



Independence
Sinfonia

Gabriel Gordon

Conductor and Musical Director

Jeffrey Bradbury

Assistant Conductor

Lisa Thomas, Soprano

Sunday

May 13, 2007

Jenkintown High School

West and Highland Avenues

Jenkintown, PA

IndependenceSinfonia.org

The Soloist

Lisa Helmel Thomas has sung and understudied over 25 leading roles with companies including OperaDelaware, Sarasota Opera, Opera/Columbus, Pennsylvania Opera Theater, Opera Company of Philadelphia, Staddtheater Giessen (Germany), and the American Music Theater Festival. A frequent performer of the Mother in *Amahl*, she has also sung the title role in Puccini's *Tosca* and Alice Ford in Verdi's *Falstaff* with the Delaware Valley Opera Summer Festival. Lisa holds a Bachelor's degree from Oberlin Conservatory and received her Master's in Opera at the Curtis Institute of Music. Now in her eighth year on the voice faculty at Philadelphia's Settlement Music School, Lisa is also Director of Music Ministries at St. Timothy Lutheran Church.

Congratulations
to the
Independence Sinfonia
and Gabriel Gordon
on their
11th Season.

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Independence
Sinfonia

Flute

Lisa Davis
Phyllis Salinger
Anders Hansen
Andrea Maurer

Oboe

Forrest Rowland
Mary Ellen Corwin
English Horn
Lynda Cantor

Clarinet

William Fullard
Harriett Rainey
Karen Dunn

Bassoon

Ed Ziegman
Judy Frank

French Horn

Julie Rivers
Shelley Berg
Kim Newell
Kevin Sykes

Trumpet

Jim Edwards
Ray Bohn

Timpani

William Priebe

Percussion

Ken Miller
David Hinger
Kevin Walker

Personnel Manager

Jeffery Bradbury

Violin 1

William Phillips, Concertmaster
Eden Kainer
Jennifer Horne
Ji-Su Yun
Jennifer Bolcar
Larry Major

Violin 2

Kim Dolan
Steve Kadleck
Amanda Godshall
Diane Makofka
Lutz Mueller

Viola

Margot Cohen
John Aumann
Richard Lyon
Monique Spencer
Jeff Bradbury

Cello

Julie Wilburg
Tony Gizzi
Megan Stauffer
Faith Watson
Vic Spain

Bass

Jennifer Stulman
Heather Dickson
Larry Jones
Nate White

Harp

Cheryl Dungan Cunningham

Orchestra Librarian

Kim Dolan

About the Sinfonia

The Independence Sinfonia, now in its eleventh season, is a non-profit community orchestra comprised of a select group of volunteer musicians who attend weekly rehearsals and participate in a series of concerts each year.

The ensemble's flexible instrumentation allows the group to explore and perform a wide range of music written for the chamber orchestra repertoire.

Rehearsal space for the orchestra is graciously provided by the board of All Hallows Episcopal Church, Wyncote, Pennsylvania, Mark Ainsworth, Rector.

Gabriel Gordon, conductor, is now in his fifth year as music director of The Independence Sinfonia. He is also music director of several youth, community, and professional orchestras in the Tri-state area, including the Old York Road Symphony. Mr. Gordon is also a cover conductor for the Manhattan School of Music, and is the Assistant Director of the Strings International Music Festival featuring members of the Philadelphia Orchestra.

As one of the founding members of the DaPonte String Quartet, he spent ten years honing his musical craft in the art of chamber music. "I am a much better conductor for having spent those years in a string quartet. Rather than just beating time and

giving orders, I feel a conductor is much more like a chamber music partner with the orchestra. This creates an amazing connection between the conductor and the players." New Jersey's Star Ledger confirms this by writing ... "Mr. Gordon has a wonderful rapport with his musicians."

In response to the events of September 11th 2001, Mr. Gordon formed an orchestra within two weeks' time to benefit the Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund. The performance of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony was rehearsed in one day, and the concert was described as "Incredibly moving." The concert raised over thirty thousand dollars, and everyone associated still speaks of it as a highlight of their careers.

Dedicated to commissioning and performing American music as well as being a prolific composer himself, Gabriel Gordon has premiered works by composers such as Alan Krantz, Philip Lasser, Joe Trapanese, Joan Tower, and William Henry Curry.

Acknowledgements: We wish to thank the School District of Jenkintown, and Dr. Raymond J. Boccuti, Superintendent, for cooperating in the presentation of today's concert. Thanks also to Gail Miller, members of the Jenkintown Home and School Association and Tom Roller for their interest and help. Special thanks to Walter Davis for program design.



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The Program

Overture to A Midsummer Night's Dream
Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Symphony No 4 in G Major
Gustav Mahler (1860-1911)

Lisa Thomas, Soprano

Music for today's performance is on loan from the Edwin Fleisher Collection of Orchestral Music, Free Library of Philadelphia.