

PROGRAM

Sonata da Chiesa No. 2 *Sagrada* (2016) Adolphus Hailstork
(b. 1941)

Saturday March 21:

Concerto for Alto Saxophone and orchestra (1944) Paul Creston
(1906-1985)

Austin Shilling *alto saxophone*

Senior Division winner, 2025 Nico Toscano Young Musician Competition

II. Meditative

III. Rhythmic

Sunday March 22:

Concertino for horn and strings, Op. 45 (1933) Lars-Erik Larsson
(1908-1986)

Alex Gagne *horn*

Junior Division winner, 2025 Nico Toscano Young Musician Competition

Allegro moderato

Lento cantabile

Allegro vivace

-intermission-

Symphony No. 1 in C minor (1845-47) Emilie Mayer
(1812-1883)

Adagio - Allegro energico

Adagio

Allegro vivace

Finale. Adagio - Allegro

Host - Mona Seghatoleslami,
Music Director, host and producer on WXXI Classical 91.5

Passions & Places

This weekend's program celebrates the passions of young artists, the Romantics, and the places that inspire artmaking.

Cordancia is thrilled to present the 2025 winners of the Nico Toscano Young Musician Competition, with saxophonist Alex Shilling on Saturday and horn player Alex Gagne on Sunday. Both offer beautiful sound and stunning technique in concertante works that may be new to many audience members.

The cornerstone of our program, Emilie Mayer's Symphony No. 1, draws inspiration from Beethoven, Haydn, and Mendelssohn with twists and turns that are entirely her own. In Mayer's time she became well-regarded, especially in Berlin where she eventually made her home. This is the first of eight symphonies by a composer who was prolific in many genres. I particularly enjoy hearing some of Haydn in the variations of the slow movement.

Adolphus Hailstork's *Sagrada* is of course inspired by his journey to the stellar Gaudí church now nearing completion in Barcelona, Spain. We feel a real sense of place in this music, from solemn and meditative gestures to sweeping architecture that is somehow different from each angle and viewpoint. Having experience as a church musician himself, it is easy to see how Hailstork would find great inspiration in this remarkable space.

Hailstork is also tied to this place, our city of Rochester: he was born here, although raised in Albany. Cordancia is proud to have performed music by many living composers connected to our city. I believe an orchestra's repertoire should be somewhat local, and longtime Cordancia audience members will recall several living composers with Rochester connections that our orchestra has performed. I hope we can continue to play fresh finds from around the world while making local connections, with you along for the ride.

Thank you for joining us.

Evan Meccarello, *Artistic Director*