Monday, March 16, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.
Schwan Concert Hall, Wisconsin Lutheran College, Wauwatosa

**Symphony Showcase**

Frank Almond, violin  
Todd Levy, clarinet  
Sonora Slocum, flute  
Katherine Young Steele, oboe  
Catherine Chen, bassoon  
Matthew Annin, horn  
Yuka Kadota, violin  
Samantha Rodriguez, viola  
Beth Breslin, viola  
Madeleine Kabat, cello  
Jon McCullough-Benner, bass

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**PROGRAM**

*La cheminée du roi René, Op. 205* ................................................................. Darius Milhaud  
(1892–1974)  

*La oración del torero (The Prayer of the Bullfighter), Op. 34* .............. Joaquín Turina  
(1882–1949)  

Quintet for horn and strings, K. 407 ................................................................. W.A. Mozart  
(1756–1791)  

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**INTERMISSION**

Nonet in F, Op. 31 .............................................................................................. Louis Spohr  
(1784–1859)
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FRANKY MUSIC EXTENDS A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR GUEST ARTISTS WHO HELPED MAKE ANOTHER WONDERFUL SEASON OF MUSIC!
♫
Violinist Frank Almond holds the Charles and Marie Caestecker Concertmaster Chair with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra. He has also held the Concertmaster position with the Rotterdam Philharmonic with Valery Gergiev and Guest Concertmaster of the London Symphony Orchestra with Kurt Masur.

Frank regularly performs as a soloist with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra and as soloist and chamber musician throughout the US and Europe. He is the founder of his own chamber music series in Milwaukee, Frankly Music, now in its 16th season and consistently recognized for innovative programming and its ability to attract leading performers from around the world.

At 17, he was one of the youngest prizewinners in the history of the Nicólo Paganini Competition in Genoa, Italy, and five years later was one of two American prizewinners at the Eighth International Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, which was documented in an award-winning PBS film. His extensive recording discography includes a wide range of repertoire on various labels that have garnered multiple Grammy nominations. His most recent series of recordings, A Violin’s Life, chronicles the extraordinary history and lineage of his current violin, the 1715 Lipiński Stradivarius. This instrument has direct ties to Giuseppe Tartini, Edvard Grieg, Johannes Brahms, and Robert and Clara Schumann.

On January 27, 2014, the Lipiński Stradivarius was stolen from Mr. Almond in an armed robbery after a concert. The violin was recovered nine days later, and the story continues to make headlines around the world, most notably in an extensive Vanity Fair feature. The robbery and recovery are the subject of a new documentary film, “Plucked,” which premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival in April 2019. He was also recently included in a program from Lincoln Center on “The Moth Radio Hour;” the critically acclaimed storytelling program and podcast heard by millions on Public Radio International stations nationwide. Community outreach and giving back to the Milwaukee community are also at the heart of Frank Almond’s artistic priorities. He mentors young musicians of all performing levels and backgrounds, and performs in nontraditional venues where classical music has a rare and unusual presence.

Frank holds two degrees from the Juilliard School, where he studied with Dorothy DeLay. Other important mentors and teachers were Michael Tsetlin, Felix Galimir, and Joseph Silverstein. He currently serves on the Faculty at Roosevelt University in Chicago and is the Artist-in-Residence at the Milwaukee Youth Symphony, one of the largest youth arts programs in the United States. Previous teaching positions include positions at Northwestern University and Texas Christian University.

Frank Almond writes an online column, as he admits, “instead of practicing.” Nondivisi offers his thoughts, hopes and expectations for the present and future of classical music. More information about Frankly Music, A Violin’s Life and the Lipiński Stradivarius is available at frankalmond.com.

Principal Clarinet of the MSO, the Santa Fe Opera Orchestra and participant in the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, three-time Grammy Award-winner Todd Levy has performed as a soloist at Carnegie Hall, the Mostly Mozart Festival, with the Israel Philharmonic, and at the White House.

Sonora Slocum was appointed Principal Flute of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra in 2012 at the age of 22. Slocum has appeared with The Philadelphia Orchestra and performed as guest principal with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.
Katherine Young Steele is the Principal Oboe of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, a position she has held since 2012. Steele was Principal Oboe of The Florida Orchestra from 2007-2012, where she appeared as soloist and collaborated on the orchestra’s multi-year cultural exchange with musicians in Havana, Cuba.

Catherine Chen joined the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra as Principal Bassoon in 2017. Prior to her appointment with the MSO, she was the Associate Principal Bassoon of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and the Principal Bassoon of the Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra.

Matthew Annin has held the position of Principal Horn of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra since 2011. He is also a member of the Peninsula Music Festival and performs with the Grand Teton Music Festival regularly.

Originally from Whitestone, NY, Yuka Kadota joined the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra in 2012. Ms. Kadota began her professional orchestral career at the age of 24 with the Fort Wayne Philharmonic and held the title of Associate Concertmaster for six seasons.

Violist Samantha Rodriguez serves as Assistant Principal Third Chair of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra. Previously, she was third chair of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and a member of their viola section for 9 years.

Beth Breslin joined the Milwaukee Symphony in March 2016. Previously, she was a member of the San Antonio Symphony and remains a substitute musician in the Houston and Saint Louis Symphonies. Over the summers, Beth is a member of the Grant Park Festival Orchestra in Chicago.

Madeleine Kabat is the newest member of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra’s cello section. She was named Acting Assistant Principal Cellist last season, where she served as Acting Principal for her first 7 months with the orchestra.

Joining the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra as its Principal Bass in 2017, Jon McCullough-Benner is an avid performer and educator for the double bass.
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FOR MORE INFORMATION
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Grace Lutheran Church is located at 1209 N. Broadway, on the corner of Broadway and Juneau.
Thanks for a great season!
Stay tuned for what’s new in 20–21.

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