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YPSILANTI SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PERFORMS ALL-BEETHOVEN CONCERT WITH SOPRANO JESSICA DOLD ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17 AT TOWSLEY AUDITORIUM, CONDUCTED BY MUSIC DIRECTOR ADAM C. RICCINTO

YPSILANTI -- Music Director Adam C. Riccinto and the Ypsilanti Symphony Orchestra (YSO) continue their 20th Anniversary season with a concert at Towsley Auditorium/Washtenaw Community College on Sunday, February 17 at 3:30pm. In keeping with the season's theme "Local Treasures," the YSO is thrilled to perform with esteemed local soprano Jessica Dold. The program includes Ludwig von Beethoven's popular Symphony No. 5, two well-known arias, and the overture to *The Consecration of the House*.

First performed in 1796, the concert aria "Ah, perfido! (Ah! Deceiver)" is a milestone work in the existing repertoire for dramatic soprano and orchestra. Composed by Beethoven with lyrics by Pietr Metastasio, the aria is based on the story of Deidamia, a scorned lover of Achilles. The heroine's emotions transition between disdain, longing, fury and despair; she invokes the wrath of the gods upon her abandoner; but she softens and implores fate to spare him.

Beethoven's only opera *Fidelio* was revised three times, with its final score published in 1826. The opera tells the story of Leonore's devotion to her husband Florestan, and her success in rescuing him from imprisonment. This opera is widely considered a masterpiece, and is known for its demanding principal roles. In the dramatic Act 1 aria "Abscheulicher!," soprano Leonore overhears the evil Pizarro's plans to kill her imprisoned husband. Singing in German, she laments his cruelty but believes that her love can overcome all odds, and that he will be rescued.

Beethoven composed the energetic overture to *The Consecration of the House* in 1822 for the opening of a new theatre in Vienna. The dramatic composition was inspired by Beethoven's study of Handel and the baroque style. Beethoven conducted the premiere performance while seated at a piano with his left ear facing the stage. The overture, which received high praise from critics, would be one of the final performances he could still hear.

Symphony No. 5, Beethoven's first minor-key symphony, premiered in 1808. The symphony has been described as "the most sublime noise that has even penetrated the ear of man." Though he began work on the symphony in 1804, other commissions took priority and delayed its premiere until 1808, where it premiered alongside Symphony No. 6. Widely considered a masterpiece and the epitome of Beethoven's style, all four of the symphony's movements seem to evolve from themes introduced in the opening measures.

The YSO is excited for the opportunity to perform again with special guest Jessica Dold, who has a rising career as a full lyric soprano in the Ann Arbor/Detroit area and nationwide. Her operatic credits include recent roles with Michigan Opera Theatre, Opera Grand Rapids, Toledo Opera, Mercury Opera Rochester, Blue Lake Opera and Arbor Opera Theater. Jessica has an established oratorio repertoire, having performed as a soloist in Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Beethoven's *Mass in C*, Rachmaninoff's *The Bells*, Haydn's *Creation* and *Lord Nelson Mass*, Brahms' *Ein Deutsches Requiem*, Mozart's *Requiem* and *Mass in C minor*, and Faure's *Requiem*. Jessica has also enjoyed performing locally as the Soprano Soloist for First United Methodist Church of Ann Arbor, Community Choir of Detroit, Michigan Sinfonietta, First Congregational Church of Muskegon, Sounding Light, Holland Symphony, Ann Arbor Cantata Singers, and the Detroit Medical Orchestra. Jessica last performed with the YSO in its 2015-16 season. For more information on Jessica visit www.jessicadold.com.



The Ypsilanti Symphony Orchestra, or YSO, is proud of its unique and significant cultural contribution to the Ypsilanti area. The YSO's mission is "to share our passion for music through innovative programming, creative collaboration, and arts advocacy," and to "actively contribute to the music appreciation and education of our musicians, organizational members and audience." Led by Founder and Music Director Adam C. Riccinto, the Symphony marks its 20th anniversary with the 2018-19 season.

The YSO's growth has been driven by its partnerships with regional organizations, strengthening community ties and offering diverse musical experiences to its audiences. In addition to the traditional concert season, the YSO traditionally works to showcase and collaborate with local performing arts groups. The YSO also performs its annual "Ypsi Pops" outdoor concert at Riverside Park in May. Sponsored by the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Association, this very popular event draws over 500 residents and friends over Memorial Day weekend, to sit by the Huron River and kick off the summer with the music of its own community orchestra.

The YSO's 20th anniversary season will continue in April, collaborating with local treasure and jazz composer Paul Keller.

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Ypsilanti Symphony Orchestra 20th Anniversary Season
All Beethoven Concert with Guest Artist, Jessica Dold
Celebrating 20 Years of Music-Making with Local Arts Treasures!
Adam C. Riccinto, Music Director

February 17, 2019 3:30pm

Towsley Auditorium, Washtenaw Community College
4800 E Huron River Dr, Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Program:

- Beethoven** "Ah, Perfido!" Op. 65
Beethoven "Abscheulicher, wo eilst du hin," from *Fidelio*
Beethoven Overture to *The Consecration of the House*, Op. 124
Beethoven Symphony No. 5, Op. 67

Tickets:

\$12/adults, \$6/students/seniors/children and \$30/family, can be purchased at the door and on A2Tix.com

Future performances will be held at Towsley Auditorium at 3:30pm on April 14, 2019, in addition to the "Ypsi Pops" outdoor concert at Riverside Park on Saturday, May 26 at 2 pm.