

SANTA FE
PRO MUSICA
THE 36TH SEASON

Nadja's Concert

Friday, September 22, 2017, 10AM

Lensic Performing Arts Center

The music of Pärt, Elgar, Grieg and Piazzolla



YOUTH CONCERT STUDY MATERIALS

Here you will find useful information and activities that can be helpful in preparing your students for the music they will hear on the Santa Fe Pro Musica Youth Concert, Friday, September 22, 2017 at 10am in the Lensic Performing Arts Center. Please use these resources as best fits your needs.

- Audience Etiquette (a directed activity)
- Who is Nadja?
- About the Concert

AUDIENCE ETIQUETTE

- **Teaching Objective:** Students will demonstrate an understanding of appropriate audience behavior in a variety of settings.
- **Pre-Assessment:** Ask students how they would behave at an orchestra concert.
- **Teaching Sequence**
 1. Ask students to describe places where they were members of an audience. Answers could include attending a movie, a theater, a sports arena, at home watching television, a concert hall, etc. List the answers on the chalkboard.
 2. Discuss the appropriate audience behavior for each of the settings listed above. For example, how would audience behavior at a golf tournament be different from a football game? How would the audience behave at a rock concert compared with a classical music concert?
 3. Choose students to act as performers in at least three of the settings listed above. For example, they may pretend to be playing a sport like golf or tennis; or they could pretend to be playing instruments in an orchestra or a rock band. Allow the students to perform while the rest of the class pretends to be in the audience.
 4. Before and after each performance, review with the class where they are pretending to be and help the class evaluate the appropriate audience behavior for each location. Point out that some behaviors that are fine in one setting are considered inappropriate in another. Ask performers if they felt that the audience's behavior was appropriate for their performance and why.
- **Culminating Activity:** Tell students that they will soon be going to a concert where they will hear an orchestra. Help students create a guide for correct behavior at an orchestra concert. Have students use their guide to evaluate their behavior after the concert.
- **Evaluation:** Did student responses indicate an understanding of the appropriate behavior for this event?



WHO IS NADJA?

Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg was born in Rome to an American mother and a Russian father. She started playing violin at age 5, moved 3 years later to the U.S so she could attend the Curtis Institute of Music (Philadelphia) and later, The Juilliard School (New York City). In addition to playing violin, she leads orchestras and teaches kids.

Nadja also has a talent for media and was the host for Backstage/Live from Lincoln Center (PBS), appeared in the PBS/BBC series “The Mind,” was the subject of the Academy Award nominated documentary “Speaking in Strings,” and was profiled on CBS/60 Minutes: “One Tough Cookie” with Morley Safer. She’s also done interviews with Johnny Carson on The Tonight Show, with Charlie Rose (PBS) and even Big Bird on Sesame Street. Now she has started a new chapter in her life and is currently Resident Artist at Loyola University in New Orleans.

Check out these YouTube videos.

Nadja and Big Bird on Sesame Street (4:06)

https://youtu.be/U_hdCugr4-c

Nadja plays Gershwin on the Tonight Show with Johnny Carson (2:45)

<https://youtu.be/aaVhqvcbjY>

ABOUT THE CONCERT

(selections from the following pieces will be performed on the September 22 Youth Concert)

Arvo Pärt (b. 1935) *Fratres* for solo violin, string orchestra and percussion

Arvo Pärt, originally from Estonia, is a devout Russian Orthodox Catholic and an intensely spiritual man who spent several extended periods of his life in meditative silence. His music is inspired by medieval liturgical music and utilizes hushed dynamics, rhythmic stillness, and mystical introspection. His composition *Fratres* evokes a solemn procession of medieval monks wending their way by candle light to the chapel.

Edward Elgar (1857-1934) *Larghetto* for string orchestra

Elgar was born in the lovely Malvern Hills of southwestern England where he developed a love of nature that would influence his music. As a youth, he would often sit by the river with his manuscript book “trying to write down what the reeds were saying.” We will perform the tender *Larghetto* (“where love and pain now mingle”) from his *Serenade for Strings. Op. 20*.

Edvard Grieg (1843-1907) *Holberg Suite* for string orchestra

Grieg, one of the best known Scandinavian composers, savored the landscapes of his beloved “Land of the Midnight Sun” and seasoned his music with the essence of Norway. He crafted his *Holberg Suite* in an 18th century musical style but filled it with the romantic spirit of his own time.

Astor Piazzolla (1921-1992) *The Four Seasons of Buenos Aires* for solo violin and string orchestra

The Argentine composer Astor Piazzolla is in excellent company with Vivaldi – both wrote imaginative music inspired by the four seasons of nature. However, Piazzolla’s version, *The Four Seasons of Buenos Aires*, also draws breath from his country’s musical soul, resonating in the tango where we “savor the damp atmosphere of pre-war cafés, cigarettes, cathedrals and families.”