

*WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN*

Gamer Symphony  
Orchestra

SPRING 2015  
CONCERT SERIES

NIGEL HORNE, MUSIC DIRECTOR

Saturday, June 6 – Rockville, MD

Saturday, June 27 – Sterling, VA

[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 myths 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. The WMGSO's debut at Rockville High School in June 2014 attracted an audience of more than 500. That same month, the IRS accepted WMGSO's application to become a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, opening even more opportunities for the orchestra to grow. To provide partial funding for its spring 2015 season, WMGSO received a grant from the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County.

## ABOUT THE MUSIC DIRECTOR

WMGSO's Musical Director is Nigel Horne. Nigel is an experienced conductor, clinician and composer, with a degree in band studies from the University of Sheffield, England, and a Master of Philosophy in Free Composition from the University of Leeds. Nigel also directs the Rockville Brass Band.

### BOARD OF EXECUTIVES

Music Director, Nigel Horne  
President, Ayla Hurley  
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Coppage-Gross  
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Event Coordinator, Diana Taylor  
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WMGSO is supported in part by funding from the Montgomery County government and the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County.

# SUPPORTERS

From rehearsal space and equipment rental to printing concert programs and purchasing music licenses, WMGSO relies heavily on the generosity of our members and supporters. These generous individuals have contributed to our organization by becoming one of our Platinum, Gold, or Silver Supporters.

If you are interested in becoming a Supporter, please speak to one of our volunteer staff in the lobby, or visit us at [wmgso.org/donate](http://wmgso.org/donate).

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David DiRenzi  
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Bruce Hendrickson  
Charles Hurley

Christopher Seal  
Susan Tayman  
Carolyn & Mike Troiano  
Conrad & Sara Zeglin

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Apple  
Darin Brown  
Will Brown  
Virginia Buxton  
Rob & Roberta  
Campbell  
Jaki Demarssi  
Zeynep Dilli  
Marshall Finch  
Barbara Flanders  
Maya Fox  
Robert Garner  
Emily Green

Bob Gries  
Joshua Guzman  
Mary Koloubri &  
Bidd Jels  
Sandy Laden  
Loretta Lowe  
Nadine  
Markam-Itteilag  
Alyssa Menes  
Dawn Morden  
Sandy & Eddie  
Oldham  
Benjamin Petit  
Alex Pizzini

Michele Robertson  
Drew Star  
Erin Swan  
James Swan  
Robert Swisher  
Sally Taber & Dean  
Tousley  
Linda Taylor  
Jason Troiano  
Dotty Waters  
Donna  
Wingate-Staton

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Achowski-Doupe  
Alan & Susan Apter  
Nicholas Berry  
Scott Borst

Matthew Chin  
David Clarfield  
James Ghitelman  
Jarel Jones  
Sean Lesley

Justin Mancini  
Bob & Amy Peregoy  
Allan Shedlin  
Diana Taylor  
Percy Tiglao

# ROSTER

## **Piccolo**

Jess Bateman  
Mary Beck

## **Flute**

Jess Bateman  
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**

Christopher Keane  
James Robertson

## **Baritone Sax**

Jason Troiano

## **Bassoon**

Kristi Engel  
Amelia Myers

## **Horn**

Matthew Eisenberg  
George Marshall  
Jamin Morden

## **Flugelhorn**

Robert Garner

## **Trumpet**

Robert Garner  
Richard Gray  
Ethan Rossberg

## **Trombone**

Eric Fagan  
Steve O'Brien

## **Tuba**

William Campbell

## **Percussion**

John Burke  
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

## **Alto Voice**

Claire Hedgespeth  
Tegan Hendrickson  
Raha Marie  
Laura Peregoy  
Angelina Wong  
Holly Wu  
Sara Zeglin

## **Tenor Voice**

Aaron Barker  
Evan Baumel  
Benton Green  
Kevin Hencke  
Sheldon Zamora-Soon

## **Bass Voice**

Alexander Booth  
Jacob Coppage-Gross  
Daniel Gonzales  
Jeremy Hersh  
Benjamin Tousley  
Stephen Wiley

## **Violin**

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

## **Viola**

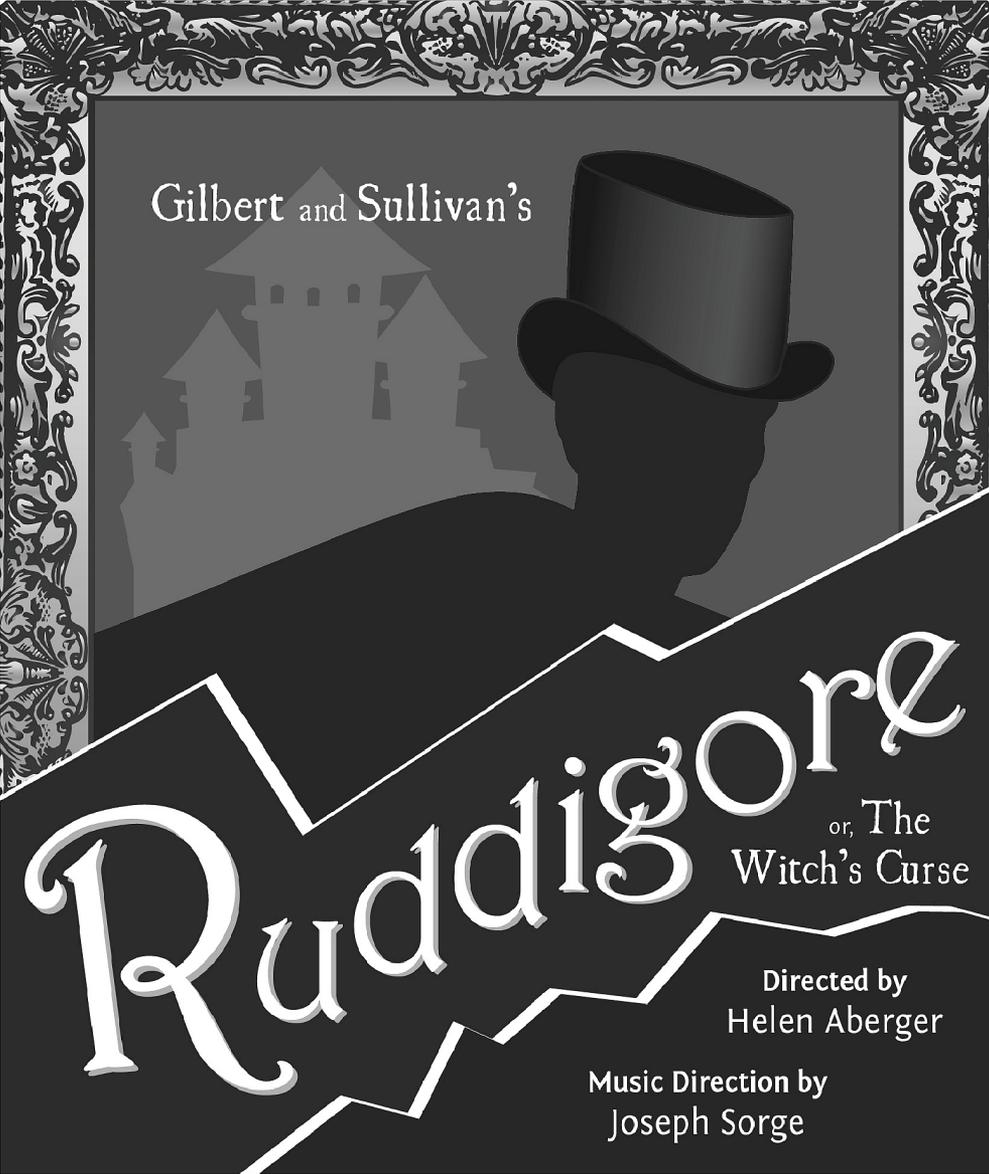
Claire Boswell  
Adrian Francisco  
Amanda Laudwein  
Victor Ontiveros  
Damia Torhagen

## **Cello**

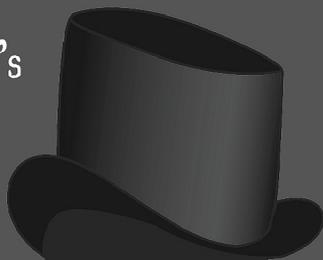
Tabia Gaston  
Jessyca Khianthalat

## **Contrabass**

Thaddaeus Engelking  
Fayemi Johnson



Gilbert and Sullivan's



# Ruddigore

or, The  
Witch's Curse

Directed by  
Helen Aberger

Music Direction by  
Joseph Sorge

June 11-13, 19 + 20, 2015 at 8pm

June 14, 20 + 21, 2015 at 2pm

Tickets: 240-314-8690 or [vloc.org](http://vloc.org)



Adults: \$24 | Seniors: \$20 | Students: \$16

F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, Rockville Civic Center Park  
603 Edmonston Drive, Rockville, MD 20851



The Victorian Lyric Opera Company is supported in part by funding from the Montgomery County government and the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County.

# PROGRAM

## **Shining Force II**

*Shining Force II (1993)*

Motoaki Takenouchi

arr. Jamin Morden

The kingdom of Granseal was a prosperous, pleasant place until a well-intentioned thief stole a pair of mysterious jewels from an ancient ruin. This triggers events that would swallow Granseal in disaster, and threaten the rest of the world as well. The soundtrack of “Shining Force 2” is a strong one, full of exciting themes, mournful dirges, and ethereal ambient pieces. Rather than elaborating on a single musical theme, composer Motoaki Takenouchi creates an overworld theme that moves rapidly from one very cool melodic idea to the next, all while maintaining an adventurous, courageous tone. The middle section features the theme of the Goddess Mitula, which is a slower variation on an earlier theme. This slower music later returns to the overworld theme, now with aspects of Mitula’s theme present throughout.

## **200X**

*Mega Man 2 (1988)*

Takashi Tateishi, Manami Matsumae

arr. Jason Troiano, Laura Peregoy

In the year 200X, scientists named Dr. Light and Dr. Wily created the first androids. While mankind lauded the achievement, Dr. Wily’s contribution was largely forgotten. In his jealousy and greed, he took several androids and reprogrammed them for combat. Dr. Light, horrified at what has happened, resolved to stop his former colleague. Rock, the first android, accepted the need to be reprogrammed for combat. Donning the name “Mega Man,” he resolved to stop Dr. Wily and restore peace to the world.

Beginning in 1987 on the Nintendo Entertainment System, “Mega Man” has since morphed into a franchise that includes over 50 games across four decades. This medley is designed to showcase some of the best-known themes from the game, beginning with the familiar stage-select fanfare and culminating in the battle against Dr. Wily.

## **Still Alive**

*Portal (2007)*

Jonathan Coulton

arr. Greg Cox

Despite the game only being about six or seven hours long, “Portal” captured the imaginations of the gaming world anew. Years after the game debuted, talk of cake being a lie and asking if you are still there are spoken like the not-so-secret passphrases of gamer culture. Through a mixture of tongue-in-cheek dark humor, an interesting new take on a puzzle game, and a stellar voice-acting cast, “Portal” sits as one of the most highly regarded games of all time. Grab your Companion Cube and let us take you on a trip through the world of human experimentation and navigate you through the gauntlet known as the scientific method. And remember, this is for science.

**Myst**  
*Myst (1993)*

Robyn Miller  
arr. Robert Garner

The neglected book you've found describes "Myst" as a lonely island on an empty sea. A few pages in, you press your fingers to an illustration. Moments later you find yourself transported to the island's dock—with a big problem. Will you put trust in the charismatic SIRRUS, or ACHENAR, his erratic brother? Each man is trapped in a book not unlike the one that brought you to *Myst*. Each man implores you not to believe the other.

Groundbreaking puzzle game "Myst" held the record of best-selling PC video game for nearly a decade. Initially, developers feared music would interfere with game-play. Positive reactions to early tests, however, resulted in co-creator Robyn Miller's ambient soundtrack. The score is sometimes soothing, sometimes unsettling, but it always enhances the immersive realm of *Myst*. (And in the words of the composer, it doesn't sound a thing like "Mario Bros.")

**Oh, Buta Mask**  
*Mother 3 (2006)*

Shogo Sakai  
arr. Chris Lee

"Mother 3" was released exclusively in Japan, and is largely only known by the masses due to one of its characters appearing in "Super Smash Bros. Brawl." Players fought against the Pig ("Buta") Mask army. While the game played much the same way as its more popular (and more widely released) predecessor, "Mother 3" had a unique combat system that allowed players to tap buttons along to the background music to create in-game power ups for abilities. This brought players closer to the music and creatively forced the player to pay attention it, thus bringing about deeper immersion in the game. As we play, feel free to tap along with us. You might get a power-up.

**Civilization IV**  
*Civilization IV (2005)*

Christopher Tin  
arr. Alex Song

Holding the distinction of being the first video game with an Emmy-nominated and Emmy-winning song in its soundtrack, "Civilization IV" catapulted video game music into the spotlight. The song, "Baba Yetu", is a hymnal that catches the imagination and brings to life the excitement of exploring a foreign world and bringing your civilization to the brink of the future. Covered by many other groups and ensembles, please enjoy our adaptation of this award-winning song, featuring soloist Sheldon Zamora-Soon.

## **Zelda's Lullaby**

*The Legend of Zelda: Ocarina of Time (1998)*

Koji Kondo

arr. Jamin Morden

In nearly every game bearing the title “The Legend of Zelda” there are incarnations of the same three people. Link, a courageous hero who wields the legendary Master Sword, Zelda, a princess whose wisdom has guided many into a brighter future, and Ganondorf, a man with a bottomless greed for power. Since its first appearance in “A Link to the Past,” “Zelda’s Lullaby” has been used as a theme for her. We hear it when we rescue her and the other sages in “A Link to the Past,” we hear it when we meet her for the first time in the garden in “Ocarina of Time,” and we hear it when Princess Zelda is finally revealed in “Wind Waker.” Focusing on the “lullaby” idea, the text chosen accompany to this music is an adapted version of the archetypical lullaby by Johannes Brahms. Combined with Koji Kondo’s superb melodic craftsmanship, the image of a blissful, peaceful nights’ rest comes easily and immediately to mind.

## **Hikari**

*Kingdom Hearts (2002)*

Yoko Shimomura

arr. Alex Song

An unlikely pair, Disney and software company Square partnered to create a game with more childhood nostalgia and zippers than any gamer knew what to do with. Despite its goofy premise, the game proved to be a solid one in its own right and won over the hearts of gamers. Players take on the persona of Sora, as he struggles against the Heartless, foes he is not prepared to face. Armed with his keyblade and his two friends Goofy and Donald (yes, that Goofy and Donald), who are sent by King Mickey (yup, that one too), Sora embarks on a trip through the Disney franchises, partnering with Jack Skellington and the Beast, among others, to take on an evil that is more insidious than anyone could have suspected.

## **INTERMISSION**



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## **The Promised Land**

*Final Fantasy VII: Advent Children (2005)*

Nobuo Uematsu

arr. Chris Apple

Not a place but a vision, the Promised Land gave people hope for a peaceful and prosperous tomorrow. It has been two years since Sephiroth made his bloody pilgrimage to the Northern Crater and tried to destroy the world. It has been two years since the people united to stop him, and yet no one seems to have found the prosperity they wanted. This a cappella piece can be heard during the prologue of “Advent Children”, almost like a threnody, a musical eulogy, for the world’s suffering, lamenting a society that is still destitute and ailing. The lyrics are the voice of a people crying out, asking why they must suffer, desperate for the Promised Land to be realized in their time.

## **Lullaby Set**

*Braid (2008)*

Shira Kammen, Pam Swan

arr. Michael Brancato

Tim’s journey to rescue the princess from the “horrible and evil monster” takes him on a whimsical journey manipulating time to solve intricate puzzles. The indie game “Braid” draws gamers into a fantastical world through both intricate platforming and an immersive audio dreamscape. Please join Michael Brancato (piano) and Laura Stayman (violin) as they take you on a beautiful journey to save a princess that is very definitely in this castle.

## **Freezeezy Peak**

*Banjo Kazooie (1998)*

Grant Kirkhope

arr. Matt Eisenberg

Feel the wind blow through your fur as you, Banjo the bear, and your bird companion Kazooie save Christmas for a family of small polar bears! You’ll have to use all of your wits and abilities, as well as the occasional transformation courtesy of a certain voodoo witch doctor, to save the Twinklies and bring Christmas presents to Boggy’s kids. Join Jess (flute), Jenn (oboe), Alisha (clarinet), Matt (horn), and Kristi (bassoon) on a jaunt through a snowy winter wonderland.

## **The Spine**

*Transistor (2014)*

Darren Korb

arr. Tracy Flanders, Julius Versoza,

Adam Nash, Lee Stearns

Red, a famous singer in the city of Cloudbank, is attacked by a robotic force called the Process. During the clash, she comes into possession of the mysterious Transistor, a greatsword-like weapon. The Transistor is found buried in the chest of an unnamed man, now slumped over and dead. His consciousness and voice have been absorbed into the Transistor itself, along with Red’s voice. Join Tracy Flanders (vocals), Julius Versoza (guitar), Brendan Madden (guitar), Adam Nash (bass), and Lee Stearns (drums) as they traverse Cloudbank to save it from the invading Process, and uncover the mystery of the Transistor’s creation.

**The Ballad of Commander Shepard**  
*Mass Effect Series (2007–2012)*

Jack Wall, Sam Hulick, Sascha Dikiciyan,  
Cris Velasco, Christopher Lennertz  
arr. Jason Troiano

Reapers. The name should bring chills to any sentient being who hears it. Roughly every 50,000 years, this race of machines enters the galaxy to purge all sentient life. This cycle has persisted, uninterrupted, for countless millions of years. Through chance and circumstance, it has fallen to Commander Shepard of the Human Systems Alliance to combat the reapers. Will he succeed, or are the sentient species of the galaxy doomed to extinction?

The Mass Effect series is widely considered to be one of the greatest video game franchises ever produced. The Ballad of Commander Shepard takes us through several defining moments from the series. A quiet period of reflection ensues as the galaxy unites to combat the Reaper threat, building into whether the races of the galaxy were successful in stopping the Reapers.



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July 13 – Schubert, Dvorak, Brahms,  
Tchaikovsky, and Offenbach  
July 20 – Sibelius  
July 27 – Poulenc, Debussy, and Tchaikovsky  
August 3 – Bernstein, Copland, and Verdi



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Tuesday

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Wednesday

MtG Drafts @ 7:00

Thursday

Trivia Night w/ District Trivia @ 7:30

Sunday

Weekly Tournaments @ 3:00



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