Ganon's thirst for domination over Hyrule persists generation after generation, locking his spirit in an eternal struggle with those of Zelda and Link. "Ocarina of Time" begins with Zelda and Link as children. Link's nemesis attacks Hyrule Castle, forcing Princess Zelda to flee. As only a small boy with a wooden sword and shield, Link witnesses helplessly as Hyrule falls into darkness. Link's adventure sees him travel to Ganon's homeland, the Gerudo Valley. This scorching desert is home to the Gerudo society of warriors and thieves — and Link must prove to them his quality if he is to have any hope of restoring light to the land of Hyrule.

Seasons of War

World of Warcraft (2004)

Jason Hayes

arr. Jason Troiano

Four years have passed since the mortal races banded together and stood united against the might of the Burning Legion. Though Azeroth was saved, the tenuous pact between the Horde and the Alliance has all but evaporated. The drums of war thunder once again...

Halo

Halo (2001)

Martin O'Donnell

arr. Chris Apple, Travis Neff

In 2001, this first-person shooter revolutionized the video game industry. A combination of beautiful alien landscapes, a gripping storyline about the last chance for humanity, and music that is still a staple of the video game industry, Halo: Combat Evolved is arguably the video game that brought gaming to the masses. It spawned a series of games, books, and comics that are so wildly popular that even today, 13 years later, the series continues to grow and expand. Its hauntingly beautiful intro music, as well as its driving and riveting combat music throughout has helped to plant this game's music in the hearts and minds of many gamers.

Kongcerto 64

Donkey Kong 64 (1999)

Grant Kirkhope
arr. Robert Garner

Conniving crocodilian King K. Rool captured Kong's companions! That nasty gator has stolen Donkey Kong's banana hoard — again — and imprisoned the gorilla's friends. Worse still, the unstable croc threatens the destruction of D.K. Isle with an unspeakably powerful W.M.D. (That's a weapon of monkey destruction, by the by.) Among other challenges, Donkey Kong must lumber through a forest, scrape along a sandy shore, creep about a spooky castle, swing above an overgrown jungle, and ... uh, refract through a crystalline cave to stop King K. Rool for good (until 2003's sequel, at least).

The main melodies of "Donkey Kong 64" weave throughout the game, changing in style and color based on the different stage designs. Scottish-born composer Grant Kirkhope has said the "Creepy Castle" theme, with its deliberate "Addams Family" nod, is among his favorites in the game.

Chrono Cross/Trigger

*Chrono Cross (1999),
Chrono Trigger (1995)*

Yasunori Mitsuda, Nobuo Uematsu
arr. Alex Song

Separated by 4 years and different platforms, "Chrono Trigger" and its successor "Chrono Cross" are still considered to be classical examples of role-playing games (RPGs) from the silver era of gaming. In "Chrono Trigger," you travel as Crono with your friends, hopping through time trying to defeat the evil Lavos, who is prophesied to end the world. In "Chrono Cross," rather than traveling through time, you instead play as Serge, who crosses through alternate dimensions, attempting to understand how it is that in one dimension he lived, but in another he died. Join us on a musical journey through time and reality, filled with robots, talking frogs, and cavewomen.

Dragonborn

The Elder Scrolls V: Skyrim (2011)

Jeremy Soule
arr. Chris Apple, Katie Noble,
Alexander Ryan, Dakota Sparks

Welcome to Skyrim, a beautiful land filled with magic, mayhem, draugr, dragons, and the occasional arrow to the knee. Just as in previous installments in the Elder Scrolls series, the game takes place in an open environment where you can do nearly anything you want, travel where you would like, and be as nice or as evil as your heart desires. As the latest in a line of dovahkiin, you are granted the ability to use the dragons' powerful Thu'um, or Dragon Shouts, and there are very few things more memorable than shouting your enemy to death. Sit back, relax, and enjoy the sounds of Skyrim, and if you're ever asked, remember: Skyrim belongs to the Nords.

The Ruined Futures of MapleStory

MapleStory (2003)

Joe Hisashi
arr. Chris Lee

Released in 2003 in South Korea and two years later in the United States, MapleStory offered play similar to “World of Warcraft,” the current dominator in the MMORPG market (“massively multiplayer online role-playing game”). If you are unfamiliar with the game, or played it and don’t remember much of a plot, you’re not alone there. However, MapleStory’s beautiful soundtrack and simple gameplay turned it into a cult hit with a deep impact on those who have played it. Join us on a quick ride through the world of MapleStory as we attempt to re-seal the Black Mage and thwart the Black Wings.

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INTERMISSION

Will the Circle Be Unbroken?

Bioshock Infinite (2013)

Ada Habershon, Charles Gabriel
arr. Chris Apple

Echoing through the candlelit, alabaster halls of Columbia’s temples, this song pervades “Bioshock Infinite.” Cloaked penitents chant it from baptismal fonts, a revered song of the twisted cult that consumes the entire city. Yet even as protagonist Booker DeWitt rejects their corrupted philosophy, he soon finds his own providence in the song. When he rescues a young girl from the fanatical group, he begins to wonder if he was always meant to be there for her. This song is an adaptation of a Christian hymn written in 1907.

The Hero

The Legend of Zelda series (1986–2014)

Koji Kondo
arr. Jason Troiano

It is said that in times of strife, when darkness descends upon the land and the Triforce is threatened by evil, a hero will rise. Dressed in green and wielding the Blade of Evil’s Bane, the hero will vanquish the evil and restore peace to the land. Join the WMGSO woodwind section as they travel through those legends, exploring some of the iconic themes from “The Legend of Zelda” as they trace the path of Link through the ages.

Kat's Song
Contrast (2013)

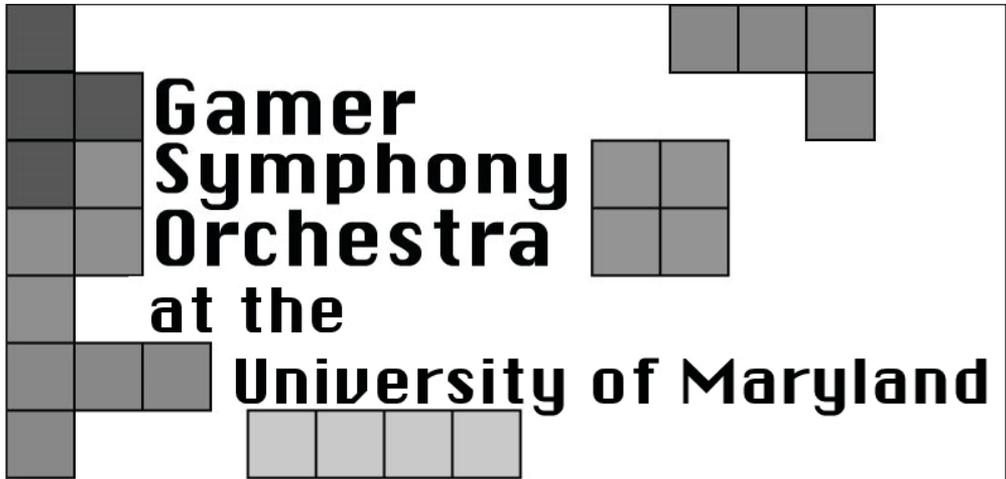
Joe Hisashi
arr. Chris Lee

A lounge singer at the local bar, The Ghost Note, Kat Malenkaya is the single mother of an adorable, if troublemaking, little girl. While dealing with the normal troubles of a single parent, Kat must also deal with the get-rich-quick schemes of her ex, who is trying desperately to win her back. Kat's Song encompasses and embodies the raw emotions of a woman disappointed in love in a way only a sultry lounge singer can.

On Wings of Glory
Various titles (1988-2011)

Various composers
arr. Jason Troiano

It may be that you use it to blast invaders into rubble or ride it to far off times on a quest to stop a disaster. Perhaps it is simply a loyal companion who flies you to far off adventures. The gift of flight is an integral component of many games. It unlocks fantastic new places and quests for our heroes, and the vehicles and creatures which provide this gift become as integral to the story as any flesh-and-blood character. Fly with us now as we adventure through musical themes from Final Fantasy, Star Fox, Super Robot Wars, and more. Can you identify all nine themes?



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Feedback form inside!