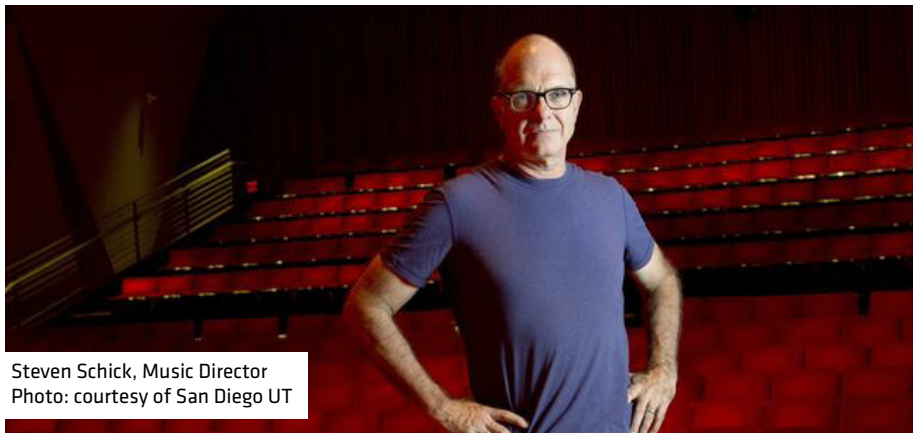


Conductor's Note



Steven Schick, Music Director
Photo: courtesy of San Diego UT

When I tell people about the La Jolla Symphony and Chorus, I am often asked what our comparable institutions are. And then, after I think for a while about where you can find a community orchestra and chorus of the talent and musicality of the La Jolla Symphony and Chorus, along with an abiding devotion to contemporary music and a central role in the pedagogical mission of a major research university, I shake my head. Time after time, I come up empty.

And every time I have that experience, I give a little nod of thanks to the memory of Tom Nee, who started it all.

Tom served as music director of the La Jolla Symphony and Chorus for more than 30 years, and when we marked his passing a decade ago, we were aware that, without Tom, things were never going to be the same. When Mary—Tom's wife, musical partner, muse, conscience,

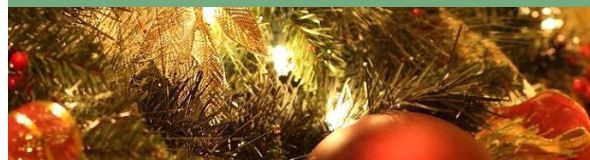
and the love of his life—died last month, it felt like a chapter in our history was closed.

In honor of Mary and Tom and all that they have meant, we'll take a moment in this weekend's concert to remember them. Starting the concert with a special performance of Beethoven's Egmont Overture, which we are adding as a tribute to Mary's indomitable warrior spirit, we'll move without a pause to this year's Nee Commission work, *luscinia*, by Tina Tallon. These paired pieces cover an enormous span of style, historical period, technology and musical intent. They seem very different from each other. But that's the point! We can embrace the future without giving up the past.

Continued on Pg. 2

IN THIS ISSUE...

- P1 Conductor's Note
- P3 News from the Executive Director
- P4 Meet Bass Vincent Tedjasputra
- P5 Great Holiday Gift Idea!
- P5 Article Watch



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Conductor's Note continued

Playing a brand new piece for orchestra and electronics takes nothing away from the foundational works of Beethoven. To the contrary, the newness in Tallon's work reminds us that, once upon a time, the Beethoven was new and untried, and perhaps even misunderstood. And the Beethoven reminds us that Tallon's music did not arise from nowhere, but grows from our accumulating history. We'll note, with pride, that no other orchestra, outside of specialist contemporary ensembles, gives as much programming space to emerging composers, many writing their first orchestra pieces, as does the La Jolla Symphony and Chorus.

And every time, I make a radical programming juxtaposition or program a young composer in her first work for orchestra, I give a small nod to the memory of Tom Nee, who started it all.

This season we celebrate 50 years of affiliation with the University of California, San Diego. Over those years, countless students have sat side-by-side with countless community and professional musicians in our rehearsals and concerts. Undergraduates, concerned about their future lives as physicians, engineers, and other professionals, have seen, through the living examples of our community members, how music can remain a lifelong joy.

And every time I see a young UC San Diego student talking with her stand partner—the local teacher, the world class oceanographer, the fusion expert, the radiologist, the retired professor—I give a small nod of thanks to Tom Nee, who started it all.

This weekend, we'll also feature Thomas Adès's *Concentric Paths*, a virtuoso concerto for violin and orchestra. This brilliant work will feature Keir GoGwilt, a violinist of exceptional talent and intellect. To my knowledge, this is the first performance of a large-scale work of Adès in San Diego. And it brings to mind all the other works, from the Bernstein *Mass*, to Xenakis's *Metastasis*, to the first work that Tom Nee ever conducted with the La Jolla Symphony, Charles

Ives's *The Unanswered Question*, which were brought for the first time to San Diego audiences by the La Jolla Symphony. And I give a nod of thanks to Tom, who started it all.

We'll conclude the concert with a rhythmic and joyous arrangement by Felipe Rossi of a Guillaume de Machaut piece from the late Middle Ages, and without break continue to Francis Poulenc's glorious (how else could describe it?) *Gloria*. In doing so, we'll welcome Patrick Walders in his first official music-making as the new choral conductor of the La Jolla Symphony and Chorus, replacing our great friend David Chase. And we'll note with satisfaction that a third of our concerts feature music with chorus.

If they were reading this, Tom and Mary would be fed up with the valedictory sentiment by now. They looked forward rather than back. And that's what we'll do also. We'll look ahead to future students who do not yet know they will attend UC San Diego, but whose lives will be changed by the La Jolla Symphony and Chorus. We'll look ahead to treating the classics with the same rough and tumble inquiry that we reserve for the newest music, and the first works of young composers with the same respect we accord the classics. I'll continue to take a moment before every concert to chat with our faithful audience who has paced us every step of the way and who not only accepts our programming, but craves it. Demands it. We'll welcome more Young Artists like Keir and more Nee Commissionees like Tina; more of the music you love and more of what you are about to love.

But before we get on the joyous business of living the rest of lives, let's raise a glass (filled with Laphroaig, if memory serves me correctly) and toast Tom and Mary one more time. And walking off stage, I'll think of all of that music and all of those 50 years, and I'll give a little nod of thanks to the memory of Tom and Mary Nee, who started it all.

Steven Schick



News from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

We truly hit the ground running with sold-out houses on the season's opening concert weekend, November 4 and 5! The crowds were not only large but appreciative. We also received excellent publicity: a full-page concert preview in the San Diego U-T one week prior to the performances, a KPBS-TV segment with Cecil Lytle and Tobin Chodos the Friday before the concert, and a good review by Marcus Overton that appeared in the San Diego U-T on November 6th. Congratulations all around for an exciting start to the 2017-18 season.

Videotaping Sponsored for Entire Season

Thanks to the continuing generosity of the family of Joan Forrest (former violinist in the orchestra), every concert this season will have the Sunday performances videotaped and later broadcast by UCSD-TV. To check out any of our previously-recorded concerts, go to the La Jolla Symphony & Chorus website video archive (<http://lajollasympphony.com/media-archive/>). To see a list of all of the LJS&C videos posted on YouTube, click on "all videos." Airing on UCSD-TV over the next week or two will be our 2017 Young People's Concert (sponsored by Kiwanis Club of La Jolla), followed by the November 5 concert video.

Holiday Celebration

I am looking forward to the December concert and to seeing many of you on December 10 at the post-concert "Holiday Reception" in the East Room! Please plan to stop in before heading home to share good cheer with your fellow musicians, staff and Board members before the holiday break.

Diane Salisbury

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* Board representatives to the ensembles

Meet Bass Vincent Tedjasputra

At the tender age of 14, Vincent Tedjasputra was already a tenor.

At that age Vince joined the Maximilian Kolbe Church Youth Choir in Westlake, north of Los Angeles, as a tribute to his mother, who sang in the adult choir until her death. His father was a pianist, so Vince was surrounded by music, which, he says, “is in my blood.”

The first time he joined the La Jolla Symphony and Chorus in 2005 he was an undergraduate in human biology at UC San Diego. He made a friend in fellow bass (and biologist) Paul Friedman, who urged him to enroll in graduate school. At UC San Diego, he was also on the Men’s Track and Field team as a hammer thrower for all 4 years, something not many choir members anywhere can say.

His interest in athletics not only resulted in advanced degrees, but probably increased his lung capacity as a singer. He kept singing with LJS&C during his studies for a master’s degree in exercise physiology at SDSU, graduated and went on to the University of Alberta in Edmonton for his PhD in cardiopulmonary exercise philosophy. “Yes,” he says, “I have a doctorate in gym.”

His PhD took six years. Although he never got used to the very long and bitter Alberta winters, he, “... jumped feet first into Canadian culture, learning to play ice hockey on the outdoor rinks, mountain biking in the Rocky Mountains in the summer time, eating an unhealthy amount of poutine, and (being) blessed by the Aurora Borealis.”

And he kept singing. He joined the Richard Eaton Singers, “I sang the Hostias and Libera Me solos in the Faure Requiem in the famed Winspeare Center on Remembrance Day 2013, which was one of the highlights of my musical career.” Vince also became the singer of the Canadian National Anthem for the university’s hockey, basketball, football, and volleyball events. Even more thrilling was being



asked “to sing for the 2016 Canadian Olympic Trials for Track and Field, an Edmonton Eskimos game (CFL) vs Toronto Argonauts in Nov 2016, and for the FIBA Women’s international Tournament in 2016, in which Canada won the gold medal over Chile.”

Vince has circled back to UC San Diego for a postdoc in his former lab. He’s working on the effect of healthy aging on lung blood-flow, hoping to determine risk factors in pulmonary vascular disease. And, of course, he re-joined the LJS&C. “I am very much looking forward to blasting the bass parts in the Carmina Burana,” he says, “and hope that one day I’ll have the range and/or moxie to tackle O Sole Mio on my own.”

We can’t wait!

Pat Finn

Great Holiday Gift Idea!

What do you give the music-lover, bon vivant, or adventurous spirit who has everything? A LJS&C season subscription, of course! Now that the season has started, we have affordable fractional subscription packages available. If you're struggling to fill all of your holiday gift-giving orders, why not introduce a student, family member or friend to the LJS&C? Five- and three-concert subscriptions are available for as little as \$39! Call the office and speak to Adam at 858-534-4637.

Diane Salisbury

Need to contact the LJS&C?

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Diane Salisbury, Executive Director

Article Watch

From Walter Desmond

Review | La Jolla Symphony pairs masterworks and a world premiere to launch new season

By Marcus Overton, The San Diego Union-Tribune

<http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/entertainment/classical-music/sd-me-review-lajolla-symphony-20171105-story.html>

From Danbi Ahn

Hear the Martha Argerich Recordings That Inspired 8 Young Pianists

By Joshua Barone, New York Times

<https://nyti.ms/2zjYeQg>



Hear the Piece That Won One of Music's Biggest Prizes

By Zachary Woolfe, New York Times

<https://nyti.ms/2kattLn>

Celebrating 100 Years Of Bernstein With Gianandrea Noseda

By Nina Totenberg, NPR

<https://n.pr/2zDi8tD>



Contributors

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Steven Schick

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If you find an interesting, music-related article or web site, please send the information about it to Danbi at yoahn@ucsd.edu