



News

Astronomical images accompany sounds of symphony

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Classical music lovers and outer space enthusiasts alike can look forward to the Central Ohio Symphony's next performance.

The symphony will meld science and music at 3 p.m. March 4 at Ohio Wesleyan University's Gray Chapel, 61 S. Sandusky St. in Delaware.

The interactive concert will feature outer space photographs taken from the Adler Planetarium in Chicago projected onto a screen while the symphony plays.

Warren Hyer, executive director of the symphony, said the pairing is the work of Jose Francisco Salgado.

Salgado is an astronomer and artist from the Adler Planetarium who put together the videos of space, choreographed to the symphony's music.

This is the symphony's second concert featuring images from the solar system.

"The dramatic music combined with colorful pictures enhances the experience of science and art together," Hyer said.

He said the symphony is the third or fourth orchestra in the world to perform music to the videos.

The March 4 concert will feature the music of Sean Beeson, a Central Ohio resident who composes music for video games.

Percussionist Jeff Queen will perform Prometheus Rapture with the symphony along with Clint Needham and Adam Longstaffer, who are also composers.

In addition to the concert, the symphony will be involved in a number of other community events this winter and spring.

"Music is a powerful medium to explore all of life, and we like to use the symphony as a vehicle for people to be involved," Hyer said.

He said he uses the concerts to explore other issues in life, such as literacy and art, and believes the symphony can engage the community through projects.

Some of the ways it's doing that is through school classroom activities, art displays and clinics.

Buckeye Valley elementary schools will make artwork with astronomical pictures after listening to music. The artwork will be displayed during the concert, then at the symphony's offices in Delaware.

Queen will hold a clinic for area high school drum lines and bands May 3 at Columbus Percussion, 5052 N. High St.

Some of Salgado's astronomical photographs will be displayed at the Beegley Library, 61 S. Sandusky St.

The symphony also will hold its rehearsal with the Second Ward Community Initiative at the Ross Street Community Center.

"We want to reach out and have the community interact in any way they can," Hyer said.

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