

CCM

ORCHESTRA SERIES
PRESENTS

CCM PHILHARMONIA “RUSSIAN GIANTS”

Mark Gibson, music director

Timothy Muffitt, guest conductor

Ding Zhou, student soloist, piano

Tuesday, September 15, 2026
Corbett Auditorium
7:30 p.m.

PROGRAM

House of Dreams (2026)

Jared Miller
(b. 1988)

Piano Concerto No. 3 in C Major, Op. 26 (1921)

Sergei Prokofiev
(1891-1953)

I. Andante - Allegro
II. Tema con variazioni
III. Allegro, ma non troppo

Ding Zhou, piano *

INTERMISSION

Symphony No. 3 in A Minor, Op. 44 (1936)

Sergei Rachmaninoff
(1873-1943)

I. Lento - Allegro moderato
II. Adagio ma non troppo - Allegro vivace
III. Allegro - Allegro vivace

**Winner of the CCM Piano Concerto Competition; student of Prof. Avan Yu*

PROGRAM NOTES

House of Dreams:

The idea for House of Dreams struck me a few months before I wrote the piece after suddenly waking up from an “episodic dream”. Episodic dreams are those with multiple scenes/plotlines that gradually morph into each other, with some stories returning throughout the dream and others dissipating into the ether. While I could not remember the exact plotlines of the episodic dream I experienced, I vividly remembered the feeling of multiple plotlines intersecting – almost as if I was wandering through a big house with multiple rooms, each one consisting of a separate dream. I have attempted to capture this feeling in this piece. After the opening of the piece which depicts someone slowly drifting into dreamland, the listener is taken on a sonic adventure that evokes electrifying excitement, tragedy, wonderment, and the catharsis that one experiences in nature.

Sweet dreams!

– JM

BIOGRAPHY

Maestro Timothy Muffitt: With the 2025-26 season, Timothy Muffitt concluded a 20-year tenure as Music Director and Conductor of the Lansing Symphony Orchestra. From 1999 to 2019, he was also Music Director of the Baton Rouge Symphony Orchestra. Upon his resignation there he was honored with the title Music Director Laureate. Muffitt is also Artistic Director of the Chautauqua Institution's Music School and conductor of the Music School Festival Orchestra, one of the country's premiere orchestral training ensembles. He has held this position since 1997.

Along with continued growth in artistic excellence, Muffitt's work with orchestras has been marked by innovative and imaginative programming. In addition to traditional concert settings, he has crafted concert programs in new and engaging formats and venues, creating musical experiences that have expanded the audience base in his communities and garnered enthusiastic response.

Also notable throughout his career has been the championing of new music from composers of broadly diverse backgrounds, including composers from traditionally under-represented communities along with well-established living composers and those whose stars are still rising. He has been involved in commissioning well over 100 works in his career and initiated a Composer-in-Residence program with The Lansing Symphony. These efforts reflect his commitment to creating a nurturing environment for music of our time, all while striking a balance with traditional repertoire that creates a dynamic and enlightening experience for the audiences.

In great demand as a guest conductor, Muffitt has appeared with many prominent orchestras around the country including the Atlanta, St. Louis, Houston, Phoenix, Edmonton, Spokane and Tulsa Symphonies, along with several return engagements with the San Francisco Symphony. Other engagements have taken Muffitt to podiums of the Hollywood Bowl, Columbus Ohio's Pro Musica Chamber Orchestra, the Long Beach Symphony, the Buffalo Philharmonic, Harrisburg Symphony, the Virginia Symphony, and the Grant Park Music Festival Orchestra in Chicago. Equally at home in the opera pit as the concert stage, Mr. Muffitt has also conducted over 50 staged opera productions.

BIOGRAPHY

He has had the pleasure of collaborating with a wide range of artists including Lang Lang, Yo Yo Ma, Wynton Marsalis, Emanuel Ax, Renee Fleming, Hilary Hahn, William Warfield, Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, Van Cliburn, Itzhak Perlman, Andre Watts, Joshua Bell, Pinchas Zuckerman, Audra McDonald, Chris Botti, Branford Marsalis, Roberta Flack, Kenny Loggins, and Trisha Yearwood among many others.

Off the podium, Mr. Muffitt has engaged his communities as an arts advocate and cultural leader through multiple platforms. A strong proponent of community-based arts education and enrichment, he has used television, radio, public lecture and social media to engage, entertain and enlighten diverse audiences.

Formerly Associate Conductor with the Austin Symphony, Mr. Muffitt was also Artistic Director of the Louisiana Philharmonic's Casual Classics Series in New Orleans. It was for his work in that position, that he was awarded a Certificate of Meritorious Service from the American Federation of Musicians.

Born in Bridgeport, Connecticut, Mr. Muffitt began his musical studies on the piano and later added viola and trumpet. His conducting teachers were David Effron, Timothy Russell, Murry Sidlin and Walter Hendl. He is a graduate of Ohio State University and the Eastman School of Music where he earned the Doctor of Musical Arts degree.

ROSTER

CCM PHILHARMONIA

Timothy Muffitt, guest conductor

Violin I

Annie Donato,
concertmaster
Kerrigan Mandrell,
assistant concertmaster
Karis Dharmawirya
Jiaqi Wang
Edgar Lucena
Ruikang Yang
Eileen Currie
Emily Beckner
Lauren Geerlings
Ramel Price
Jingjia Wang
Tzu-Ting Chen

Violin II

Olivia Szor, *principal*
Karissa Brath, *assistant*
Alexa Lang-Vega
Jason Colón
Christine Park
Emily Gladstone
Peilin Jiang
Minyue Zhang
Rain Go
Rodney Ho
Fengyi Yang

Viola

Nilli Tayidi, *principal*
James Hankins
Margaret Lytle
Gabriel Caal
Hinami Koyama
Solange Gallina
Alyssa Cabassa
Lauren Wilson
Juliette Mikautadze
Aidan Knox
Harper Knopf
Cuong Diep
Junting Yang
Zach Hutchinson

Cello

Krish Subramanian,
principal
Arowyn Almeida
Andres Celis
Joanna Frank
Zhixu Cheng
Ada Ortan
Yinchen Feng
Caitlin Cross
Xinrui Yan
Elliott Watras
Rory Gallo
Ellery Schade

Double Bass

Angshen Sun, *principal*
Fischer Friend
Jo Arnold
Jaeliana Kanko
John Mason Copeland
Georgia Holt

Flute

Sunju Kim³
Laura Lin², *flute/piccolo*
Maria Milano¹,
flute/ piccolo

Oboe

Elijah Barrios³
Hongzhen Chen
Maxx Mejia^{1/2}, *english horn*

Clarinet

Reuben Alan
Sarah Eom^{1/3}
Daniel Hayden,
bass clarinet
Seongjin Kim²

Bassoon

Ian Christensen²,
contrabassoon/bassoon
Alek Prok³
Cedric Quinn
Hung-Hsuan Tang¹

Horn

Alex Fanetti²
Jackson Krumnow
Matias Rivera
Duoran Wang¹
Alyssa Webb
Michael Zelinski³

Trumpet

Luke Halling²
Austin Park^{1/3}
Onyu Park
Zhiyang Xia, *alto trumpet*

Trombone

Isaac Campbell³
Yuxin Chen¹
Sean LaRoy²
Tom Toth

Tuba

Bruce Deal

Harp

Olivia Henderson¹
Lily Primus³

Timpani

Matt Hanson³
Austin Nordhaus²
Emma Zemancik¹

Percussion

Elliot Hungler
Meg Lynch
Koen Scheid

Graduate Assistants

Benjamin Keating
Eugenius Vivaldy
Juan Vasquez Acero
Xiaohe Yang
Frejya Zackrison

Librarians

Kerrigan Mandrell
Jingjia Wang

1 denotes principal player in House of Dreams (2026)

2 denotes principal player in Piano Concerto No. 3 in C Major, Op. 26 (1921)

3 denotes principal player in Symphony No. 3 in A Minor, Op. 44

NEXT ONSTAGE

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7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 23

Orchestra Series

AN EVENING OF MOZART: GRACE, FIRE AND JUPITER

CCM Concert Orchestra

Aik Khai Pung, music director and conductor

Featuring student artist Joaquin Chavez, clarinet

W.A. MOZART: Symphony No. 32 in G Major, K. 318

W.A. MOZART : Clarinet Concerto in A Major, K.622

W.A. MOZART: Symphony No. 41, "Jupiter"

Estimated run time: 90 minutes

Location: Corbett Auditorium

Admission: FREE

Flash photography, video and audio recording of performances is prohibited without prior written approval from CCM.

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