



Antonia Joy Wilson
Artistic Director & Conductor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 28, 2011

Midland Symphony Orchestra presents:

What: "Dancing Dreams & Reveries"
Featuring Orff's *Carmina Burana*

When: Saturday, April 16, 2011 • 8 pm
Prelude • 7:15 pm

Where: Auditorium, Midland Center for the Arts, 1801 W. St. Andrews Rd., Midland, MI 48640

Cost: \$24 & \$32 Adults | \$10 Students

Information: Call Ticket Office at (989) 631-8250 or (800) 523-7649 or www.mcfta.org

Find this on our website: <http://www.mcfta.org/OnstageGroups.html#symphony>

MIDLAND – Celebrate an evening of lyrical music when Midland Symphony Orchestra, Antonia Joy Wilson, Artistic Director and Conductor, presents **Dancing Dreams & Reveries** at Midland Center for the Arts, 1801 W. St. Andrews, on April 16 at 8 pm. Alexander Borodin's *Polovtsian Dances* and Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* promises a powerful season finale for the MSO's 75th season.

The **2011 "Maestro Wannabe"** winner will be announced at the start of the concert, and will conduct a piece of their choice. Winner (s) of the **Clara Highhill Memorial Scholarship** will be presented that evening. The concert concludes with the MSO welcoming to the stage guest vocal soloists Mary Martin, Kyle Knapp, and Chad Sloan, along with the Music Society Chorale, directed by James Hohmeyer, the Youth Honors Chorus, directed by Linda Hohner, the CMU Concert Choir, directed by Dr. Nina Nash-Robertson, the Saginaw Choral Society, directed by Glen Thomas Rideout, and the DDCdances (formerly the Detroit Dance Collective) in Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana*. In celebration of the MSO's 75th season, Jenkins Custom Jewelers will be holding a raffle, with tickets sold the night of the concert only.

Following the concert there will be a season-ending reception in honor of the MSO's 75th season and Antonia Joy Wilson's three years of service as Artistic Director and Conductor of the MSO. The reception is free and open to the public.

Adult tickets are \$24 and \$32; Student tickets are \$10, with a special Student Rush Ticket of \$5 (available day of the concert only). Tickets are available online at www.mcfta.org or by calling 800-523-7649. The Prelude, an informal discussion among the conductor, select guest artists, and the audience, will take place at 7:15 pm. Sponsored by Merrill Lynch-The Iles Group.

ALEXANDER BORODIN: POLOVTSIAN DANCES

Borodin was one of the great Russian nationalist composers sometimes known as the "Mighty Five," a group that also included Balikirev, Mussorgsky, Rimsky-Korsakov, and Cui. He was not a professional composer, but a rather a noted research chemist and made his living as a government official. This left him little time to compose and many of his works were left unfinished or were completed by colleagues. Perhaps the best known selections from Alexander Borodin's opera *Prince Igor*, the *Polovtsian Dances* are often performed as a stand-alone concert

piece. Borodin was the original composer, but after his death in 1887, the opera was finished by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov and Alexander Glazunov.

CARL ORFF: CARMINA BURANA

Composed in 1936, Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* (*Songs of the Beuern*) can be heard on stages, televisions, and silver screens across the world. Written exclusively for entertainment, *Carmina Burana* confronts issues similar to the issues we face today: love, fate and fortune. Orff described *Carmina Burana* as a "scenic cantata." It uses a very large orchestra and was originally designed for the stage, with dancing and mime accompanying the music. *Carmina Burana* is part of *Trionfi*, the musical triptych that also includes the cantata *Catulli Carmina* and *Trionfo di Afrodite*. The best-known movement is "Fortuna Imperatrix Mundi" ("O Fortuna") which opens and closes the piece. The piece premiered at the Frankfurt Opera House and is considered Orff's most successful composition.

MAESTRO WANNABE

A special thank you to our "Maestro Wannabe" fundraiser participants:

- Pi's Chinese Restaurant
- Genji's Japanese Steakhouse
- Kathy Peretz
- Steve Derees
- Bill Monroe
- Shirley Rose

Their support and dedication to fundraising for the Midland Symphony Orchestra is much appreciated. Funds raised from Maestro Wannabe are essential to the vitality of the MSO, helping us enrich lives for all ages within our community.

HIGHHILL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Each year, the Midland Symphony League presents the Clara Highhill Memorial Scholarship to one or more talented area instrumental music students to further support musical study. The scholarship honors the memory of longtime Symphony League volunteer Clara Highhill by recognizing and encouraging outstanding area instrumental students. The winner(s) of the scholarship will be announced after intermission.

The Midland Symphony Orchestra (MSO) has provided mid-Michigan with continuous symphonic music since 1936. Along with concerts featuring renowned guest artists, the MSO also provides educational opportunities through its touring ensembles in the schools, Tunes for Tots, prelude lectures, scholarships, music appreciation programs and guest artist master classes and residencies.

Midland Center for the Arts, Inc. is a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation formed under the laws of the State of Michigan incorporating six groups: Alden B. Dow Museum of Science and Art, Center Stage Theatre, MATRIX:MIDLAND, Midland County Historical Society, Midland Symphony Orchestra, and Music Society – Choral. Activities at Midland Center for the Arts are supported in part by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. For the latest Center news, visit our web site at www.mcfta.org.

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