

BILLINGS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA & CHORALE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
MARCH 4, 2019

The Billings Symphony Orchestra & Chorale Presents the Music of the Royals in *Symphony Royale*

BILLINGS MT- The Billings Symphony Orchestra & Chorale (BSO&C) presents ***Symphony Royale*** Saturday, March 16 at the Alberta Bair Theater. Featuring the Billings Symphony Chorale. Doors open at 6:30 pm. Concert Cues, an interactive discussion with Tom Singer begins at 6:45 pm. ***Symphony Royale*** begins at 7:30 pm.

Enjoy the beloved music of the Royals with Bach's ***Brandenburg's Concerto #3*** Handel's ***Water Suite***, Vivaldi's ***Credo in E minor***, and many more.



Bach's Brandenburg Concerto #3: The six Brandenburg Concertos—the “cold call” portfolio Bach dedicated and sent to Margrave Christian Ludwig of Brandenburg-Schwedt in hopes of a job offer—give us a glimpse into the evolution of modern orchestral composition. In the Baroque era, a “concerto” wasn't necessarily a virtuoso solo showpiece as we think of it today. The word frequently referred to a work in which musicians perform in concert (as a group). Concerto # 3 was originally composed for three violins, three violas, three cellos, bass, and harpsichord. The nine upper strings serve as both concertino (soloists) and ripieno (accompanists), fluidly transitioning between roles throughout the piece.



The Water Suite: As King George I planned his July 17, 1717 barge party, he asked Handel to provide music in the form of an orchestra composition for about 50 musicians. Handel responded with *Water Music*, which, according to one eyewitness, engaged an ensemble of flutes, recorders, oboes, bassoons, trumpets, horns, violins, and basses. (Timpani were likely added after the limiting factor of a barge-borne performance was eliminated.) The king was so delighted with the new work that he asked to hear it over and over—for a total of four performances, lasting about an hour apiece. Because *Water Music* was assembled and published posthumously as a complete collection, the order in which the Handel wished the various movements to be played remains uncertain. Instead, movements are grouped according to their keys and instrumentations, creating three shorter suites—in F major, in D major, and in G major.



Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741), Credo in E minor, RV 591: The *Credo* belongs to the large group of church works which Vivaldi composed in Venice between 1713 and 1717 for the Ospedale della Pietà, the convent and orphanage which was his primary place of employment. Written solely for choir and strings, the four-movement work is a companion piece to the *Gloria*, RV 588 (the less well-known of Vivaldi's two settings).



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Symphony Royale is proudly sponsored by David & Cynthia Hummel. The 2018-2019 Host Hotel is The Northern Hotel. The 2018-2019 Media Sponsor is KTVQ-2. The 2018-2019 season is proudly sponsored by The Oakland Companies.

Tickets for ***Symphony Royale*** are available by calling 252-3610, online at billingsymphony.org, or at the Billings Symphony Box Office at 2721 2nd Ave. N. Ste. 350 in downtown Billings.

For more information about ***Symphony Royale***, please visit: billingsymphony.org/symphony-royale/

The Billings Symphony Orchestra & Chorale (BSO&C) is the largest professional orchestra in Montana. Established in 1951, the BSO&C strives to enrich lives through music. Consisting of over 135 musicians, the BSO&C serves a regional population of 400,000 people located throughout South Central and Eastern Montana, and Northeastern Wyoming by introducing music to children, youth, adults and seniors through Explore Music! the BSO&C's community engagement program.

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