

---

Congratulations to  
Independence Sinfonia



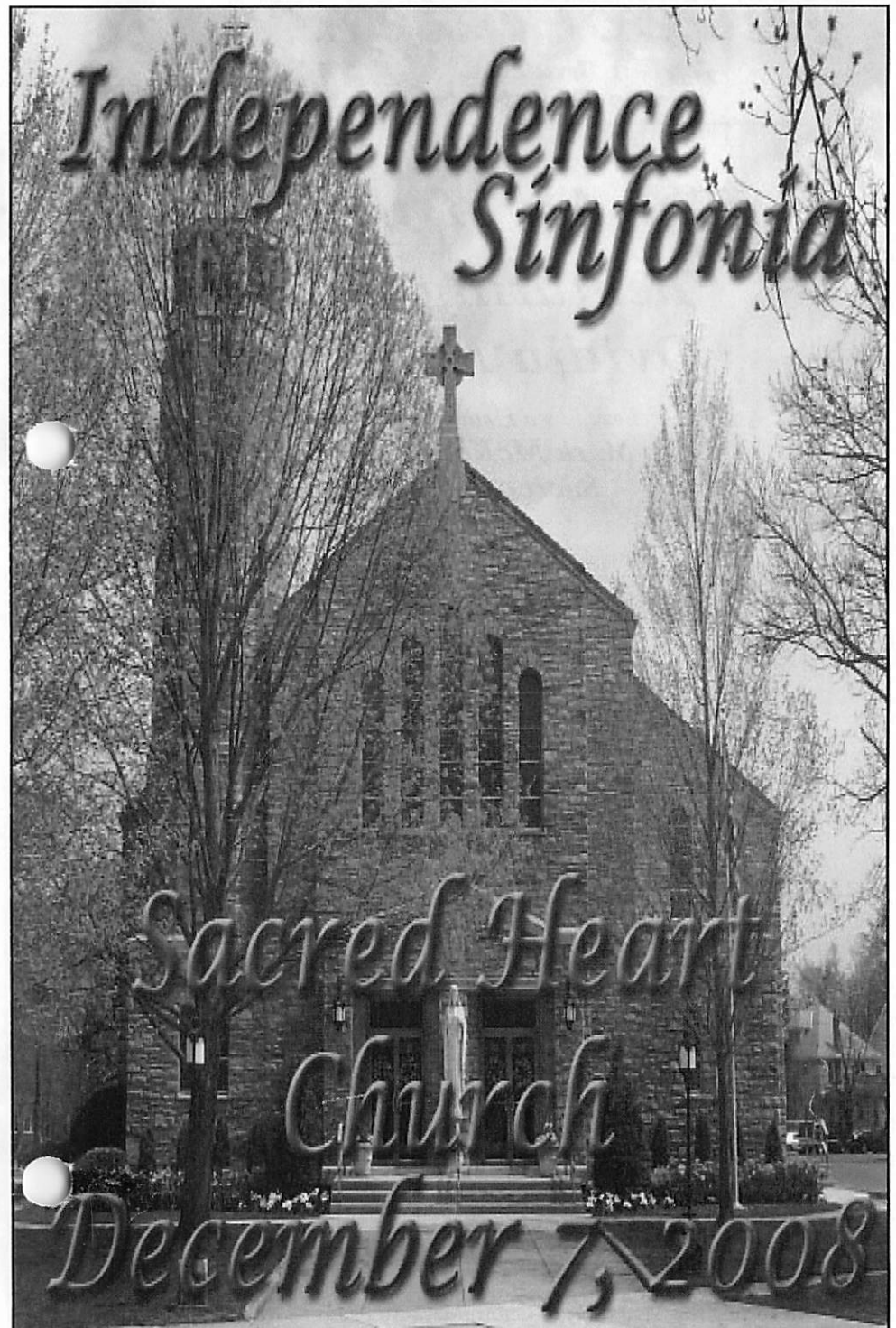
EYE ASSOCIATES  
OF ELKINS PARK

Dr. Lisa V. Davis  
Optometrist

(215) 663-0306

Medical Arts Building · 50 East Township Line Road · Suite 306 · Elkins Park, PA 19027

---



# Independence

Jeffrey Bradbury  
Music Director

# Sinfonia

presents

## "The Art of the Cello"

### Featuring Soloist Ovidiu Marinescu

Followed by a Holiday Sing-Along led by  
Mark McKeever and the  
Sacred Heart Choir



#### Cello Concerto in A minor, Op. 129

Robert Schumann

1. Nicht zu schnell
2. Langsam
3. Sehr lebhaft

with Ovidiu Marinescu, Cello Soloist

#### Intermission

#### Symphony in D, Op. 24

Jan Vaclav Vorisek (1791-1825)

1. Allegro con brio
2. Andante
3. Scherzo
4. Finale

#### Holiday Sing-Along

Featuring the Sacred Heart Choir; Mark McKeever - Music Director

performing Mozart concertos as well as his own compositions. He won a scholarship to study in Prague, and later matriculated at the University of Prague, where he began his studies in law. His first love, however, remained music, and he pursued his studies in harmony, counterpoint, and composition with Tomasek. Prague's reactionary musical culture impelled him to relocate to Vienna, where horizons were more open. Here he completed his legal studies while working to establish himself in a musical career. He soon made influential contacts while being employed in a surprising haven for young, aspiring artists, the Imperial War Department. From 1818, he held the post of conductor of the orchestra of the influential Gesellschaft der Musikfreunde. He and Schubert made their acquaintance at Sonnleithner's salon, and influenced each other's compositional styles. Vorisek's piano works received Beethoven's commendation, and they soon became friends. Things were going well for Jan professionally, but sadly, his health, undermined by pulmonary tuberculosis, began to dramatically fail in 1824. In a gesture indicative of the esteem in which he held Vorisek, Beethoven dispatched his own physician to Vorisek's aid, but unfortunately to no avail. While the majority of Vorisek's works are for keyboard, he is still remembered for his one symphony, and justly so. Although some influences traceable to Beethoven are visible, principally rhythmic and thematic, his harmonic sense is closer to that of his contemporaries, Chopin and Schubert. Nevertheless, his style is ultimately his own, and not merely derivative. With works as compelling as this one to his credit, we can only speculate what Vorisek would have produced had he been graced with a longer life.

#### Program notes by Forrest Rowland

---

## Robert Schumann (1810-1856) Violoncello Concerto Op.129

Robert Schumann's life oscillated between poles of triumphant creativity and personal disappointment and tragedy. In his youth, he developed an abiding love for both literature and music. As a young man, he at first, reluctantly pursued studies directed toward a legal career, but ultimately the siren call of music proved irresistible. His budding career as a pianist was destroyed when his right hand was crippled through use of a device intended to strengthen his fourth finger, so personal advocacy for his masterful piano compositions had to be left to his piano virtuoso wife, Clara. Robert was an outstanding music critic; he was not only versed in works of masters of the past, but he was simultaneously exquisitely sensitive to the promise of the brightest young composers of his day. His own compositional output went by fits and starts, but he contributed significantly to genres as diverse as art song, chamber music, orchestral music and concerto literature. Schumann was generally unimpressed by his contemporaries' efforts in that last category, once observing that, "If one works with so great an art form, before which even the best in the land are timid, he should know what he is doing". In 1850, Robert was engaged as the conductor of the orchestra at Düsseldorf, and perhaps this situation provided the impetus for his rapid composition of the Concerto in that year. Schumann had personal knowledge of the instrument, having played the 'cello in his youth. Additionally, after he had irreparably injured his right hand, he wrote to his mother, "I am for my part completely resigned...I will take up the violoncello again (for which only the left hand is needed) which besides is very useful for symphonic compositions". The form of the Concerto was innovative – there is no orchestral exposition, the three movements are linked, the cadenza is accompanied, and themes are recurrent – something one might expect given Schumann's sense that appropriate form should be organically derived from musical inspiration. The Concerto finally premiered in 1860, four years after Robert's untimely death at age 46, following a precipitous descent into madness. Some early critics failed to understand this work; but considering that great virtuosi such as Casals and Rostropovich counted it among their favorites, we expect that you too will relish its beauties.

## Jan Vaclav Vorisek (1791-1825) – Symphony in D Op.24

Jan Vorisek (pronounced Voor-shi-sheck) was the son of a Bohemian schoolmaster. Unsurprisingly, he received training commensurate with his father's profession, including instruction in violin, piano, organ, and composition. While still a child, he toured Bohemia as a keyboard virtuoso,

---

**Ovidiu Marinescu**, one of the outstanding musicians of his native Romania, was chosen to play at Carnegie Hall for Romanian President Constantinescu on an official visit to the United States. Soon after, he made his debut with the New York Chamber Symphony in Beethoven's Triple Concerto, followed by recitals in Merkin Hall (New York), Philadelphia, and Los Angeles. After his debut with the National Radio Orchestra of Romania in 2001 in the Saint-Saens Cello Concerto, which was broadcast live on "Romania Cultural" radio station, he returned to perform "Ipostaze 3" by Adrian Iorgulescu, and his own transcription of the Mozart G Major Concerto. Most recently, Marinescu played Haydn's Cello Concerto in C Major with the Moscow Chamber Orchestra in the Great Hall of the Moscow Conservatory and the Slobodkin Center, the Elgar Concerto with the Helena Symphony, Schumann in Cleveland and Shostakovich Cello Concerto no. 2 in Delaware. His critically acclaimed first recording Fiesta Latina was followed by a recording of the complete Miaskovsky cello works with the Russian Philharmonic Orchestra and pianist Kenneth Boulton released by Cambria. His solo performances this season include the Shostakovich Concerto no. 1 with the Cleveland Philharmonic, the Triple Concerto by Beethoven with the Helena Symphony and Southeastern Pennsylvania Symphony, the Schumann Concerto with the Independence Sinfonia.

Marinescu has performed at festivals in Luzerne, Bayreuth, Chautauqua, South Bohemia, Orlando and Brasov, the New Hampshire Music Festival, and Magie Barocche in Italy. Active as a chamber musician, between 1995 and 2002 Marinescu was a member of Adirondack Ensemble, a year-around resident group in New York State that performed over 200 concerts, presented school programs and founded Adirondack Music Camp. Currently, he performs with Trio Casals and Trio Lipatti.

Equally outstanding as a conductor, Marinescu combines a precise technique with great musical inspiration. He is the Director of the West Chester University Symphony, which under his leadership made a sold out debut at the Kimmel Center in Philadelphia and embarked in its first European tour. Subsequently, the orchestra was invited to participate in the prestigious Catania International Festival in Sicily, Italy. Marinescu has been appointed Music Director of the Immaculata Symphony starting in fall of 2008. He served as the conductor for the Wilmington Orchestra between 2003-7, as the Music Director of the Manalapan Orchestra in New Jersey, and Principal Conductor of the Goppisberg Festival Orchestra in Switzerland. His guest conducting includes the Philharmonic Orchestra in Bacau, Brasov and Ploiesti, and Orquesta de Extremadura in Spain, both as conductor and soloist. Marinescu led the Delaware Chamber Orchestra in its first tour abroad, with performances for the South Bohemia Festival in the Czech Republic.

# Independence Sinfonia

Jeffrey Bradbury  
Music Director

Jeff Bradbury has recently been appointed as the Music Director of the Independence Sinfonia, The North Brunswick High School Orchestras and for Spotliters, Inc. He has taught strings (beginner to advanced) at all grade levels in the Pennsauken, Haddonfield, Kingsway Regional, and Bridgewater-Raritan school districts.

Mr. Bradbury has conducted the Orchestra Society of Philadelphia, Philharmonic of Southern New Jersey, Independence Sinfonia, Chestnut Hill Orchestra, West Chester University Symphony Orchestra & String Ensemble, and the Olney Symphony. He has been on the conducting staff at the Strings International Festival (2004-2006) and was pit conductor for Spotliters' production of *Oliver!* (2005), *Anything Goes!* (2006) and *Footloose* (2007). Mr. Bradbury has served as guest conductor for the Central New Jersey Music Educators Intermediate Orchestra (2006), and participated in the Eastman Summer Conducting program in Rochester, New York (2005) and the Conductors Retreat at Medomak (2006-2007) where he studied with Kenneth Kiesler and Marianne Ploger. Mr. Bradbury has appeared with various orchestras along the East Coast including the Independence Sinfonia, Rowan University Symphony Orchestra, Old York Road Symphony, West Chester University Symphony Orchestra, Wilmington Community Orchestra, and South Jersey Philharmonic Orchestra.

He is a frequent guest soloist and has performed recitals at the Kimmel Center, Swope Hall, and the Westminster Church of West Chester. He also performs at the annual concerts at Jakeman Hall in Old Orchard Beach, Maine and served as principal violist for a performance of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony with the Orchestra Society of Philadelphia (2006).

Mr. Bradbury is a graduate of West Chester University. He currently studies conducting with Mr. Gabriel Gordon and has studied viola under the instruction of Mrs. Sylvia Ahranjian. He is also the founder and member of the West Chester String Quartet and The Shrewsbury String Quartet. In Summer 2000, as an Oxford University scholarship recipient, he was a guest soloist and along with Mrs. Sylvia Ahranjian, performed the Mozart Duo in G Major K.423 for Violin/Viola. Jeff Bradbury currently resides in Pennsauken New Jersey with his wife Jennifer. See [www.BradburyMusic.com](http://www.BradburyMusic.com)

*The Independence Sinfonia* is comprised of talented musicians from the Delaware Valley. Our players range in age from students to retirees, but they are all united in their love for the performance of fine literature for chamber orchestra. A self-governing community organization, the Independence Sinfonia welcomes your support as volunteers and donors in the furtherance of our artistic mission.

## Violin I

William Phillips\*

Alice Huang

Steve Kadlecek

Eden Kainer

Laura Vidmar

Carl Henningsen

## Cello

Julie Wiberg

Tony Gizzi

Katie Seymour

## Flute

Lisa Davis

Terry Seligmann

## Bassoon

Judy Frank

Lisa Henderson

## Violin II

Kim Dolan

Maria Pulzetti

John Aumann

Saulky McInneshein

Emily Weigert

## Double Bass

Jennifer Bradbury

Heather Dickson

## Oboe

Forrest Rowland

Lynda Cantor

## Horn

Julie Rivers

Caryn Franchetti

## Percussion

Bill Priebe

## Viola

Richard Lyon

Richard Kaplan

Margot Cohn

## Clarinet

William Fullard

Harriett Ranney

## Trumpet

Jim Edwards

Michael Franchetti

\*Concertmaster